The MVC Viking men’s soccer team will play for the first time ever in the NAIA National Championship opening round on Saturday, Nov. 20 at 1 p.m. in Hastings, Neb.

The Viking team won the HAAC conference last Saturday against William Jewell. Prior to that, the Viking men’s team defeated Benedictine College 1-0 in overtime in the Heart of America Athletic Conference Tournament semifinal game in Marshall.

Senior forward Ryan Pow scored with a free kick at the first overtime and the team went to the next and final round against William Jewell.

Last Saturday, MVC went to Liberty, Mo., to play against William Jewell for the final round of the HAAC. The tough game was about to go to the penalties and, on the last minute of the second overtime, freshman Nicholas Alexander, number 20 from Manchester, England, scored for the Vikings and the Missouri Valley College won the HAAC for their first time.

The men’s soccer team is ranked number 15th in the top 25 poll. The head coach is Vladimir Simic. With a record of 14-4-2, the MVC soccer team has had their best fall season of all time.

In addition, the Vikings had seven student-athletes named to the 2010 all-conference teams: senior Andrew Kuchmeister, junior Eduardo da Silva; junior Pedro Franco; senior Ryan Pow, freshman Josh Wells; junior Steven Crane; sophomore Mike Alexis; and freshman Nicholas Alexander. Junior Pedro Franco was also named 2010 HAAC Defensive Player of the Year.
Is it student-athlete or athlete-student?

Devon Wade
DELTA CO-EDITOR

While checking my Valley email, I saw that Dr. Marilyn Belwood had sent around a survey for students to fill out concerning academic challenge. From my freshman year all the way until now, I have received surveys that were to help some department evaluate something having to do with the college. I can honestly say that I never filled out any of those surveys, but I still, more than likely, complained about that particular department. I was a part of the problem and not the solution. When I received the email from Dr. Belwood, I decided that I might as well take at least one survey before I graduated.

There was a commercial break during my beloved “Law and Order: Special Victims Unit” marathon and my Wal-Mart-bought Stouffers lasagna still had a couple more minutes to go in the microwave, so I figured it was now or never and clicked on the link. I answered the questions on the survey but there was one question that stuck with me. It was the very last question and it asked what suggestions I might have for increasing the academic challenge. In my humble opinion, it’s not just as simple as creating more academically rigorous courses. I believe the whole culture of the school needs to change.

By that I mean trying to make classes more challenging won’t work if the college is still letting in students who do not care about school, or notes, or studying, or anything other than their sport or “Wing Night” at Hustlers. I am all for the fact that Valley gives a lot of students chances that some other schools wouldn’t, but the standards for admitting students need to be raised.

There are students here who do very well and excel in their classes and leave Missouri Valley College equipped to be successful in whatever career they pursue and then there are students who I question how they even graduated high school.

This once again is just my humble opinion. I have not done any official research or gathered data to come up with any statistics, but when you can hear professors openly talk about how pitiful a lot of the students are and hear many students year-after-year talk about how much of a “joke” Valley classes were, then there is a problem.

There is a problem when students who are at a senior standing who still expect to be coddle and given study guides for 10-question quizzes. There is a problem when certain classes by nature of the subject should be a class filled with discussion and feedback from students and they are not given the opportunity because the teacher hasn’t updated their lecture or exams in five years.

How can students be challenged academically when they don’t have to leave their comfort zone? How can students be challenged academically when three minutes of studying before a midterm is sufficient enough to get an “A” on the exam?

How can students be challenged academically when they just simply don’t want to learn? Not to say that this is the standard for the teachers and students here at Valley, but it happens enough to be noticeable.

There are plenty of professors who bust their butts and put in countless hours and try hard to reach students in creative and innovative ways, and their frustration becomes evident when it seems like it is all a waste, because on Fridays, they are wondering why their class of 43 has 11 people in it. Just some food for thought.
Diverse books draw participants to clubs

Geneva Looney
Delta Reporter

Silence and students focus. That is the typical idea when you go into a library. Students are in the library for different reasons. One student is sitting alone at a desk, studying. Another is using a computer to finish an essay. There is even a student getting help from a tutor.

Then there are some students in a corner looking at the cover of a book. But the book is not for a class. It is for a book club. As they read, they cannot seem to put the book down.

