

Seniors complete projects

By **Katie Allender**
Entertainment editor

Checking car seats, being informed on democracy, learning good questions to ask when visiting a college and learning what it is to be an athlete. These are all projects created by the Leadership Team's seniors. They individually design their own projects and see them through before they graduate.

Kendra Stonebraker, communication and marketing senior, designed a project called Power Up Your Game. It is a seminar targeted at high school and college athletes and coaches. The audience will consist of 200 high school students and coaches from around the area, 100 student athletes from Southwestern College, and sponsors for the event.

"It's going to consist of two speakers I'm bringing in," said Stonebraker. The first is Deanna Latson, a clinically certified nutritionist and soon to be naturopathic doctor from California. "Latson is going to talk about wellness and nutrition with specific relevance to the athlete's lifestyle."

The second speaker is Mitch Holthus, voice of the Kansas City Chiefs. "Holthus is going to talk about the integrity and accountability aspects of being on a team," Stonebraker said.

Stonebraker said that there will be door prizes for those who attend and don't leave.

It will take place today from 9 a.m. to noon in Richardson Auditorium. Students and staff may attend. Those with a class conflict can still show up in between the two speakers from 10:30 to 10:45.

"I am doing it because sports were a big part of my life growing up. I never took playing sports for granted but after an autoimmune disease forced me to sit on the

sidelines after my sophomore year of high school, I realized at an even deeper level how significant playing sports and being on teams really is," said Stonebraker. "I wanted to do something for athletes that would be helpful to them and the idea for the seminar grew from that."

Chelsea Epler, biology and leadership senior, has designed a project called The Edge. It's an ambassador retreat for students from 65 private colleges from the Great Plains region. The retreat will be April 13 and 14 on campus.

"Ambassadors come to hear views from both parents and students (transferring and high school) to share ideas and solutions," said Epler. Together they come up with several questions incoming students might want to ask. The visiting students can then use that list in case they need to know something about the college.

At the end of the retreat the questions will be compiled and given to high school students or college students thinking about transferring by the admissions office. These questions will give students ideas on what to ask when visiting.

Jodi Combs, admissions counselor, Todd Moore, director of admissions, ambassadors and some other counselors from the admissions office will be assisting Epler.

"Being an ambassador is something that I enjoy doing," said Epler. "I chose this project to answer some of my own questions and strive to help other people answer theirs as well."

Jennifer Cox, nursing senior, will help parents and young children with her project.

A certified infant car seat check will take place April 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot in front of the Cowley County Health Department, located behind the fire

station.

Safe Kids of Kansas, an organization that sponsors events to keep kids safe, the Winfield Fire and Police Department and the Sheriff's Office will all be teaching parents how to properly install car seats. Parents simply drive up and the car seat will be checked by a certified technician to make sure it is installed correctly. They will also make sure there are no re-calls on the product.

Cox became a certified car seat technician before spring break and can now legally install or check car seats for safety. The Sheriff's Department donated the money for her to take the car seat class. "I've personally installed a lot of car seats and I know how hard it is for parents to do it properly," said Cox.

"It's recommended for a town the size of Winfield to have a car seat check every three to five years and there hasn't been one in 10 years," Cox said.

Brandon Smith, political science senior, also has a project dealing with informing people. Smith's project is called Americans for Informed Democracy. "It is a non-partisan group," said Smith.

AID helps students learn more about politics. Smith has received a packet from the group and is going to communicate with the students about what he learns.

Any student who wants to learn or be involved with politics may attend. "It is something where you can learn," Smith said.

"I found out about the organization through Dr. Jolivet," said Smith. "I looked into it and they'll fund me." Smith wants to get people to hear about it and open a chapter next year.

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Summer interns prepare for work

By **Ashley Holloway**
Staff reporter

Instead of relaxing this summer Autumn Worten, marketing senior, and Megan Whitaker, theatre senior, will be gaining career experience. Both are applying for internships.

This will be Worten's second internship. "My first internship was last summer. I worked as a management trainee for Sherwin-Williams Intern Program," said Worten.

The Tulsa native applied to many companies but decided on one right in her home town.

"I have applied at the Tulsa Talons, Exclusive Advertising, Anheuser-Busch, TM Advertising, MARC, ESPN, Frito Lay, Edleman Production, Target, Toyota, & Mattel," said Worten. "I actually interviewed with the Tulsa Talons and accepted the position this week as a marketing intern."

Although this will be a major step toward experience in her field of study, she has reservations. "I hope to gain a strong understanding of the world of marketing in arena football. I want to figure out if this is the field I really want to be in before I attend graduate school. I am most

excited about the environment in which I will be working. I get to help organize half time performances, community events, press releases, and work with ticket sales. Since event planning is one of my favorite things, this excites me the most." said Worten. "Interns get paid off of sales commissions which I have never dealt with before. I am afraid and nervous about this, but I'm also very excited."

Being an unpaid intern is something Whitaker will also experience during her stay at the Chicago Center for Urban Life.

