Seniors near degree goal

Every child has a dream to be something when they grow up, whether it’s a doctor, a professional sports player, or a teacher. Some of those dreams come true, while other dreams are replaced by other dreams.

Missouri Valley College has many students with dreams graduating this spring. Degrees will be earned in Criminal Justice, Exercise Science, Psychology, along with many others.

May 7 marks another milestone on many calendars as these soon-to-be graduates will go off to make their dreams come true in the world.

Kelly Smith is one of the many seniors who will be walking across the stage in May. Smith will receive a degree in Biology, and plans to go to medical school.

Her concentration will be Dermatology, which is a professional area that is fairly high in demand.

Smith came to MVC three years ago from Pierce College in Lakewood, Washington, to play softball. “My most favorite memory about MoVal is probably winning conference in softball and going to Nationals,” Smith said.

Another soon-to-be graduate is Alexx Nunez. Nunez came to Missouri Valley College two years ago to play soccer, transferring from Oxnard College in California. Nunez will receive a degree in Psychology, with a minor in Criminal Justice. When she was younger, Nunez wanted to be a teacher so she could help children with learning disabilities.

“My favorite memory was my senior night,” Nunez said. “The way I felt on the field, starting the last game of my regular season soccer career, was the most incredible, indescribable, and fulfilling feeling I have ever had in my life.”

Julie McNabb will also be receiving her diploma in May, with degrees in Exercise Science and Athletic Training. McNabb plans to attend graduate school at North Carolina State, and will work as a graduate assistant in their sports medicine program. Jobs in the Exercise Science and Athletic Training field are becoming more popular, which is something she can look forward to. McNabb came to MVC to play volleyball and pursue her education in Athletic Training.

“My favorite memory would be all the life-long friendships that I have made and having the opportunity to meet people from all over the world,” McNabb said.

Gage Wollerman will receive a degree in Exercise Science, with an emphasis in health and fitness and a minor in Psychology. He plans to either get into cardiac rehabilitation or physical therapy after graduation. While the job field in his area is growing, he wants to make sure he takes his time and finds the right job for him. Wollerman transferred to MVC three years ago from Pierce College to play baseball.

“When I was growing up, I wanted to play professional baseball,” Wollerman said. “Either that, or I wanted to be Rocketman.”

Former MVC football player Ethan Leigh had other goals in mind when he was a child.

“When I was little, I wanted to be an archaeologist. I’ve decided to take another path though, since I’m not a fan of science anymore,” Leigh said.

Leigh came to Missouri Valley four years ago to play football and pursue a degree in Business Administration, concentrating in Small Business Development and minoring in Economics.

After he graduates, Leigh plans on working and saving money while training for the 2012 Olympics in Tae Kwan Do. Leigh said one of his favorite memories was when he lived with friends in the Conway apartment complex on campus. Another of his favorite memories is about his first varsity football game.

“I got to play in the fourth game of the season my freshman year, and I had a 63-yard breakaway that shocked a few people,” Leigh said. “Some of my friends still talk about it today.”

Seniors were also at the Career Fair 2011 in late March. Michael K. Robbins, Human Services senior and an intern for Missouri Valley Community Action Agency, designed a poster for the organization's table. Lani Brite, also above, is MVCAC Community Engagement manager. (Photo by Tiffany Bergman)
Street Fighter, Casey’s Pizza, and Bones Jones!!!

Devon Wade
DELTA CO-EDITOR

Instantly five different conversations became one, and finally I had something to offer to the scholarly discussion until it was time for the fights to start.

There were five fights on the card for the evening and, out of all of the fighters, I only knew one and he wasn’t until the main event. So, when I was picking which fighter I thought would win, I had to completely guess based off of very limited information.

For instance the first fight paired an American and a Croatian. The American didn’t pass the eye test with me, and though the Croatian fighter was completely jacked, he was also significantly older than the American fighter I decided to go with the American fighter and he won by a third round knockout.

The next fight paired two Americans, but one of them was from New Jersey and that’s where the fights were being held so naturally the hometown kid would prevail in front of the hometown crowd, right? Wrong! He lost in a judges’ unanimous decision.

Apparently my fool-proof plan for guessing the winners of each fight had some flaws in it.

Now 1-1, with three fights left to go, I knew I needed to use better logic on the upcoming fights.

The third fight paired another American and an Iranian, the American fighter was another New Jersey fighter and also the brother of the guy who just lost. I figured if his brother couldn’t get it done in front of the home crowd then it must run in the family.

Besides, members of the crowd said the Iranian fighter resembled the Street Fighter character “Dhalsim” and Dhalsim could literally stretch his arms, legs, and neck.

So based on that this fighter must win, right? Wrong! My logic had failed me again and now I was a measly 1-2.

The fourth fight paired two American fighters, and one had the nickname of “California Kid.”

I decided then that if someone is a fighter with long blonde locks and a nickname better fit for a pre-teen pop star, then that person has to be a complete beast, right? Right!

The California Kid didn’t disappoint and, at this point, I was back at .500 with one more fight to go.