Only a select few of students are in the book clubs, organized by Murrell Memorial Library. Many students claim they don’t have enough time for it, though, the clubs meet only about twice a month. The common excuses from students are: Too much class work, sports, and too many clubs.

However, faculty and staff members have found time for it, though they have classes to prepare for, papers to grade, and activities to attend.

There are 11 faculty members and nine students participating in the book clubs this semester. Library staff member Norine Gaskill is in four clubs and student Flannery Crump is in three clubs. There are six book clubs, with names that describe the themes for the clubs: Dealer’s Choice, Christian Urban book club, Manga, Graphic Novel, Never Judge A Book By Its Movie, and the Nonfiction book club.

Students can also create their own clubs. All they have to do is talk to Gaskill in the Teacher Education Library or Library Director Pam Reeder to get the idea started.

The Manga book club consists of six students and one faculty member. For anyone who doesn’t know what Manga is, it is something like a Japanese comic book. The book is read from right to left, which opposite of the way books are read in America. Manga books are very popular in Japan and there are even some movies based on the books. In fact, that is mainly what the book club is about: Read the books and sometimes watch a movie based on the book.

Group leader Samantha Haesemeyer helped come up with the idea for the book club along with a friend last year. Current student Sanae Homma, who is from Japan, takes part in the club and joined it because “it’s easier for me to read.” She said, “The images help me understand what is going on since I don’t understand English completely.”

In the past, the book club has read “Tsubasa” and “I Love My Sister.” The club is currently reading “Kyo Kara Moah” and will be discussing it on Monday, Nov. 22, at 5:30 p.m. in the Coffee By the Book room in the main library.

Library staff member Bathsheba Love, group leader for the Christian Urban book club, said she got the idea to create the club when she read about another Christian Urban book club that was mainly for women. Love said she wanted to bring the idea to MVC but to make it possible for men to join, too. The group read and discussed “Murder Through the Grapevine” by Teresa McClain-Watson and is currently reading “The Voice Behind the Thunder” by Carrie Elizabeth Greene.

The Nonfiction book club consists of about nine faculty and staff, but no students this semester. The Rev. Pam Sebastian, the MVC chaplain who is a member of the club, said that unfortunately to many students nonfiction may not sound interesting. “They perceive that it’s boring,” Sebastian said, adding, “A close secret to those who attend think it’s wildly exciting.”

Sebastian also noted, with concern, that many students walk around on campus plugged into electronic devices and they may be missing out on communicating with others. One of the fun parts of a book club is that there’s plenty of communication, with club members discussing, listening, providing insights and considering insights from others.

David L. Roberts, assistant professor of Mass Communication, who is a member of the Nonfiction book club, said he enjoys the conversation and the books. “It’s a nice break and there are great discussions.”

Sebastian said that book clubs are “a good conversation starter.” She said, “It causes you to think in a new way.” The book currently being read by the Nonfiction book club certainly fits that description. It is “Prophetically Incorrect” by Robert H. Woods Jr. and Paul D. Patton, who is the brother of MVC Chemistry Professor Stephen Patton.

The book club called Dealer’s Choice was originally called the Mystery book club. Library Director Pam Reeder, who takes part in it as well as the Nonfiction club, said everyone chose a different book each time and it slipped away from the mystery books. The club is currently reading “Saving CecCee Honeycutt” by Beth Hoffman. The club will meet again on Nov. 23.

The “Don’t Judge a Book by its Movie” club discusses books that have been made into movies. The club is currently reading “Shutter Island” but may go to other fan favorites, such as “Harry Potter,” “Twilight,” or others. The club will meet Nov. 30 at 3:15 p.m. in the Teacher Education Library to discuss and compare the book and movie “Letters to Juliet” by Lise Friedman and Celi Friedman.

The Graphic Novel book club is currently reading “Maus” by Art Spiegelman, which is about the Holocaust. It is the first graphic novel to be awarded a Pulitzer Prize.

All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend the clubs. To find out more about the clubs, contact Norine Gaskill at the library.

The student in the corner who was reading a book for a book club has finished. It was a satisfying read. The discussion of the book within a book club will likely be even more satisfying, with the potential for shared insights and lively conversation.

In the upcoming online edition of the Delta...

