

Event highlights ministry

By **Jessica Bernhardt**
Managing editor

It's a reunion of sorts. Almost like Homecoming.

For the third consecutive year, Southwestern College will be hosting Builders in Ministry Feb. 17 to 19.

Ashlee Alley, director of campus ministry, is a design team member for Builders in Ministry. "I help to plan the conference and make it something that current students and the alumni who want to return will be able to benefit from and grow from," she said.

This year's theme is "The Now and Future Church." Events scheduled include workshops with Jason Speegle, director of Green Team, Steve Rankin, campus minister, and Cheryl Rude, associate professor of Leadership studies.

There will be an early bird workshop at 1:10 Tuesday. The speaker will be Justin Lefto, who is on staff with the United Methodist Church conference center. Alley said, "It will be targeted to those interested in youth ministry. He is going to give his perspective as one who works with youth ministers all over the state on ways to kind of target and engage youth to grow in their faith. He's got a lot of experience himself and is just plugged in to what's going on in youth ministry, particularly in the state of Kansas."

The keynote speaker will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Tony Jones is from Edina, Minn.

He is known for being an author and speaker about the emergent church. Alley said, "He has, in the past, been a part of a group called Emergent Village and has been a youth pastor and written several books. Anyone who comes to chapel that week will get to hear him. We have built it around chapel."

Rankin, who also is a design team member, said he hopes attendance for the lecture is high. "For the lecture, because this guy is pretty well known, I'd like to see at least 100 people. I hope that's kind of a low-ball figure. People who are kind of frustrated or put off by the church would profit in listening to Tony Jones."

Molly Hamlett, mathematics senior, attended the conference last year. She said, "It was a really cool opportunity because a lot of alumni and friends of the college attend. Some even aren't in ministry, some are just friends of the college that have been involved in Discipleship or ministry on campus, and it's kind of a reunion of sorts."

Expectations for the event are comparable to past years. However, planners are hoping for improvement.

Alley said, "Our plan is we want everybody to have the opportunity to network with others interested in ministry. We want them to be educated by some of the new ideas, the content. We want to expose particularly the alumni who haven't been on campus. Each year we've kind of been building in momentum

in our on-campus students as well as alumni and those who hear about it and are interested in the conference. We're anticipating this year will be even stronger as some of our alumni are marking their calendars to return to campus."

Although class schedules can interfere with the schedule of the conference, Hamlett still plans on attending. "Whenever I don't have class I try to make it to whatever is going on. A lot of the activities are in the afternoons so hopefully I'll be able to make it to more things this year that they have planned."

Attending the conference provides the opportunity to meet a well-known leader in the church. It may provide a network for some. Hamlett said, "I think it'd be beneficial if students are looking at going into the ministry after they graduate and leave, they may form a relationship with someone who can help them, guide them in what they want to do, possibly get them a job somewhere. They always tell you it's not about what you know it's who you know and its things like these that really foster those relationships."

There is one goal the team has for the week. Rankin said, "In general the goal for Builders in Ministry week is just to inspire, encourage and resource our alumni who are in ministry and also for our current students to network with our alumni."

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Katie Bipes/Collegian photographer

Nathan Haefele, music sophomore, and Aaron Duell, philosophy & religious studies sophomore, discuss a section of sheet music during band rehearsal Monday night.

Performance challenges band

By **Cameron Siefkes**
News and opinion editor

Around 50 students and community members will perform in the concert band program "Unsurpassed Beauty" at 3 p.m. Feb. 8 in Richardson Auditorium.

This is one of four concerts the band will do this year and is one that conductor Daniel Stevens, assistant professor of strings music, said they have been preparing for since the middle of December.

Stevens said there will be a wide variety of music provided for the audience. He said, "The program involves a selection of music that would be seen as, heavenly or a mix of majestic sounds."

Aaron Duell, philosophy

& religious studies and communication sophomore, feels that this is one of the most difficult concerts the band has performed.

Stevens can attest to that statement. "I am pushing the envelope a little. The music has a higher degree of difficulty," he said. "I wanted to push the students in technical and rhythmic difficulty."

More difficult music has provided extra nerves for some members of the band. Joanna Woon, music sophomore, plays percussion for the band.

She said, "This coming concert is especially nerve wracking because we have a lot of percussion parts. It's always scary if you are playing the crash symbol because

you could play at the wrong time."

Duell feels much of the same pressure in the trombone section.

He said, "Sometimes there is a part of the song where the trombones will have something that is very 'in your face' and exposed. A lot of times those parts are difficult and I'm worried about missing a note and screwing things up."

The concert will run around an hour and students and faculty can attend for free with identification. General public admission is \$5.

Cameron Siefkes is a junior majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at cameron.siefkes@sckans.edu.

Students help Greensburg bloom

By **Samantha Gillis**
Staff reporter

A group of students are using their spring break to join a volunteer project. Greensburg still has a lot of damage to mend. On March 14 a group of students will depart from Winfield to build houses.

Molly Hamlett, mathematics senior, is president of Campus Council of Ministry. She is in charge of the trip.

She said, "Every year CCOM sponsors a service trip, and it seemed as though Greensburg really hit home here at SC."

Leadership went to Greensburg during the 2007 fall break. Hamlett said many people wanted to go back because there are so many people from the college that have ties in the town. Hamlett's goal is for 20 to 25 students to sign up.

The cost will be approximately \$150 per person. "Mostly the cost comes from van rentals and gas, because we are staying at a church that partners with the Mennonite housing," said Hamlett. The cost is paid in three payments Feb. 6, Feb. 20, and March 6. Hamlett held an informational meeting Jan. 30. Six students showed.

