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Nov. 29, 1995

Missouri Baptist College Library

MBC CIRCLE

November 29, 1995 . Revenaugh on Excellence . Faculty/Staff Out and About . December Birthdays . Activities

EXCELLENCE, PRINCIPLES AND ETHICS

I have a calendar on my desk with daily readings from the book *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. I'm sure that anyone who has read the book is appropriately impressed that I am familiar with its deep concepts and moral teachings. If such things impress them, I won't be the one to burst their bubble. The fact is that the calendar was a gift last Christmas and though I do read it, most days the concepts and paradigms that are espoused are simply too obtusely expressed for me to wrap my brain around first thing in the morning.

Some days though the author breaks out of his writing style and quotes others such as Longfellow who wrote, "...many men do not allow their principles to take root, but pull them up every now and then, as children do flowers they have planted, to see if they are growing." The main thrust of the authors teachings throughout this year have been that we must lead principle centered lives if we are to be effective. The word effective has a definite business connotation to it, but the author certainly does not limit his advice to the business world. In fact he counsels that one cannot abide by different principles for each aspect of their life. Work, personal relationships, family and social lives must be led by the same set of principles or we are doomed to failure.

Perhaps to some in the business world this book presents new concepts and is a beacon of light that will show them how to turn their business and lives around. Perhaps the world will even be a better place because of this book. I will agree that we must keep our principles and our "mission" at the center of all that we do, but does any of this sound familiar to you? Isn't this what the "Good Book" teaches? If I were to algebraically diagram the authors precepts wouldn't it look like this:

Author's precept = (Christian principles) – Christ

If we keep our eye on the Lord, if we keep Him and His teachings at the center of our lives we will be effective. We will be good managers, good stewards, good fathers, good mothers and good spouses. And for those who perhaps are reading this as you start your day and turn the page on your calendar, let me not confuse you with great profound paradigms that may twist your noodle in knots.

CHRIST = EXCELLENCE

Ken Revenaugh
Business Manager

**FACULTY AND STAFF
 OUT AND ABOUT**

Dr. Mary Bagley has been nominated for WOMAN OF THE YEAR - 1995 by the American Biographical Institute, Inc.

Dr. Dykstra and Dr. Bagley have articles published in *Remembrance*, a publication of the Historical Society of St. Louis County.

Dr. Roberta Ross-Fischer, presented "Practical Reading Strategies for the Adult Learner" at the Spring Missouri Association of Adult Continuing and Community Education (MAACCE) Conference and was selected to participate in an institute for new MAACTE members.

Dr. Thomas S. Field had surgery Monday in Springfield. He is doing well and recuperating at his daughter's home.

Dr. Bob Miller and Dr. Clark Triplett spent In-Service Day off campus working on the NCA material.

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PUT THIS DATE ON YOU CALENDAR -

April 14-16, 1997 - North Central Review Team on Campus.

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If you're going to be able to look back on something and laugh about it, you might as well laugh about it now.

- M. Osmond

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Linda Chrisope
- 6 Kristie Kimzey
- 13 Kim Grey
- 13 Ed Preston
- 27 Andy Carter

The Birthday Party for December will be December 4, at 3:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria.

If you have a December birthday and are not listed above, please give us a call and we can add you to the list.

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It's a strange world of language in which skating on thin ice can get you into hot water.

- F. P. Jones

ACTIVITIES

November
 30 6:30 Hanging of the Green

December
 1 7:00 p.m. Senior Recital (Holland)
 5 International Students Dinner
 8 7:30 Chorale Concert and Reception in Bywaters Lounge
 13 Midnight-Finals Feast
 22 2:00 p.m. Paychecks Available
 25-Jan 1. Christmas/New Year's Holidays