Photos and stories will feature the Veterans Day ceremony at MVC, the final show of “Dancing With Valley,” the “Twilight” mystery evening at the library, the Village Apartments open house, scenes of “The Dumbwaiter” play, and more.
Organization builds 15th house to make a difference

Taylor Castillo
DELTA REPORTER

On Redman Street in October, a dedication ceremony took place to celebrate the completion by the Saline County Chapter of Habitat for Humanity of its 15th house.

One of the seven families who applied will receive this home. Habitat for Humanity, founded in 1976, is an international organization that builds affordable homes for those who are in need. The Saline chapter has been in business since 1996 and is head by Missouri Valley College Chaplain Pam Sebastian, a Presbyterian minister for churches in Marshall and Slater.

With several applications each year, it takes about a month and two background checks for the selection process. Sebastian said there are three main points of criteria for families who are chosen for housing: Need, willingness to help, and ability to pay off their mortgage. That’s right, mortgage.

Habitat for Humanity not only builds and furnishes the house, it also plays a key role as a banker. With help from local banks, the organization finances houses interest-free, while encouraging clients to make payments as best they can.

“When we build these houses, we don’t want them back,” Sebastian said. “We want them to keep these houses. We really hope for the best.”

To furnish the housing, Habitat for Humanity partners with companies like Whirlpool to provide appliances. Green technology also plays a part, such as providing good insulation to cut down on heating costs.

Although part of a large, international organization, the Saline chapter has no steady crew, but has about 45 volunteers each week to contribute during the construction of the housing site.

Volunteers come from the community as well as the Missouri Valley College campus. The organization receives a lot of support from American Humanics and has had volunteers from various fraternities, sororities, Christian organizations, and sports teams.

Feeling altruistic? Habitat for Humanity is always looking for new volunteers, even if it’s just providing meals for other volunteers. Every bit helps.

For individuals or organizations who would like to be a part of Habitat for Humanity, contact Sebastian, at sebastianp@moval.edu, and make a difference in Saline County.

Kenya school appreciates effort of MVC club

Drew Mohler
DELTA REPORTER

Pamoja Vision Moja, an MVC student organization, sent eight boxes of books and supplies to an African school. The school, which has 347 students, is Wangui Primary School in Kenya.

The Pamoja Vision Moja organization is currently on a pause. Janie Ross, assistant professor of Dance, said the organization is on a hiatus and plans to ship the rest of the boxes that are stored in Ross’ office.

Future projects may include finding a way to send money to the school, so they can buy their own supplies.

Ross said about the project that it personally has meant a lot to her, though “it’s not much, the little we can send, for them to have their own notebooks and own pencils.”

The school has responded positively and appreciatively about the donations of financial and school supplies. School officials gathered students for photographs and sent the photos to Ross.

MVC alum Samuel Njuguna and current student Kuuku Noamesi, both originally from Kenya, also have felt the effects of the project.

Njuguna, who is currently in the U.S. Navy in San Diego, responded by e-mail, “Personally, having been a student of Wangui Primary School and coming this far in life, I am touched by the kindness of all of the well-wishers and those who have donated time, money, and effort to support the club.”

Njuguna added, “I believe the poor students attending the school now could benefit from the help and hopefully make it further than primary school.”

Noamesi said, “Growing up, I never had to want for anything because my parents saw to it that I had everything. But they took me to a school where I could see and meet those who were less privileged to get to know them and learn to appreciate what I had.”

Noamesi added, “My biggest dream is to go back home some day and help the poor and put smiles on their faces. Pamoja has just given me the chance to actually start working on that dream and it has been worth my time and effort.”

Noamesi said the effort has been successful, “I do see the effort as successful because, through our initiative, under-privileged kids now have books and pens to study with, shoes on their feet to go to school with, smiles on their faces, and motivation to look forward to going to school each day.”

Some of the 347 students at Wangui Primary School in Kenya display books and supplies sent to them by the efforts of MVC students and donors through the Pamoja Vision Moja organization. (Photograph courtesy of Janie Ross)
In the early morning hours when it’s still dark, MVC sophomore Michelle Christensen is up and out the door. Twenty minutes later, she is saddled and ready to rope calves before heading off to class. The day of a college rodeo athlete has begun.

