Coach Moore talked about Coach Wilford Moore on a clear Saturday afternoon in the 1960s he said that the kids have today. One of biggest joys for me was to talk to the former players of Coach Moore. Charlie Keys (Tackle ’69-71) and Joe Bill Fox (QB ’53-54) had to go serve his country and he came back to serve under Coach Moore as well. Joe Bill Fox QB (’53-54), Dave Purifoy (FB 52-54), and Bil- ly Wayne LLC (’52-53) had also returned to coach at McMurry. In a sit-down interview with Coach Moore and his former players, they were telling me that in the days when there were no bleachers at the stadium wooden seats and we had said, “It was like sitting on a wooden seat and watching games.” Then in the 1960s he said that the seats were replaced with plastic seats, and today one of biggest joys for me was to talk to the former players of Coach Moore. Charlie Keys (Tackle ’69-71) and Joe Bill Fox (QB ’53-54) had to go serve his country and he came back to serve under Coach Moore as well. Joe Bill Fox QB (’53-54), Dave Purifoy (FB 52-54), and Billy Wayne LLC (’52-53) had also returned to coach at McMurry. There was a huge event on the McMurry University campus witnessed a huge event. Coach Wilford Moore was invited by several family members to witness this great achievement in his career. Coach Moore and his wife were involved in the ribbon cutting ceremony to open the stadium for the football game between McMurry and Wayland Baptist. The crowd at the new stadium gave Coach Moore and his family a well-deserved standing ovation.

During the ceremony, Coach Moore talked about four gifts that were given to him during his lifetime. First, Coach Moore was a pilot during WW2 in the European Theater. Second, he was grateful for the players he coached at McMurry and his family. Third, he was also grateful for the players he coached at McMurry and his family. Finally, he was joined by several family members to witness this huge event. Coach Moore and his wife were involved in the ribbon cutting ceremony to open the stadium for the football game between McMurry and Wayland Baptist. The crowd at the new stadium gave Coach Moore and his family a well-deserved standing ovation.

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McMurry Music Department Welcomes New Faculty Members

Tess Williams

McMurry’s Department of Music has gained two new faculty members this fall. David Robinson is the new Instructor of Music and Director of Bands and Dr. Elizabeth Ducey Moss is the new Assistant Professor of Voice in the vocal department. Taking to Robinson and Moss, it is clear they are both very excited about teaching at McMurry.

David Robinson is originally from Newport in Northeastern Arkansas, a town that he says is known for the fact that Sam Walton, the founder of Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club, has a “five and dime” store there. Robinson, eduction began with his undergraduate study in Music Education at Arkansas State. He received his Master’s Degree in Conducting from the University of Missouri. He is currently finishing his doctoral work on the University at the North Texas. He has a first university faculty position. He told me that considering the job at McMurry, he was “attracted by the closeness of the facility. Now, he said, “This fills a work with all the right elements, and it’s hard to find.” He also reasured the spirit of the students he works with. “The band is also close-knit,” he told me, and he feels an overall positivity from the students.

Robinson focuses on the band program to be “not just afraid to be who we are.” He emphasized that “it is important for us to be who we are” and “continue to succeed over our own terms.” As the McMurry band looks to grow in numbers, Mr. Robinson wants the students to know that the bands success need not end to its size.

“Bigger doesn’t mean bet- ter,” Robinson noted. His desire is to take advantage of things McMurry is good at such as “the ability to have a smaller cla, to talk about things the way they should be talked about, and to break through the usual college barriers.” Sounds like Robin- nson loves McMurry for the same reasons we all do! Dr. Elizabeth Ducey Moss was drawn to McMurry for many of the same reasons as Robinson. She is familiar with schools with the same and style of McMurry, saying, “I know what it’s like to teach at a small liberal arts college.” Her own undergraduate institution was also a small school. She said that while a full-time position in a small liberal arts university is always attractive, she felt that at McMurry, in particular, she could “be influential in growing a program.” Her goals are to “increase efforts” of recruitment for the vocal department, and to “providing visibility for McMurry by performing on campus and locally as well as regionally.” She also has plans of participa- tion in master classes and clinics at high schools and other universities. She will also be joining this region’s chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS). Dr. Moss told me she has “already gotten to know the students here.” She added, “I was told this, and have found it to be true…the people are very down to earth.”

David Robinson and Dr. Elizabeth Ducey Moss are two outstanding ad- ditions to our faculty. As a student who is heavily involved in the music de- partment, I am very grate- ful to have their leadership as the music program continues to grow in ex- cellence.

Fun, Food, and Faith!

Last Sunday, September 30th, the River of Life Church provided some fun, food and faith to the McMurry Students. TheChris Clayton Band and Tom Corby presented Faith, Comedy and Illusion as no others can. The River of Life congregation cooked and served food to over 500 students. At the end we witnessed approximately 73 students accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Thank you, River of Life for your prayers, your kindness, and your disciplship to McMurry University. Rudy Seals, College pastor, has been the spiritual coach for the track team for over a year. This year, others are invited to devotions that are held in room 200 in the Hunt PE building at 2:45 PM on Mondays.
Although McMurry does not have an on-campus CFA location, there are many available throughout Abilene, and its presence is cause for a lively debate on free speech and marriage equality. No matter which side of the issue appeals most to you, take a second to think the next time you pass by CFA.

