

In The State, Including OU, OSU

MHS TV Production Studio To Rival Best



Cory Richards

The McAlester High School TV Production instructor showed us some of the “Buff TV” production last week.

Cory Richards said the MHS equipment will be the best high school equipment in the state and will rival O.U. and Oklahoma State’s broadcasting setups.

In fact, the McAlester class will take pictures for KTUL, Channel 8 in Tulsa. So students in the local class “will not only see” their work on the cable station designated for the high school, but will also see them on the Tulsa channel, Richards said.

The new TV Production School at the high school will be built from a recent sales tax election for the

high school.

The new TV school will not accommodate more than the 60 students in the current facilities, because 10 students per hour is a maximum for an instructor to work with, he said.

The high school instructor showed clips of projects the class had worked on, including KTUL’s “Wicked Weather” program, pictures for National Geographic, and The USA Network.

The class also sets up the sound system for guest speakers at the school.

The Channel 8 crew that was here for the weather program, also broadcast three news programs from here. They showed the schools and said that McAlester blended new and old traditions, with the new high school and the old one used for offices, and the chamber of commerce moving into “new” offices at the Puterbaugh gardens.

Top Boys and Girls Club Member Speaks

Lynn Edwards introduced the State Youth of the Year, of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, at our April 4th meeting.

The girl, Yazmin Quezada, is 18 years old and lives at Tahlequah. The program director of the Tahlequah Boys and Girls Club, Jane Shumate, was here with her.

Ms. Quezada said she came to the United States six years ago, from Mexico. She had to learn English. Since then she has received awards in Biology, Geometry, literature, English and physical Science. She has a 4.0 grade point average and is in the National Honor Society and “Who’s Who Among American High School Students. She is a member of the Keystone Club, a teen leadership group which performs service projects and volunteer work in the community.

When she had expected to have to drop out of school, due to financial problems, the Boys and Girls Club at Tahlequah hired her. She aids with timesheets and reports, translates Spanish, works as a membership clerk, and monitors members as they enter and leave the club. In her spare time she teaches students Hispanic dances.

In the competition she wrote several essays and made several speeches. She will enter the regional Boys and Girls Club competition this summer.

“The Boys and Girls Club has changed my life,” she told us.

Lynn accompanied the student and Ms. Shumate to a ceremony at the state capitol. Lynn said there were “no empty seats,” and there were seven or eight minutes of standing applause.

Exchange Student Tells About His Native Brazil

McAlester Foreign Exchange Student Gustavo Borges gave our program March 28, telling us about his native country of Brazil.

Gustavo's family has a large ranch in Brazil, where the main crops are corn and sunflower seeds. They also have 48,000 chickens. However, the nation is the fourth largest beef producer and the main exporter.

Gustavo showed a short video about his country.

Brazil is larger than the United States, without Alaska. Its language is Portuguese. Its population is 179,000,000 and it is one of the top 10 economies in the Western World.



Gustavo Borges

Private enterprise runs the steel mills and most of the economy. But there is "a large outside investment" in Brazil, the video said.

Gustavo told about his family. His mother is a teacher and his father is a Rotarian. He told about the Brazilian cowboys or "gauchos;" about the world famous volleyball team and soccer players.

He related his school schedule here, and told about his experiences on the football team. Gustavo recalled being told he had to run barefoot, the first time he went out for football. The next time he was told that kickers did not body contact with other players. Neither story was true, said the former soccer player.

He told about the meanings of the colors on his flag and showed his Rotary jacket, with pins from Rotary clubs around the world. He said people in this country are very patriotic. "Every place you go, there's a flag."

Gustavo thanked the Harrisons and the Mays for being his hosts. He noted that he had "learned a lot of things." And he added, "You are very good people."

Good Citizen from McAlester High School

Paige Grilliot has been visiting with us from MHS, as the "Good Citizen" of the month.

Paige is a senior and is the daughter of Brent and Debbie Grilliot. Her school schedule includes Band, Honor Choir, English IV, AP; Calculus, AP; Biology II, AP; Chemistry II, AP; and Spanish II.

Her hobbies are singing, playing instruments, taking part in Mat Maids, and her Church Youth Group. After graduation, she plans to attend the University of Arkansas, to major in instrumental music.

Attendance, Visitors, and Handshakers

There were 54 in attendance last week. Dr. Paul Sells, DVM was with Becky (Williams) Sells. Paul is Becky's new husband. Dorothy Chatenay was a guest of Jack. Debbie Watkins also was a guest.

At the April 4 meeting, 48 were present. David Lerblance was a guest of Ashley. Jim Dunagin was the guest of Fred Northern. Leona Schmitz was a guest of Lucy Smith. Terry Green was a guest of Loise Washington.

We had 57 at the March 28 meeting. Kim Ellis, Student of the Quarter for the Kiamichi Technology Center, and Heather Fenton were guests of Karl Scifres. Ann Ackerman, and Chris Garvin were guests of Lucy Smith. Ms. Ackerman is an O.C. Rotarian who is executive director of Leadership Oklahoma. Dr. Nancy Weddle was a guest of Ann Owens. Neva Mitchell and Nathaniel Harrison were guests of Amy Harrison. Mallory Nelson was a guest of Angie Nelson.

HANDSHAKERS-The women are out after the dollar each week. Shirley Fleming got it from Lynn Edwards last week. But Gary Boyd and big Carl Filskow wrestled it from them the previous two weeks.