

Cowley native begins first year as full-time instructor

By Zavyar Swain
Staff reporter

Micah Fry is a first-year instructor at Southwestern College. Fry is from Arkansas City and grew up with her younger brother and parents. Growing up in the Midwest, Fry was very involved with the Church of Christ.

Starting from grade school, Fry was an athlete, playing soccer, basketball and even taekwondo. As she entered high school sports,

she started to drift away while she focused on her next life – going to college and becoming a graphic designer.

Fry graduated in May from Wichita State University with a masters in communication. She became a graduate assistant while at Wichita State and taught there, then moved to Cowley Community College before coming to Southwestern.

Fry resides with her husband of two years in Arkansas City. Fry's

husband is the head men's soccer coach at Cowley Community College. They have no children, but have a dog named Mosby. Fry enjoys going to College Hill Coffee.

Michelle Boucher, associate professor of English, said, "Fry was composed, thoughtful, engaging. She talked about her work and her field with ease and aplomb. She has recent experience that gives her an easy way with students while holding them

to a high standard."

Kayleen Gonzales, psychology sophomore, is in Fry's oral communication course. Gonzalez said, "I love Fry's class and enjoy the way I can communicate with her."

Fry said she loves her job and said she feels like Southwestern is home.

Zavyar Swain is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may email him at zavyar.swain@sckans.edu.



Micah Fry

Broadway actress invigorates Performing Arts faculty

By Drake Vittitow
Staff reporter

Jennifer Hemphill is the new associate professor of theatre and speech. She graduated from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University before earning her master of fine arts degree at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio.

For 20 years, Hemphill was an actor in New York, performing in various plays and shows, includ-

ing having the leading role in the Broadway show "Mamma Mia."

"Jennifer has worked regionally and across the United States," said Allyson Moon, director of the theatre program. "Her knowledge of contemporary theatre is expansive."

Hemphill taught at the American Music and Dramatic Academy in New York, where she discovered her love of teaching.

"I was doing shows and teach-

ing, and I found that I was enjoying the teaching more than the acting," said Hemphill. "That is when I went to finish my M.F.A. at Kent State and was going to stay this course of teaching."

"The skillset Jennifer brings in acting, dancing, and singing will be a huge help for the performing arts program," said Jack Warring, theatre junior. "Her musical theater background is unmatched."

Hemphill was born in Waco,

Texas, and loves interior design. When she is not helping students with theatre, Hemphill can be found cheering on the Moundbuilders, keeping watch over her three animals, creating new jobs for students wanting to make money and working on renovations at her new home in Winfield.

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Jennifer Hemphill

Former Builder football player returns to lead athletic department

By Jordan Strane
Staff reporter

Mike McCoy, acting athletic director, was a consultant for eight arena football teams in the league throughout the country before accepting the position at Southwestern College. He had previously run the indoor professional arena minor league football teams for 18 years while teaching at Wichita State University.

McCoy says his goal is to have a positive impact and help the coaches be successful. McCoy played football at Southwestern for four years, then moved on to get his masters in sports administration and education from Kansas University. He then coached high school and college through-

out the state of Kansas.

After this, McCoy got involved with the administration with the minor league football organization. He had worked through the school before helping with special projects in the sports programs throughout the last two to three years. He's not exactly a "new face" on campus – he's known the coaches and some athletes already. He had always seen this to be his dream job. "When this job opened up, it was a chance for me to give back to the school that has given me so much," said McCoy.

Although McCoy doesn't get much off-time, when he does, he says he loves to work out, play golf and spend time at home chasing his grandkids around. When he's downtown or at other

schools he'll invite the students and people of the community to come see sporting events here at Southwestern.

McCoy was already familiar with the athletic director position due to being one at high schools and being in the administration of the minor league football teams, but the job here just seemed like a perfect fit for him.

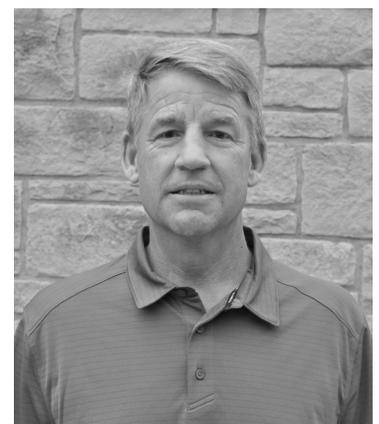
Brandon Branch, men's basketball assistant coach, first heard about McCoy from a referee back when McCoy was still a consultant for the arena football league. Branch said, "Mike McCoy brings good leadership to Southwestern and that he has a great personality. He has great character and energy, he attends every event and he stands out by

being a very social and approachable man."

Tim Miser, men's basketball assistant coach, said, "McCoy brings energy and passion for his coaches and Southwestern as a whole. He fits in great here as an alum, he knows and loves Southwestern. He has coached and been involved in sports for a number of years."

"I like his energy and passion," said Miser. "He is always in a good mood. He is happy to see everyone and takes the time to say hello and talk to everyone. I also love his work ethic. He isn't afraid to get his hands dirty."

Jordan Strane is a junior majoring in communication. You may email him at jordan.strane@sckans.edu.



Mike McCoy

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