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Second SGA election violates bylaws, former secretary elected president



Photograph by **April McCormick**/Collegian photographer

Brandon Hessing, radio television junior, prepares to vote during SGA election on March 28 in the Java Jinx.

By **Tommy Castor and Anthony Cook**
Staff reporters

It took two attempts, but the results of this year's Student Government Association election have been released.

Carmon Bliss, elementary education sophomore, is the current SGA secretary and will be next year's president. Tanner McNinch, pre-med freshman, will be the new vice president.

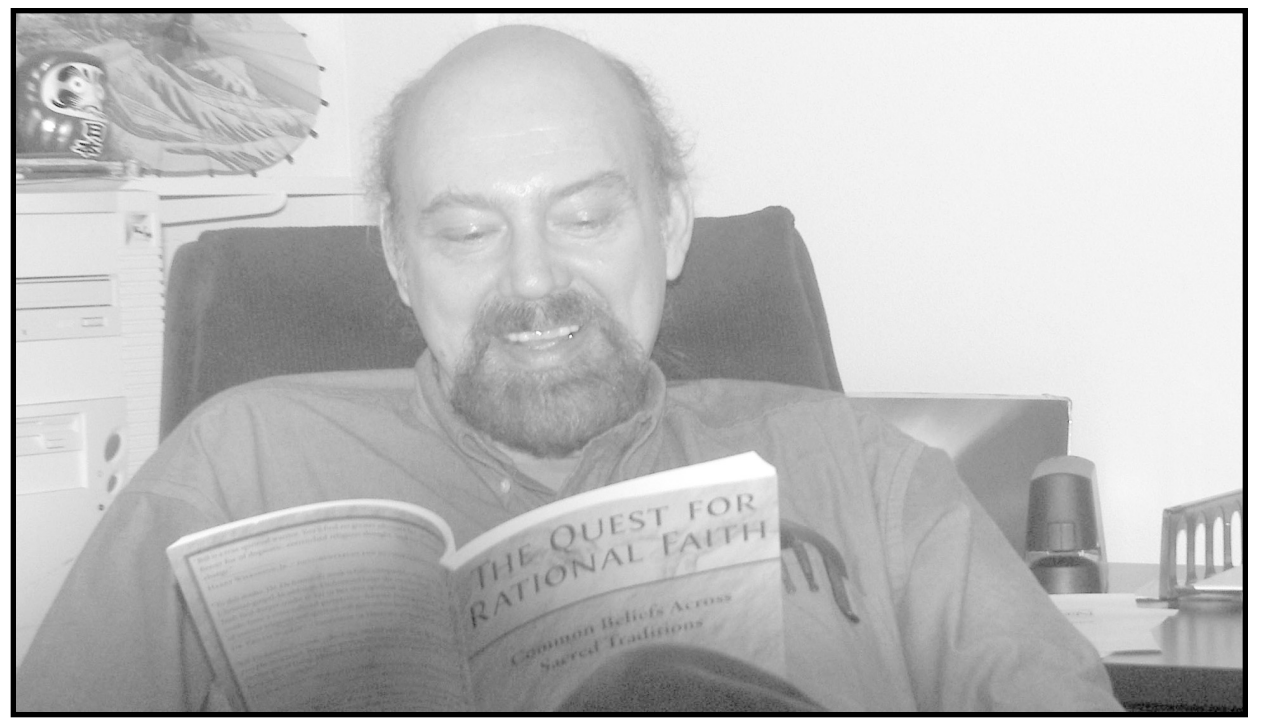
Elections were originally March 13 and 14 for SGA officers and senators for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Upon returning from spring break, students were informed in the JinxTale that SGA had scheduled another election for March 28. Ryan Amberg, current SGA president, said, "We wanted to have a fair and consistent election for all people participating. In order to do so, it was in the best judgment to re-hold the elections."

The second election has generated reaction from students.

"It's got me really confused why they would have the election again. I've asked a lot of people I know, and nobody seems to know why the elections were reheld," Erika See, psychology freshman, said. "It would have been nice to have more information from our leaders. It was just a hassle to have to vote again."

The decision was made by the



Photograph by **Ashley Holloway**/Collegian Photographer

Bill DeArmond, professor of mass communication and film, sits in his office where he writes three times a week. DeArmond's newest work, "The Quest for Rational Faith," is his fourth book.

Bill DeArmond writes again

By **Ashley Holloway**
Staff reporter

If you're wondering why he is churning out so many books and publications, the answer is, it's part of his job.

"Part of my job description is to be published. It's my activity area. I'm in 'TV Guide' this week," said Bill DeArmond, professor of mass communication and film.

He writes Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and even summers, an activity his colleagues support.

"I'm supportive of Bill being in a position where he can spend a great deal of his time writing," said Tom Jacobs, division chair of communication and computer science.

DeArmond's newest work, "The Quest for Rational Faith," asks its reader to take a journey to find what he or she believes in.

"It is an exploration of religion. I want my reader to find out what makes sense for them to believe, but I also show the commonalities between beliefs," said DeArmond.

This is a quest he knows about. His own spiritual transition began when his wife, his mother, his stepmother, and his father died in a short time period.

