

Mesa Ranks Among Top Athletic Programs

Contributed by **Law Shaw**

Mesa Community College was recognized for having one of the top three community college athletic programs in the country with the presentation of a trophy and \$1,000



Athletic Director and head Football Coach Dan Duun displays the trophy awarded to MCC by Pepsi-Cola North America and the NATYCAA.

scholarship donation during halftime of the MCC-Glendale Community College football game on Saturday, October 16.

This is one of the inaugural awards instituted by Pepsi-Cola North America and the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA). The other two schools being honored in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Scholarship Division are the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Illinois and Barton Community College in Great Bend, Kansas.

The Pepsi-NATYCAA Awards are designed to recognize and reward overall program excellence at the two-year college level as well as to promote programs in all sports on an equal basis. Member colleges are allowed to use their top five men's and women's sports for scoring in this competition.

continued from front, Election

than in 2000. "There was much more discussion, much more passion," he said, adding that data from a national research center at Harvard University confirms this rise in political interest among young people (www.vanishingvoter.org/2004_Releases.shtml). Why the increased interest? "It's the war," Brian continued. "They know people who are going to Iraq and have friends who have come back from Iraq."

Election Day 2004 has passed, but the CGTE continues to offer forums for stimulating discussion on issues that have worldwide impact. Brian said he would like to see more community members taking advantage of these opportunities. "It's important that the community knows we're providing this service – that this is a place where they can debate the issues."

For more information on the Center for Global Tolerance and Engagement, visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/cgte. Thanks to Debra Campbell for contributing to this report.

The Bulletin is published by the Office of Institutional Advancement every other Thursday from September to April for employees of Mesa Community College. Please visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/alumni for submission deadlines and publication dates.

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Presidential election brings politics to the fore

In the weeks preceding November 2, community members and MCC students, faculty, and staff enjoyed numerous opportunities to learn about the candidates and issues in the 2004 elections.

Student clubs such as the College Democrats, College Republicans, Environmental Action Club, Associated Students of MCC, and Phi Theta Kappa invited key speakers to share their political views at MCC. Among the guests were Olympic gold medalist Abby Wambach; Cate Edwards, daughter of vice presidential candidate John Edwards; Senator John McCain; and Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., who addressed a standing-room-only crowd.

Other opportunities for enlightenment were provided by the Center for Global Tolerance and Engagement (CGTE) as part of its Fall 2004 Focus on Politics. The CGTE is an organization formed by

MCC's Philosophy and Religious Studies departments. Its jam-packed fall schedule included a town hall meeting on the ballot initiatives, a forum on U.S. involvement in the

United Nations, and party platform debates with guests Jim Pederson and Matt Salmon.

On October 13, student clubs and the CGTE cooperated to bring the East Valley Debate Watch to MCC on a big screen in the Navajo Room. Following the final televised presidential debate, Dr. Brian Dille, Political Science faculty, and Dr. Debra Campbell, Philosophy and Religious Studies faculty, led students in a spirited discussion. Brian is an advisor to the College Democrats and Debra is the director of the CGTE. Brian said that the most important value of political discussion to students is the exposure to different voices. "That was a favorite part of college for me," he said. "You don't get those opportunities very often."

Brian noted that political interest among students was higher in the 2004 election



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continued on back, see Election

Alumni Association raises money for scholarships

The MCC Alumni Association raised over \$850 for student scholarships at its silent auction during Homecoming 2004. The silent auction was introduced at Homecoming 2003; this year the number of auction items was increased and the amount of funds collected for scholarships doubled. "We are pleased with the growth we've experienced relative to the silent auction and to Homecoming as a whole. MCC alumni are proud to be part of this tradition and to have an opportunity to give back to the college," stated Diana Occhiuzzi, Chair Elect, MCC Alumni Association Board, and Co-Chair, Alumni Homecoming committee.