College rodeo students are sometimes excited to be free of their parents, but, when they arrive at school, they become the parents. Who are the children? Their horses, of course.

Those who don’t know about rodeo, may consider horses to be pets but, to rodeo students, horses are their entire world.

While juggling classes and studying, students add in the care and responsibility of horses to the craziness of being college rodeo athletes.

For college student-athletes, rodeo can be costly, ranging from entry fees to the feed required to maintain the true athletes of rodeo: horses.

Horses are similar to children as they are dependent upon others to provide for their basic nutrition needs of grain and hay. Prices vary on the products and, with every horse being different, the amounts are various.

Christensen said her barrel horse struggles with weight so she feeds a grain that has energy and weight ingredients.

MVC sophomore Jordan Brady said feeding just the main nutrients for her horse, Tomcat, keeps him fit and trim. Just as timed event competitors feed top quality products, rough stock riders have similar responsibilities in keeping their bucking horses in top form.

MVC senior James Earl Carter said while the ride only needs to last for eight seconds, having a rough stock horse in top shape is crucial to how the animal will perform, which is similar for a horse in a timed event, such as breakaway or barrel racing.

Having horses can take a toll on student-athletes along with classes. Having horses at school requires the rodeo students to put their animal’s needs before their own, through good and bad weather. Having horses at school are a big responsibility and become part of a student’s family.

Responsibility is a big deal for any student at college, and even more so with college rodeo students whose care of their horses helps them become even more responsible.

MVC student Michelle Christensen is the heeler for team roping in a rodeo event. (Photos on this page courtesy of Brett Caldwell)
If and when people make themselves a “bucket list,” kissing a goat probably wouldn’t be on it. But on October 26, Drew Hawkins, Women’s head soccer coach, and Emily Skellett, Student Affairs activities coordinator, added it to their list and crossed it off.

The Men’s and Women’s Volleyball programs at Valley held a fund-raiser called “Kiss A Goat.” During lunch hours the week prior to the event, students, faculty, and staff put money in a jar of the contestant they wanted to see kiss the animals.

Coach Hawkins said, “Winning could be a good or a bad thing—they could vote for you because they like you, or they vote to see you kiss the goat.”

Others that were among their competition were Marilyn Ahrens, Tiffany Bergman, Mike Machholz, Shawn Terryberry and a few others.

Skellett said, “I wasn’t surprised because I’m a hall director, but I kind of was because I thought Bergman was going to win.”

The fundraiser took place during the Women’s Volleyball match against Evangel. Prior to kissing the goats, both finalists were nervous.

Skellett said she was scared but when she saw them, her nerves were eased a little bit. Hawkins was a little nervous because he has never kissed a farm animal before.

However, Skellett and Hawkins felt good about helping out the Volleyball fund-raising effort for the Volleyball programs.

Hawkins said, “It wasn’t as bad as I thought it was going to be, but I wouldn’t want to do it again.”

This was a new fund-raiser for the Volleyball teams and being a first, they were quite successful with raising about $135.
Missouri Valley College has a team that practices twice a day, works on difficult tasks, and is always striving to accomplish something new. No, not the football team or volleyball team. It's the MVC Cheerleading squad.

The cheerleading squad puts in about four hours per day. The cheerleaders have a morning workout and then they have a night practice where they practice their stunts, acrobatics, and the cheers.

For those who do not believe cheerleading is a sport, the cheerleaders would say they need to think again, because the squad does a lot of work that no team would ever do.

Last year, the squad placed ninth at the UCA National Cheerleading Championship and second place in the Heart of America Athletic Conference Cheerleading Division.

With 31 members and still growing, the squad is only going to get better.

Sophomore cheerleader Kaylee Bartolotta said, “We have recently had two volleyball girls join” and they attend whenever their volleyball schedule allows. “They are learning everything pretty quickly and are determined to get everything done right,” Bartolotta said.

The squad is always accepting new, good team-mates. If anyone is interested and is determined to excel to better heights and can’t make it to the tryouts, the easiest way to get on, at this point, is to talk to the coach. While many make the team, that doesn’t mean they will compete in the competitions.