DeArmond said, "I grew up Methodist, but I never completely bought into all the rules of Methodism. Then my wife, InSoon, was a Buddhist. It was then I found the truth I grew up with was not the truth at all."

Phil Schmidt, professor of history, is mentioned in the book's acknowledgements as the "Grammar

Nazi." He said the quest for religion is a part of basic human development.

"John Westerhof's Faith Developmental Model suggests we go through four stages in order to find what it is we believe. The third stage, searching faith, occurs between ages 18-30. It is at this time one has to ask the question "Who am I?" separate from my parents," said Schmidt.

DeArmond's journey ended without religion, but with beliefs.

"I'm a spiritual person. I call myself a skeptical jujin/ Gnostic, wave, Buddhist, and I'm the only one in the world. I wouldn't have it any other way," said DeArmond.

But he's a professor at a Methodist school. He even consults Steve Rankin, campus minister, on the issue of religion.

DeArmond said, "I quote Steve Rankin in many of my books. Methodists are the most liberal, proactive, progressive religion."

He uses the term dogmatic, meaning to assert opinions in a doctrinaire or arrogant manner, to describe the kind of belief he does not agree with.

"Most dogmatics have no sense of humor. That kind of religion should be replaced by more progressive religion because it provides more of a sense of community," said DeArmond.

It's a kind of religion Jacobs doesn't agree with either.

"The concepts contained in a variety of religions are very fine. I have a problem with the humans who carry out those religions," said Jacobs.

According to DeArmond most

people form their own religions.

DeArmond said, "The child will pick their religion and it's usually not the same as their parents."

Schmidt said, "Without the quest for something to believe in, many people end up throwing out the baby with the bathwater, forsaking belief in anything."

DeArmond has stepped away from his childhood Methodist belief in many ways. He no longer prays.

"I call it meditation, not prayer. I don't believe there is a male God to pray to. My belief is in the power of the collective mind. I can do anything if I put my mind to it," said DeArmond.

He suggests rational faith is something you have to get to, but there are things much more important.

DeArmond said, "It's not what you believe, it's more important how you treat others."

His advice to those on his quest is to ask questions.

"Why do you go to church if you're not getting the spiritual buzz you're supposed to get? You have to test the religion or system of belief based on what makes sense for you, opposed to borrowing the truth of others," said DeArmond.

Schmidt said, "For anything to be a genuine belief it has to be something you've wrestled with and at that point it becomes true for you. The problem is God is much bigger than we assume. He is not boxed in with all the answers."

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executive officers of SGA just before spring break to reschedule a second election when students returned. "We have to go by what is in the Constitution," Amberg said.

"Some of the things that were in the Constitution were not followed. We are making sure that we are going over those rules and following them in the Constitution this time around."

By scheduling a second election, several of the SGA bylaws were not followed. Section D) Subsection 1: "Any SGA election shall be announced not less than ten (10) academic days prior to the first day of the election. The election commissioner shall be responsible for publicizing the date of the elections." The second elections were publicized two days prior to the election on March 26.

The duration of election was also an issue. Section D) Subsection 6: "The polls shall be open two (2) consecutive days between the hours of 1 and 7 p.m." The second election was completed in one day from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

SGA had planned to release the results of the first election when students returned from spring break. Time became a concern for SGA when they decided to do the elections again.

Bliss said, "Time was a huge factor in redoing the elections. It was one of the major reasons we decided to completely rehold the elections.

With spring break we decided that the same problems would happen. We had extensive meetings to avoid any problems with time."

Sheleah Taylor, director of campus life, said, "We are not rushing, but we want the election results to be correct."

But why was a second election necessary?

"The rules were not necessarily publicized to the candidates," Amberg said. "We felt that they needed to know the rules before the elections were held."

Bliss said, "One of the main reasons we decided to redo the elections is because the rules were not handed out to the people running."

Even those running for office were not informed of the specific problems with the first election. "There was some confusion from those running. They were informed via email the day that the elections were finished the first time," said Bliss.

Voter turnout for the second election was also an issue for SGA.

"Our goal is that as many students come back for the re-elections. Maybe that will help us reach the number that came in the first time," Taylor said.

Students who voted during the second election on March 28 were eligible for a drawing for a \$50 Wal-Mart gift certificate.

"When I heard they were offering a prize to someone who voted the second time around, I thought

that maybe people were confused that there was a totally different election taking place," Emily Cook, psychology senior, said. "I guess they thought some sort of incentive would help out the numbers of those who voted."

Joey Kreft, computer science sophomore said, "I don't like the fact that nobody told us exactly why they needed to do it again. I feel like our student government is keeping information from us that we need to know. If nothing big happened, then why did they need to do it again? Something doesn't add up."

SGA Executives:

President: Carmon Bliss
Vice-President: Tanner McNinch
Student Conduct Advisor: Melanie Robins

Class Presidents:

Junior Class President: Tabatha McMullen

Senior Class President: Bo Webster

Senate Seats:

Communication Senator: Adam Dees

Nursing Senator: Sarah Tolle
Education Senator: Marci Bartow

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