Proceeds from the silent auction will be used to award MCC student(s) the Alumni and Friends Scholarship in 2005–06. The 2004–05 recipient of the Alumni and Friends scholarship is Jennifer Shotwell. To learn more about MCC's alumni program or to donate funds, please contact Marcy Snitzer at 461-7792 or marcy.snitzer@mccmail.maricopa.edu.



Newsbytes



PSA Holiday Boutique and bake sale

The annual Professional Staff Association (PSA) Holiday Boutique will be held Wednesday, November 10 from 9 AM–4 PM in the Kirk Student Center. There will be handmade holiday items such as jewelry (stones and crystal), CD holders, live plants in decorative baskets, florals, home décor, hand painted figures, makeup, and much more! Don't forget to stop in and get an early start on holiday shopping or buy some sweet treats at the bake sale.



Faculty Art Show

For over 15 years the Art Department has hosted a Faculty Art Show in the fall semester. Designed to give MCC professors a chance to show their artistic skills, each year numerous faculty members participate in the show and sell their creations. The Faculty Art Show runs from November 8–18 with an opening reception on Wednesday, November 10, 6–8 PM. All MCC employees are invited to attend. The reception is also open to the public.

Adopt-A-Family

The Office of Student Life and Leadership is seeking departments, clubs, organizations, and individuals interested in adopting a family for the holiday season. Adopt-A-Family is a program designed to benefit MCC students and their families who are in need of Thanksgiving/Holiday assistance.

Applications for Thanksgiving Adopt-A-Family participants are due November 5, and applications for the Winter Holiday Adopt-A-Family participants are due November 12. For more information please contact the Office of Student Life and Leadership: Southern and Dobson 461-7285 or Red Mountain 654-7759.



Rose Garden Dedication

Join us as we commemorate the service that local Veterans contribute and to dedicate the new Veterans Rose Garden on November 10 at 10 AM (northeast corner of campus in the Rose Gardens).

The Veterans Rose Beds constitute Phase III of the Rose Garden at Mesa Community College. Nearly 1,000 roses are expected to grow in this section. Five circular beds represent each branch of the armed services: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. The grass area between the five circular beds and the large oval bed (named Patriots Pride) serves as an amphitheater and area for hosting special events. For more information about the Veterans Rose Garden please visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/organizations/community/rosegarden.

District announces new e-mail procedures

In the October 21 issue of *The Bulletin*, November was identified as the date for implementing the new e-mail procedures that would eliminate the DL-ALL-MARICOPA distribution list and replace it with two new lists, DL-Maricopa-Business and DL-Maricopa-Announcements. The implementation date has since changed to January.

Support your local community

The MCC Mesa United Way campaign runs through November 12. The goal of the campaign committee is to increase participation by having every employee throughout the college donate to United Way. The committee would also like to have at least 50 individuals give leadership gifts (\$500 or greater).

Donations to United Way can be made through payroll deduction. A \$500 leadership gift would break down to \$20.84 per pay period for a 12 month employee and \$55.56 per pay period for a 9 or 10 month employee.

United Way donations make a significant difference in the lives of individuals within our community. For more information about the MCC United Way Campaign please contact Janet Felton at Janet.Felton@mccmail.maricopa.edu or 461-7500.

Mesa Literary Festival

The Mesa Literary Festival is a three-day festival of readings, workshops, and performances by visiting and resident writers and musicians. The festival runs from November 4 through November 6. For more information contact James Cervantes at 461-7560 or visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/~jcervantes/mlf/main.html



Service-Learning receives volunteer award

The Center for Service-Learning was recently recognized with the "Community Partner 2004 Shining Star Award" presented by the Child Crisis Center East Valley. They were presented with the award at the *Volunteers & Community Partners... Together We're Building a Brighter Tomorrow* recognition dinner. This is the first time the Center for Service-Learning has received this award. "We were honored to be recognized with this award, not only because it recognizes our department, but the faculty, staff, and students who participate with service-learning," stated Dawn Russell.