Hamlett said, "All we are doing is supplying the manpower and they will supply the tools and such." Students

are not required to have experience in construction.

Mennonite housing is planning on building 20 to 30 houses in Greensburg this spring.

Hamlett said, "The student volunteers might be split up into groups."

Students who have other commitments can still participate. Hamlett said there's no worry because several students are joining later.

Kaydee Johnson, business sophomore, is one of these volunteers with a conflicting schedule. Johnson said, "I am either going to go to Colorado the first half of the break and then go to Greensburg or go to Greensburg first then go to Colorado."

Johnson said, "I helped with the community rebuilding of Island Park and I had a job in high school where I did a lot of handy work around properties."

The homes are being built under California housing codes, because Greensburg is rebuilding the town to be environmentally friendly. Hamlett said, "They're going green, and so most contractors aren't familiar with the codes so most of the houses are being built by volunteers."

The campus host Volunteer in service to America, Trista Wilson, VISTA, helps coordinate volunteer efforts.

Wilson said, "Molly contacted me to help with the trip, and my job on campus is to implement trips."

Wilson also said Greensburg is expecting about 200 volunteers from all over during spring break.

Wilson said, "All and every student is welcome. You do not have to be affiliated with a church or have any religious beliefs to join the trip."

Hamlett said, "If you have an adventurous spirit, go for it. Unless you're senior you're going to have more spring breaks."

Wilson said, "When you're sitting around thinking of what to do for spring break you don't typically think of doing manual labor. But once you get to Greensburg you'll see. Once you're there you'll see what people are doing and how they are helping. Then it is going to really change your mind. There will always be those other vacations, but this is something that needs to happen now. People need this help now, not later."

Interested students may e-mail Hamlett at molly.hamlett@sckans.edu or Ashley Alley at ashley.alley@sckans.edu.

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Superbowl dealing fun



Blake Carter/Collegian photographer

Katie Allender, communication senior, Clint Kissling, computer science senior, Tony Lara, computer science senior, and Mandi Bever, biology junior, play cards during the Christy Majors' Super Bowl party Feb. 1.

Policy prohibits pets on campus

By **Colin Baker**
Staff reporter

Collar: \$9.99. Food: \$16.99. Toys: \$92.67. Cleaning supplies: \$43.85. Spending time with your pet: priceless.

The pet policy on campus doesn't allow students to bring their pets to live with them in the residence halls.

"We allow for some students to have fish, turtles and even have had some lizards," said Sarah Hallinan, director of residence life. "These types of animals are more low maintenance."

The pet policy in the Residence Life Handbook states that no animals with fur are permitted to be in the dorms.

"The policy about the fur is for more hazardous reasons than anything else," said Hallinan. "Some students are allergic to things like fur which could cause a liability issue for the school and animals like rodents could get loose and run around."

The policy also states that all pets must be approved by the director of residence. "All pets must be approved by me," said Hallinan. "I remember one year we had a student who got caught with a parrot. His suitemate finally had enough of how loud it was and turned him and the parrot in."

Some of the things that maintenance does to help keep the halls clean can be hazardous to the pets as well. "We spray for bugs during the

breaks and some of the chemicals are still present when everybody comes back," said Hallinan. "Those chemicals can be very hazardous towards fish and other pets."

Hallinan said she thinks that the hall directors having pets is enough and shows students to be more responsible.

"It's good that the resident directors have pets," said Hallinan. "They allow for the students to go play with them. It shows the students how much work it actually is to keep a pet such as a dog or a cat in a dorm room."

"I don't think it could be that hard," said James Sanders, business senior. "If the dog is old enough to be housebroken then there should not be any problems."

Sanders has a 10-year-old mixed breed mutt named Roofus. "He's one of my best friends," said Sanders.

Sanders is from Keller, Texas He doesn't get to see Roofus very much. "I only go home about once a month during the semester," said Sanders. "It makes me happy to come home and see him after a long drive."

Sanders said having a pet in the residence hall should depend on whether or not you have your own room. "I think if you have your own room you should be able to have your pet here with you," said Sanders. "That way there is no conflict with a roommate or anything like that."

Sanders is also convinced

that having your pet here could help reduce stress and help the students get better grades. "I think it would definitely help when it comes to making the grades," said Sanders. "If you are down you can go play with your dog and they will for sure cheer you up."

Some people like cats more than dogs. "I like cats way more than dogs," said Ashley Campbell, undecided freshman. "They are a lot more fun."

Campbell has an 11-year-old cat that she misses dearly. "I know she is depressed because I am not there."

Campbell is also from Keller, Texas. "It is pretty far drive from here to Keller," said Campbell. "It is nothing but anticipation on my way home to see her."

Campbell said that it is easier to keep a cat than a dog in the residence halls. "Cats are more settled and calm," said Campbell. "They are not too loud like dogs are, and are low maintenance."

Campbell understands the college pet policy. "I totally understand the policy," said Campbell. "If I had a chance I would definitely bring her up here. But I don't want to risk anything like getting my roommate mad or getting caught with it and getting in trouble."

Colin Baker is a freshman majoring in communication. You may e-mail him at colin.baker@sckans.edu.

UFO sighting on campus



Blake Carter/Collegian photographer

Brooke Newcomer, nursing junior, Blake Morgan, communication senior, and Aric Cherry, communication senior, run after a frisbee Jan. 31 during ultimate frisbee night.