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MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE PROFESSOR TO RELEASE FIRST NOVEL IN SERIES

First novel in "The Matter of Britain" series to be released October 25.

Marshall, Mo. (August 20, 2008)—Westbank Publications has announced the release of the first novel of *The Matter of Britain* series by Dr. Mark Adderley, MVC professor of English. *The Hawk and the Wolf* will be released October 25. Floyd Alsbach, local artist and MVC adjunct instructor in art, is the cover art illustrator for the novel.

Adderley holds a Ph.D. in medieval literature from the University of South Florida, an M.A. from the University of Wales, and a B.A. from Cartrefle College. He has lived in Florida, Georgia, and Montana, and now teaches medieval literature and Shakespeare at Missouri Valley College in Marshall, Missouri. He has been writing for several years, but *The Hawk and the Wolf* is his first published novel.

Adderley was born in Crewe, England. Like many of his contemporaries, he grew up devouring the novels of C. S. Lewis and, later, Ian Fleming and J. R. R. Tolkien. It wasn't until he was studying at Cartrefle College in Wales, however, that he discovered the passion for the Arthurian legend that has now lasted over twenty years. During his studies in Wales, Adderley met an American woman, Adrienne, whom he married. They have four children.

Copies of *The Hawk and the Wolf* can be pre-ordered today at www.barnesandnoble.com or <http://www.westbankpublishing.com/store>. Extracts from *The Hawk and the Wolf* and its sequels can be found at <http://www.moval.edu/faculty/adderleym/matter-of-britain/novels.html>. For questions about the *Matter of Britain* series, contact Adderley at adderleym@moval.edu.

ABOUT THE HAWK AND THE WOLF

Britain, the Island of the Mighty, stands on the brink of war with the Roman Empire. But the King is without a sword—Excalibur, the sword forged by the gods in the dawn of days, which has been passed down through the generations, has been lost. And it is doubtful that the kingdom can stand, without the help of the gods. But the young prince Emrys, nicknamed Merlin, knows that it is his destiny to seek Excalibur. For the gods have given him a special gift—or a curse, as it sometimes seems—the Sight, the ability to see further into the heart of mysteries than other men. But he also knows that Morgana, the goddess who rebelled against the gods in the ancient days, will pursue and kill him in her attempt to take Excalibur for herself. With Excalibur in her possession, Morgana will become Queen of the Island of the Mighty, and the days will be dark and bloody. In this fast-moving and violent tale, the world seems poised upon the brink of two possibilities. Darkness and death; or the age of Arthur.

"The Matter of Britain" is a series of novels covering the reign of King Arthur. It begins, many years before Arthur's birth, with the childhood of Merlin Emrys, a young boy gifted with the ability to see the future. All the familiar heroes and heroines are here—Gawain, Arthur's nephew, Cei, his foster-brother, Gwenhwyfar, his queen and faithless wife, but also some less familiar characters: Culhwch, enchanted to marry the daughter of the Chief Giant of Annwn, the monk-like Peredur, a buffoon and a fool, who nevertheless is a one-man army, and Gereint, whose face no one has seen. Adderley draws upon his wide knowledge of Arthurian literature, particularly that written in Wales, and upon his own experiences in Wales, to craft a compelling tale in which the clash of arms mingles with songs of love, treason, and destiny.

ABOUT MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE

Missouri Valley College is a liberal arts college that provides educational, social and cultural experiences in a decidedly Christian environment. Established in 1889, MVC offers 28 majors and 7 pre-professional programs, and 12 sports and 20 varsity teams. The liberal arts heritage focuses on scholarship, critical thinking and academic excellence to prepare students to become members of a responsible citizenry. For more information, call (660) 831-4000 or visit www.moval.edu.

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