This year, the MVC cheer squad has a new coach, Kristin Lyming. She recently graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City with a degree in Business Administration. At the university, she served as the captain of the cheerleading squad. She also worked for the National Cheer Association (NCA). She is a fifth-year veteran and a head instructor, too. She has had many experiences with the NCA, as she has helped with

the NCA College National Gymnastics and Dance Center in Olathe, Kansas. She has coached two All-Star teams and serves as a head coach at Truman High School in Independence, Mo.

“I am very excited about this season and what the squad can accomplish this year,” Lyming said.

The best part of being a cheerleader, according to many of the participants, is their favorite, the stunting. They are always trying new and exciting stunts to better themselves as a team. They do it all from a ‘heel stretch’ all the way to a ‘full.’

“The hardest stunt that we do would have to be a double full out of the stunt,” sophomore cheerleader Dakota Day-Herrell said. The “double full,” an all-male “full basket,” is by far the most complicated stunt that the MVC team performs. With the all-male “full baskets,” the cheerleaders most likely average getting thrown into the air about 20 feet or higher.

Though those are difficult stunts and cool to watch, there is also the favored “pyramid.”

Junior cheerleader Jessica Baker said, “They get two-and-a-half people high, which could be about 15 feet in the air.” She added that they are a difficult stunt and take lots of balance.

In describing how it feels to be thrown in the air, junior cheerleader Jenna Robertson said, “It feels great! Knowing that you are doing such an amazing skill in just people’s hands. It is just awesome!”

The women said that they are pretty comfortable with their bases (the cheerleaders who will catch them) and don’t usually get scared when going up, for which trust is an important key to cheerleading.

Without the trust, a cheerleader doesn’t have anything.

“We have recently had two volleyball girls join,” Baker said. “One of them is a former basketball player. Without the trust, a cheerleader doesn’t have anything.”

Junior Dakota Day-Herrell said about her injuries, “I have gotten two concussions, broken fingers, and a pulled quad.”

The cheerleaders usually just cheer for the football and basketball teams, but this year they even cheered for a soccer game.

Bartolotta said, “It was a lot different cheering for soccer. I have never done that before. We could only do the school cheers, like ‘M-V-C Let’s Go!’ because they change from offense to defense so fast we would be changing ever second.”

Most of the squad would say that cheering for the football team is their favorite. They love being able to pump-up the crowd and being a part of the game, in a way.

Being the people in front of the fans, they said that it was hard to cheer when the team is losing though. But they know they need to do it to try to get the crowd pumped up, so the team will get an energy boost and turn the game around.

Baker added, “Cheerleaders are always upbeat and its constantly changing. That is what I love about cheerleading the most.”

With two practices a day, achieving difficult tasks, and always striving to get the new stunts perfect, cheerleading can readily be recognized as a sport. Not only do the cheerleaders have to be physically fit, but they have to be mentally prepared for what they have to put their bodies through each day.
The Delta
Nov. 19, 2010

‘Dumbwaiter’ shows run through Saturday

Chad Jaecques
MVC Media Relations

The Missouri Valley College fine arts department is presenting “The Dumbwaiter,” a one-act play by Nobel Laureate Harold Pinter, at 7:30 p.m. nightly through Nov. 20 in the Morris Experimental Theatre in MacDonald Hall on the MVC campus.

“The Dumbwaiter” is one of Off-Broadway’s most successful entries. This mysterious and moody play concerns two professional killers who wait apprehensively in a basement room forward of their next assignment. The play is set in England in the 1960s.

“It’s a challenging play because of the style, written by Harold Pinter, who some consider an absurdist writer,” said Wade Hughes, associate professor of theatre. “The actors have to learn the art of acting off the words and focusing on the silence versus the word. The play is unique because of its use of silence—it is equally fifty percent silence and dialogue.”

Cast members include Matthew Ford, as Ben, sophomore from Camdenton, Mo.; and Clayton Sullivan, as Gus, sophomore from Albany, Mo.

The show will be performed in the MET due to the intimate setting it offers.

“THE MET was created for our edgier, experimental, and explorative work,” Hughes said. “Tickets are $5 for adults. For more info about the production contact Wade Hughes at hughesw@moval.edu or call (660) 831-4052.

Tickets may be reserved at (660) 831-4208 or www.moval.edu/tmd, and seating is limited.

