

## SPRING PLAY ANNOUNCED AT MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE

*Shakespeare's Othello to run from April 5-8 in the Eckilson-Mabee Theatre.*

**Marshall, Mo.** (March 14, 2006)—Their love was forbidden; his hate was not.

*Othello*, the original story of sexual jealousy and racial hatred, comes to the Eckilson-Mabee Theatre's stage on the Missouri Valley College campus this April.

Othello, Moorish commander of the Venetian army, marries Desdemona, white daughter of one of Venice's most influential senators. But their ideal love is shattered by the insidious hate of Iago, posing as a friend, but really intent on destroying their forbidden love.

This is William Shakespeare's most complex and penetrating study of jealousy and racial difference, posing the question, as relevant now as it was in 1604: What is it like to be a foreigner in your own home?

*Othello* is one of the most emotionally demanding of all of Shakespeare's plays, especially for the actor playing the title-role, in this case Gold Wise, 23-year old senior in the Human Services and Recreation program at MVC. Gold has played significant roles on stage before, most notably Jim in *Big River*, and he has played football for MVC for four years. Even so, rehearsals for *Othello* leave him physically exhausted. "In the big temptation scene," he says, "I have to hold on to Josh [Haggard, playing Iago], or else I'll fall down. I'm swaying as it is!"

Another thing the cast has to deal with is stage violence. In the course of the play, there are two sword fights, a pair of strangulations, and a slap. For this, MVC has brought in the talents of Adrienne Adderley, currently a research fellow at the University of Missouri—Columbia, who recently arranged the fights for Sam Shepherd's *Fool for Love* and her own play *Under the Shadow of the Sword* at MU.

*Othello* runs from April 5-8, 2006, at 7:30 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$5.00 per person and can be purchased by calling 660-831-4208.

### 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 27 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](http://www.moval.edu).

