

Hopeful director finds passion in education

By Tessa Castor
Staff reporter

When Meagan Morrow, assistant director and lead teacher of the SC Learning Center, graduated from Southwestern last May, she knew she wanted to follow her dream of directing.

Morrow took a summer job at the SC Learning Center, and within months she earned the position of assistant director.

At the Learning Center, Morrow is in charge of the “Little Builders,” a class of 3- to 5-year-olds. Morrow, the primary teacher, gets to spend all day with her students.

“I love getting to play every day,” said Morrow. “I get paid money to play every day. It’s a pretty good job.”

Morrow said that she gets to use her musical ability daily to sing to her students, who she said she is constantly entertaining.

Morrow “played” as a student, too – she was involved with Campus Players, choir, jazz band and different branches of theatre while she earned a bachelor of fine arts degree. She said her favorite part of being a student was the friends and connections she made – even her current boss is a Campus Player. Morrow said part of why she stayed in Winfield is because of those connections.

Though she is no longer a student, Morrow continues to be involved with the theatre department. Over the summer, Morrow directed “Godspell,” one of the theatre department’s summer musicals. Morrow wrote in the annual 24-Hour Play Festival in September, and she directed in the student-led “Fools on the Hill” scenes.

One of Morrow’s professors, Allyson Moon, director of theatre, said that Morrow loves to learn and constantly looks for opportunities to grow. Moon awarded Morrow the “Renaissance Woman” award during departmental awards for this reason.

As her professor, Moon said that she always expected Morrow to teach college students, and though she is with much younger students, she is still “working to ignite young minds every day.”

“I hope that she is relentless in her

journey to figure out exactly what she wants to do,” said Moon. “And I hope she’s able to find joy in that. She’s ever evolving. She’s ever changing and she’s ever growing.”

Morrow said she learns something every day and she hopes to improve the curriculum to learn along with her students. She said seeing her students’ application of knowledge and understanding her lessons is a rewarding feeling, one that stands out as her favorite part of education.

“I never really pictured myself working with young children,” said Morrow. “Always expect the unexpected, because you just might enjoy it.”

Morrow said that Alexis Miers, director and lead teacher helped her with the transition. Morrow said Miers’ fierceness is inspiring.

“She’s amazing,” said Morrow. “I

want to grow up to be like her.”

Miers has been with the SC Learning Center for seven years, and she said that the best part of the center is the kids. She said that Morrow helps uphold the goals of the center, the goals to serve families, provide a safe and fun learning environment and to prepare the children for kindergarten.

“She’s a very fun person,” said Miers. “She’s really calm and she’s really collected, so she brings with her a sense of calm and peacefulness to the classroom.”

“She brings an endless sense of play with her,” said Miers. “Her interaction with children is meaningful and playful. The kids don’t even know they’re learning.”

Morrow’s goal is to direct. She said her teaching job is not too different from directing.

“A lot of what directing is is being an educator for theatre,” said Morrow. “Education is education.”

Morrow said her move to the center has been easy, and that not much has changed since her graduation.

“I still go to school,” said Morrow. “I’m just in charge of it. There’s still a lot of purple.”

Tessa Castor is a sophomore majoring in English. You may email her at tessa.castor@sckans.edu.



Baseball welcomes new coach

By Layne Phillips
Staff reporter

This year, there’s a new sport to cheer on, because Builder Nation welcomes baseball.

Along with that addition comes new coaches.

One of those new coaches is Chad Brown. Brown, assistant baseball coach from Amarillo, Texas, spent his first two years at Frank Phillips Junior College in Borger, Texas, then transferred to West Texas A&M.

During college, Brown played first base, second base and third base. Brown’s experience in the infield led him to become the infield and hitting coach.

Outside of baseball, Brown likes to fish. Although he hasn’t fished since he has lived in Winfield, Brown said he will probably make a few trips to the Winfield Lake this summer.

He played hockey when

he was younger as right defenseman for 10 years., his favorite NHL team is the Detroit Red Wings.

Brown’s favorite thing about Southwestern is the Moundbuilding Ceremony.

His expectations for the upcoming season is to get better as each day passes, be better than the day before.

Builder baseball welcomes a strong freshman class.

Dylan Alexander, freshman pitcher, said, “Coach Brown is pretty cool, even though he is not one of my coaches.”

Ryan Wilson, freshman outfielder, said, “Coach always brings a positive attitude to practice.”

Builder baseball will entertain the Wichita Sluggers on Oct. 21 in a doubleheader scrimmage. Builder baseball’s first game since 1950 will be Feb. 2 in Bethany, Okla. against Southwestern Christian University.

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ON THE COVER

About the cover: This 2017-2018 year will be the first year that SC has had a baseball team since 1950. Southwestern has hired Kevin Frady as the new head coach. Frady came to Southwestern after working for West Texas A&M where he managed recruiting, offensive development and game management. Joining him are pitching coach

J.D Jackson, infield and hitting coach, Chad Brown and outfield and catching coach Sam Thorne.

Jackson came from John A. Logan College in Carterville, Illinois. Brown graduated from West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas and then joined the Sc baseball team. Thorne graduated from Biola University in Los Angeles, California.

TOP (Left to Right): J.D Jackson, pitching coach, Chad Brown, infield and hitting coach, Sam Thorne, outfield and catching coach, and Kevin Frady pose in their SC gear at their homeplate.

BOTTOM: The team stands together as one at home plate after their first game.

Tessa Castor/The Collegian

Throughout the 2017 semester, the Collegian staff will be publishing stories featuring new faculty and staff that have been hired for this academic year.