The Great Debate: An Op/Ed on Chick-Fil-A
Salome Felise Block, Staff Writer

McMurry University being centrally located in Abilene, is surrounded by three locations of the Chick-Fil-A (CFA) franchise with their unique recipes for chicken sandwiches. College campuses and cities around the country have been affected by the controversy of the Chick-Fil-A and its contributions to donating millions of CFA dollars a year to organizations like Exodus International, Focus on the Family and The Family Research Council, all of which actively support anti-marriage equality actions. Since McMurry is centrally located in Abilene, McMurry University, being surrounded by three locations of Chick-Fil-A, is a prime place for such a debate.

CFA Appreciation Day, an annual event that supports CFA’s stance to eat at CFA on August 1st. The event in Abilene saw covered with the KTXS news station showing crowded restaurants with lines circling the building. McMurry students enrolled with questions on August 1st as to whether they should eat at CFA and there were many opinions on how long the lines were. It was not only for CFA’s slightly sweet chicken, but standing up for the right to free speech that these questions were being presented. Uniting that right of free speech, in an interview with advocate.com, Dan Cathy, the Chief Operating Officer of CFA, issued a statement on behalf of the fast food giant explaining their support of the family unit: “We know that it might not be popular with many, but thank the Lord, we live in a country where we can share our values and operate on biblical principles.”

To counter this boycott, the Gay-Straight Alliance, students here have strong opinions about the fast food chain. Amy Medt, president, says, “I'm actually never eaten there, but I didn't really care about their political stances until now. I actively encourage other people to avoid supporting them.” To counter this boycott, Mike Hunke, the former governor of Arkansas, called for a “National CFA Appreciation Day” movement, where supporters of CFA’s stance to eat at CFA on August 1st. The event in Abilene surrounded the KTXS news station showing crowded restaurants with lines circling the building. McMurry students enrolled with questions on August 1st as to whether they should eat at CFA and there were many opinions on how long the lines were. It was not only for CFA’s slightly sweet chicken, but standing up for the right to free speech that these questions were being presented. Uniting that right of free speech, in an interview with advocate.com, Dan Cathy, the Chief Operating Officer of CFA, issued a statement on behalf of the fast food giant explaining their support of the family unit: “We know that it might not be popular with many, but thank the Lord, we live in a country where we can share our values and operate on biblical principles.”

On the corner of Willis and South First Street, a small, blue-roofed building sits, joined to the street by a small parking lot. This is Ann’s Thai Kitchen. Ann’s Thai Kitchen is a little restaurant that specializes in home-cooked Thai meals, and you won’t find a place quite like it anywhere else in Abilene. The inside of the restaurant is decorated with pictures of Ann’s family. Both her son and daughter work in the restaurant with her, waiting tables and taking orders as needed. Most of a regular day, Ann is in the kitchen, cooking up special meals with her unique taste and steady hands. Ann’s Thai Kitchen is not the place to go if you’re looking for a quick meal, the food is painstakingly made from scratch, and the long preparation time is necessary for the flavors to pop. The wait is accompanied by soft A/C and a small town atmosphere, and as such, you will find the tiny parking lot filled with cars and trucks at the lunch hour. Aside from the usual Asian fare of rice, seafood, and vegetables, it is set apart from its peers by one other aspect: curry. Ann’s Thai Kitchen has some of the best curry in the city of Abilene. The rich texture and variation in color and flavor far outdo their competitors. The portions are slightly more expensive than your average fast food joint, but it is completely worth it. Another oft-overlooked aspect of Ann’s Thai Kitchen is the convenient location. Because it is on South First Street, it can be reached in a few minutes from McMurry University.

With its unique food, atmosphere, and service, Ann’s Thai Kitchen is a different fare from the rest of the restaurants in Abilene. This week might encourage some, but if you have the time, there’s no better place for fine Thai cuisine.
Congratulations to McMurry University senior quarterback Jake Mullin (Burleson, Texas) on adding another entry to his McMurry record collection by tossing the coveted 10,000-yard mark in career passing yards. After throwing for 440 yards in the game, Jake now has 10,281 career passing yards to his credit.

But Jake is also approaching another milestone, which very few players in the entire history of NCAA football have seen. After tossing five touchdown passes against OKBU, Jake became McMurry’s all-time leader in career TD passes, as well, with 98.

More importantly, that has put him into position to become just the 58th player in NCAA football history — at all levels of competition (BCS, FCS, Division II and Division III) — to reach both 10,000 passing yards and 100 passing touchdowns in their career.

Jake would be joining a list that includes names such as Case Keenum, Colt McCoy, Ty Detmer, Chad Pennington, Danny Wuerffel and Steve McNair to name a few, to have accomplished the feat prior.

Jake will have an opportunity to join the elite company this coming Saturday (Oct. 6) when McMurry takes on Southern Nazarene University. Kickoff is at 4 p.m. and the contest is being played in the Metroplex area at Grand Prairie’s “Gopher Warrior Bowl.”

Tickets for the game are available for purchase by going to McM’s website — mcmurryathletics.com — and clicking on the “ticket” link. Don’t miss this chance to personally witness such an historic moment in War Hawk football history!