‘Bug Me’ family musical set for special Marshall performance

The show “U-Bug-Me” will be performed Saturday, Nov. 20, in the Eckilson-Mabee Theatre at 5 p.m. The show is a special Marshall performance by the State Fair Community College Theatre Arts students.

The family rock musical, by Jeremiah Neal, is about the golden rule. It runs 65 minutes.

The admission cost is $5. For tickets, call 660-831-4208.

Garry Anders (top, middle) conducted the MVC Jazz Band on Sunday at the Eckilson-Mabee Theater. The event included Anders’ announcement of a band award named for Charles Ferguson (left), who presented the award to guitarist Joseph Graham. Jazz band members included Montario Benjamin, Josh Blackburn, Brooke Boulware, Derrick Brown, Jay Buck, Kristian Foster, Joseph Graham, Nick Hern, Emily Mays, Martin Miles, Sabina Nickes, Travis Smith, Jessica Thurmond, Jacques Toney, David Ward, Tierra Williams, and James Withers.

Jazz

Above: James Withers on trumpet.

Greens banquet planned

The tradition of the Hanging of the Greens will be held Dec. 1. This year, the event includes a banquet at 5 p.m. in the R. Wilson Brown Room. Those wanting to attend should RSVP to Emily at the Student Affairs Office by Wednesday, Nov. 24.

The Hanging of the Greens will feature a live nativity scene and caroling in the quad.
Viking lady wrestlers at MVC Open Invitational

Photos: The Viking women’s wrestling members, from top left, are Brittany Jones, Rachel Pike, Rashona Colbert, Brittney Faust, and Randi Belt. The women’s wrestling coach is Carl Murphree.

Photos by David L. Roberts
As I read Malcolm Gladwell’s “Outliers,” I could not help but feel intrigued to continue reading.

I am not considered to be a big reader, but this book was a book that applies to everyone and has important figures and facts that are just simply astonishing to think about after Gladwell presents the thought to the reader.

It is not a book based on boring facts that, as you read it, the sentences seem to somehow turn into one, big run-on sentence, but instead become a series of mind-blowing theories that are proved later in the book.

The book consists of eight chapters with eight chapters that break down different scenarios where one might find to a lucky case of fortune, an unnatural ability to be successful, or just great athletic ability. For example, the first two chapters consist of Gladwell examining Canadian teenage hockey players and the reasons why some kids make it as far as they do and others don’t. Some might say that they are just better athletes and some may say that they work hard to get where they are now. Gladwell has broken it down to a science and makes valid points that some players are at an advantage based on the time of year they were born. Case in point, the best hockey players generally are born in the first month of the year because they develop earlier than players born in the later months of the year.

Gladwell breaks down each scenario to its simplest form so he can piece it back together and form a central idea or belief which, in the words of Gladwell, is that people “are invariably the beneficiaries of hidden advantages and extraordinary opportunities and cultural legacies that allow them to learn and work hard and make sense of the world in ways others cannot.”

In another chapter, Gladwell notes why some airlines pilots are better than others, based upon cultural aspects.

All of this is done in front of the reader so that the reader has no other choice but to believe or to close the book immediately. I chose to continue reading and I am very glad that I did.

There are always good selections of books on the new book shelf at Murrell Memorial Library.

Some of the new books include:

“In the Courts of the Conqueror, The 10 Worst Indian Law Cases Ever Decided” by Walter R. Echo-Hawk, 2010. The book examines major U.S. Supreme Court cases that greatly affected Native Americans in negative ways, taking away land, religious and cultural qualities, and other rights.

“The G.I. Bill, A New Deal for Veterans” by Glenn C. Altschuler and Stuart M. Blumin, 2009, is about the largest governmental program in American history. The legislation, promoted by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, provided benefits allowed veterans to buy homes, go to college, and create a strong American middle class for a healthy economy.


“Pluto, Sentinel of the Outer Solar System” by Barrie W. Jones, 2010, about planet with the controversial “planet” status. According to the book, there are over 10 planets in the solar system, including the asteroid Ceres.
Nov. 19, 2010

SPORTS

Valley Soccer

In the opening round of the Nationals Championship game in Hastings, Neb., on Saturday, the Vikings lost the game 3-0 against Hastings College.

Above: David Flores dribbles the opponent to keep the ball for the Vikings. Left: Carlos Arribas controls the ball for another attack.

