By Deborah Wing

With fall break just around the corner many are making plans for travel, leisure and fun. However, sophomore John McCaskill has other plans in mind – volunteering for his church.

McCaskill’s father, Pastor William McCaskill, leads the Old Pathway Pentecostal Church. McCaskill, a physical education major, will be spending his fall break helping out his family, church and community by fixing up the building and landscaping of the church. His family and other members of the church volunteer their time and efforts to the upkeep of the church as well.

“There are some repairs that need to be done to the church,” McCaskill said. “We are going to spruce it up.”

McCaskill spends a lot of his time on the grounds of the church several times a week. He can be found there on Sunday mornings and evenings and for the evening services on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

“We do all it for God,” McCaskill said. “If he created us, the least we could do is fix up his house and cut his grass.”

John McCaskill

Western’s annual hypnotism event took place Monday, Oct. 5 in the multi-purpose center. BCM kicked off the event with a “Pizza Rush” lunch. Baseball Coach Kurt Russell was the featured speaker at the event.

Top left: Seth Freeman and Abad Santana practice their ballet moves under hypnosis.

Top right: Brady Ballou waves to her fans in the crowd before beginning her performance as Britney Spears.

Bottom left: Maria League sings her heart out as Christina Aguilera.

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Alumni Association launches ‘perks’ card

Western Oklahoma State College’s Alumni Association will kick off the first year of the ‘Pioneer Perks Card’ this fall. The cards offer discounts at 19 different local businesses and restaurants and will be valid for 2010.

Cards will go on sale beginning Monday, Oct. 19. Western’s student organizations will be selling the cards and a portion of the sales will go to each student organization. Cards will also be sold at Western’s Homecoming festivities Nov. 14 or can be purchased through the Office of Development and Alumni.

Participating businesses include: All-American (Blain), Benny’s Mexican Food & Pizza, Carl & Carmens Creations, Cerny 7 Beauty Salon, Chef’s Market, Cross Fire Paint Ball, Domino’s (Altus location), Fred’s Steak House, Grapevine Cafe, Home Health Products, Lazy C Western Wear, Luigi’s, McDonald’s (Altus location), Quixote (Altus location), Rexco, Rustic Rose, Smiley’s Tire, The Enchanted Door and Wilmes Ford Lincoln Mercury.

For more information about the ‘Pioneer Perks Card’ or to find out about special offers when renewing memberships or joining the Alumni Association, call Raegan Felker, director of development and alumni relations, at 580-477-7711.

PIONEER News

‘Hypno-palooza’ comes to Western

By Deborah Wing

McCaskill to volunteer, help others during fall break

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For McCaskill, this fall break will be filled with painting, cleaning, straightening up the workshop, fixing the roof, mowing the lawn, trimming, etc. They also plan on building a wooden door to replace their glass door.

McCaskill also performs with the church band and choir. His skills include playing the drums, piano, bass, singing, and writing songs for the church choir. McCaskill said their goal is to enlighten and enrich people’s lives with praise for God. In the time that McCaskill will not be working on the church, he plans on practicing music.

“We’re working on a CD,” McCaskill said. “We’re going to call it Victory 1001. We don’t want too much attention on us but we want something to get the point across.”

McCaskill also continues to work part-time at Wal-Mart. If he can find any extra free time during the break, he has some ideas of what to do.

“I’m going to go to the gym and probably to the junior high track to run. I try to work out every other day,” McCaskill said. “I also like to play video games on my PlayStation 3.”

Jackson McCaskill

Psychology students attend conference

Members of Western Psi Beta and the Behavioral Science Club attended the 3rd Oklahoma Network of Teachers of Psychology Conference September 25 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. ONTOP is for secondary psychology teachers, community college teachers, and university teachers. The conference gives faculty and students an opportunity to not only network with their peers, but to hear and meet some of the major names in psychology.

Pictured Above (from left to right): Abigail Womack, Jennifer Thompson, Dr. Douglas Bernstein, Angelica Womack, Angie Casias and Amanda Preston. Dr. Bernstein spoke on how to transition into classroom instruction at the college and university level.

Western announces Higher Learning Center dedication

Western Oklahoma State College will host a dedication ceremony Friday, Oct. 30 at 11 a.m. for the new Cooperative Higher Education and Training Center.

Dr. Glen Johnson, chancellor of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, will be the featured speaker.

Refreshments will be served immediately following the ceremony.

The new building consists of four ‘smart’ classrooms, three computer instructional classrooms, a large receiving room, equipment room, training room, public restrooms, a reception area, maintenance room, Board of Regents meeting room with small kitchen and restroom, president’s conference room, four conference rooms, two small receiving rooms, thirteen office spaces and one hub room for Instructional Technology use.

Western will host an open house for guests to tour the Higher Learning Center from 2 – 5 p.m. the same day.

Bass, singing, and writing songs for the church choir. His skills include playing the drums, piano,