Left: Vikings defend the free kick. Goalie Adria Borras tries to have a better look at the ball while Fellipe Vurraro, Carlos Arribas and Andrew Kuchmeister prepare to protect the goal net. Below: Fellipe Vurraro runs after the ball.
Another Murder mystery night was held in the Murrell library on Wednesday, Nov. 3. The event included a Twilight party with red punch and bloody cake followed by The Hunt for Bella game.

Freshman Molly Parsons and sophomore Jordan Hagerman won the game after they were the fastest team to gather their clues and find where in the library Bella was hiding.

The participants had a list of questions leading them to different areas of the library where they could find clues about Bella’s location.

“The questions took a while,” Norine Gaskill, Library Services Coordinator said, “they were all related to the first three books.” The library closed its doors for the event. There were many prizes for the participants.

“I thought it was really fun,” sophomore Brittany Broadwater said, “I like that the library hosts events for students just to get away from homework for a little bit and have fun.”

The library started hosting murder mystery nights in October 2009 when the 200-year anniversary of Edgar Allan Poe’s birth was celebrated.

During the Twilight party, Parsons was presented with her read poster, a drawing among MVC students held every semester, where the winner poses with their favorite book. It’s been a tradition since January 2008 and all posters since then are displayed in the Coffee room in the Murrell Library.

The next event the library will host is a Harry Potter tribute night in the Spring. It will have a party atmosphere and some competition involved where participants can win some prizes.
The Veterans Day ceremony, in the MVC R. Wilson Brown Room, brought together veterans, soldiers, and community in honor of those who served or who are serving in the military defense of the nation. Veterans from WWII, Korean Conflict, Vietnam War, Desert Storm, and the Iraq and Afghanistan wars attended. MVC President Bonnie Humphrey participated in the ceremony as well as John “Scotty” Campbell (top middle) and Harry Carrell (top right). Student Rachel Pike (middle left) spoke about the monthly MVC Cares Project. Also participating were ROTC students, soloist Natalie Cotto-Garcia, and choir students directed by Music Associate Professor Diana Malan.
Great performances highlight ‘Dumbwaiter’

“Bravo!” was the word from audience members to Clayton Sullivan and Matthew Ford for the comedy and drama in the play “The Dumbwaiter,” held in the MET last week. The Harold Pinter play was directed by Wade Hughes, Theatre associate professor. Pinter plays are known for the “Pinter pauses.” Others in the production troupe were Kate Reuter, Charlique Rolle, Zak McKinney, Sequan Davison, Jay Rozema, and Dyann Rozema.

Student education group holds book fair

The Student-Missouri State Teachers Association (S-MSTA) group at MVC sponsored a Scholastic Book Fair last week. The books available for young readers ranged on topics from Ruby Bridges to Justin Bieber. Clifford the big, red dog (shown below) was there to entertain children. Natalie Cotto-Garcia, elementary education major, and Amanda Scaggs, secondary math education major, helped with the Clifford character. The book fair is an annual fund-raiser for the club. Faculty adviser Linda Gordon said the effort raised $2,216, which set a sales record. Funds with go to MVC alum and Peace Corps volunteer Amy Adametz’s third graders in Moldova, books for children of MVC students, and children of the Marshall Holiday Project. The S-MSTA would like to thank the students, faculty, and staff for their support of the effort.

Photos by Linda Gordon

Sam Spurgin, S-MSTA treasurer and secondary social studies education major from Slater, was one of the students who helped with the fund-raiser.
Final game of the year

The Vikings defeated the Avila University team 42-7 in the last game of the season. Photos: Top, Josh Reid; top right, Josh Reid with Coach Paul Troth; right: ready players watch the action on the field.

Photos: Left, Darrell Madry scores for a touchdown; above, (from left) Vikings Ryan Buster, Andrew Huhman, Ben Hempelmann, Adam Maher, and Phil Kraft.

Photos by Rashona Colbert
Dancing with Valley

Faculty and staff, led by student dancers, performed for an enthusiastic crowd for the “Dancing With Valley” show. Harold Hynick and his dance partners won this year’s competition.

Top photo: Tiffany Bergman, Marilyn Ahrens, Emily Skellett, Sharon Hoeflicker, and Jennifer Eimers perform a special dance routine.

Above: Mason McCloud and Harold Hynick swab the deck as dancing sailors.

Top photo: Harold Hynick and Hana Urabe show some drama with a jazz dance routine. Above: Alli Lindemann and Bradford Scott show grace and flair with a Paso Doble dance.

Left: Brian Hampton and Sulma Caballero enjoy their swing dance number.

Photos by Juliana Doyle and David L. Roberts
As you walk in to the bistro, you hear low reggae music playing in the background and the first thing that catches the eye is the sushi bar located at the back of the room.

Patrons can sit at the bar and watch as the sushi chefs work their magic with the meals for the night.

The walls are painted blue and adorned with beautiful framed pictures of close-ups of flowers. The hostess, Kristin, pops out at your right and says with a smile, “Hi, welcome to Sake Japanese Bistro. Would you prefer lounge or table seating?”

On your right is the lounge area with big blue couches placed around very low tables. To your left are normal wood restaurant tables and two round, high tables. My boyfriend Demeko and I opted for the normal tables to avoid any messes with our meal.

Our waiter Cara came over bearing two water glasses and a welcome greeting. She asked the usual, “Can I get you guys something to drink?” and offered her help if we needed it with the menu.

We had checked the menu online ahead of time, so we were pretty familiar with it already.

We just had a few questions regarding what sides came with each meal and what exactly came with the Sushi 101 plate.

Demeko ordered the Teriyaki Chicken and our Sushi 101 plate. I wanted the Shrimp in Lemon Basil Sauce, so he cancelled his chicken dinner. Cara commented that it was sweet of him to change his order so that I could have the meal I wanted. I pleasantly agreed.

Our meal arrived not too long after. I had tried Sushi twice before and to be honest I did not like it but I was determined to like Sushi this time. After all, I did teach myself to like onions, pickles and mushrooms. Now I was going to make myself like sushi.

Cara set our plates down and explained what was on our Sushi 101 plate. It consisted of five California Rolls and five Nigiri pieces. These were little balls of sticky rice with pieces of sushi on top. The pieces you receive are chef’s choice, so no two plates are the same. We got shrimp, crab meat, eel, sweet omelet and salmon.

Demeko began eating the shrimp while I stared down the California Rolls. He laughed and told me to, “Just eat it. This is what you wanted, remember?” I held my breath, picked up the California Roll and began to chew. It wasn’t bad. Actually, I liked it. I smiled at Demeko in a, “ha, I like it,” type of way and continued chewing the thick roll.

I tried the shrimp meal and it was awesome. The pasta sauce was sweet and creamy and had a mix of vegetables on the side.

The hostess came over again to refill our water glasses and I asked her to please show us how to use our chop sticks. The competition was on to see which one of us could learn the technique first. I lost because I am naturally uncoordinated.

We both loved the sushi and the shrimp meal. My favorites would have to be the sweet omelet and eel.

The experience at the bistro was pretty good and the food is even better.

The next day we both ready to go back for seconds. Unfortunately, they’re closed on Sundays and we’re living on a budget. The following day, we went back again, this time taking my roommate Dacia Ritchie and her boyfriend Javano Thompson.

The place was pretty crowded this time, so we sat at the bar while we waited for available seating. It was pretty interesting to watch the chefs make the sushi dishes.

One chef, Colin, was pretty nice to us, answering all of our questions despite him being very busy. I asked about a certain thing he had just put on one of the plates and a couple seconds later he gave me a little sample to try. It was an Ika salad and I think he said it was eel. It was tasty and definitely something I would order again.

The place finally started to clear out a little bit. We chose lounge seating this time which was not very comfortable. The couches were pretty sunken in and it’s an uncomfortable reach to the low tables.

This time, Demeko and I ordered Tiger Rolls (Shrimp, Mussels, Scallops and Crab, Tempura Fried and Topped with Spicy Sauces) and the Sake Combo which is eight pieces of Nigiri sushi with California and tuna rolls. The Tiger Rolls were pretty good, too. They were pretty big, had some spice to it but not uncomfortably hot.

I would recommend Sake Japanese Bistro and Bar to anyone looking for a casual place to hang out or to go on a date.

The prices are pretty reasonable with dinners starting at $10 and sushi plates starting at $4.