The main event featured the only fighter I knew coming into this pay-per-view and that was John “Bones” Jones. Jones was to compete with the current Light Heavyweight Champion “Shogun” Rua.

The first fight I ever saw of Jones was complete domination, and Jones had actually never been beaten.

His only loss came from disqualification. Most members of the crowd had Shogun winning the fight. They all watched UFC religiously so they must’ve knew something I didn’t, right? Wrong! Bones Jones dominated Shogun like he had done every other opponent winning by TKO in the third round.

I never thought I could get into UFC, but those fights were electric and those were some of the best athletes in the world.

Besides, the third season of “Jersey Shore” just ended, college football season doesn’t start until September, and I need something to watch in the meantime.

How YOU Here?!?

did get

Ever wonder how people from so many different states and countries end up in Marshall? Make sure to read the next edition of the Delta on April 29.

The Delta

Co-Editors:
Ralitsa Gospodinova and Devon Wade
Staff: Will Claggett, Scott Charboneau, Matt Ellis, Jessica Marrs, and Paulene-Wendy Ntsame Assoumou.

This edition of the Missouri Valley College Delta was produced with the assistance of the Newspaper class, the Copy Editing class, and other classes and students.

Faculty Advisers: David L. Roberts and Harry Carrell

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

--First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Student scholars receive honors

Student honorees at the Scholars Banquet on April 5 received praise for their outstanding academic work from Chief Academic Officer Sharon Weiser, deans, chairs, faculty, staff, family members, and fellow students.

The student-scholars representing their departments included (seated, from left) MaCall Budke (Mathematics), Saori “Sally” Ogiwara (Economics), Ralitsa Gospodinova (Mass Communication-Print), Shruti Bedi (History), Amanda Carreras (Sociology), Toni Brundage (Physical Education); (back row, from left) Valerie Smith (Human Service Agency Management), Paul Spitzig (Political Science), Ashley Gastineau (Elementary Education), Korey Weinreich (Accounting), Andrew Kuchmeister (Management), Micah Petersen (Public Relations), Colin Vaillancourt (Middle School Education), Megan Shepherd (Mass Communication-Broadcasting), Demeko Nesbitt (Marketing), Regina Bodine (Biology), Jennifer Asberry (Athletic Training), L’Eryn White (Exercise Science), Katelynn Reuter (Theatre), Chief Academic Officer Sharon Weiser, Esperanza Reyes (Criminal Justice), Tori Ervin-Jones (Psychology), and Yvonne Grinstead (Art). Not pictured: Jesse Knott (Social Studies Education) and Drew Palacious (Finance).

The winner of the Lamp of Knowledge Award, presented by Ed Leslie, associate professor of Mathematics, was Tori Ervin-Jones. She read her winning essay.

Will Orange and Purple go Green?

Current SGA president seeks more eco-friendly campus

New SGA officers named

Paulene-Wendy Ntsame Assoumou
DElTA reportEr

Paper recycling boxes can now be found in most of the Missouri Valley College buildings. This is an initiative of the Student Government Association for a little focus on the green side.

In his campaign last year, SGA President Raymond Banks presented a proposal for enhancing Missouri Valley College students’ environment awareness.

The SGA sent e-mails for the exact locations of all the green boxes on campus and all the fraternities and sororities helped fulfilling this project, Banks said.

Chuck Volmer, Missouri Valley College cafeteria manager, supported the cause too, he added. The cafeteria has a recycling box for paper near the door. Also, items of plastic, aluminum and cardboard used in the kitchen are recycled.

But most students at Missouri Valley College students may be unaware of the paper boxes as they have been, for the most part, either empty or filled with the Students Affairs Office activities flyers.

This is actually more of a trial run to see if hopefully the campus can attempt to be more of a green school, Banks said.

The SGA really hopes that this project will expand and will be able to collect plastic and glass material, he added.

The SGA is not the only one seeking a more eco-friendly campus. The library switches to environment awareness by pinning on wall some everyday suggestions that can save energy. Also, the football team annually helps with the Marshall Clean-Up Day effort, which was held on April 9.

Recycling, along with the $20 in every student’s printing account and the creation of the SGA official office next to the MET, would be one of the best accomplishments of the SGA, Banks said.

They are now working on having Valley shuttles from Marshall to the Kansas City airport, instead of just from Marshall to Boonville, he said. The rides would be farther but more convenient for most of the international students and those who come from far.

Banks did not run again for the SGA president position this next year. Majoring in Religion and Philosophy and Theatre, he wants to focus on his college work and has other aspirations.

He said he will always remember the years they called him “Mister President.” Natalie Cotto-Garcia, the SGA vice president will serve as president next year, and Banks has some advice for her.

The SGA president needs to work on public relations for the entire SGA to get more exposure and be more recognized by the student body, Banks said.

Other SGA officers recently announced to serve next year are Logan Stapp, vice president; Chase Burgess, treasurer; and Garret Hill, secretary.
Greater bandwidth boosts streaming online

Will Claggett
Delta Reporter

When it comes to the Internet, students on or around campus have seen an improvement in their connection speed. The college’s Internet bandwidth has been upgraded from 15 megabits to 60 megabits.

IT Systems Administrator Jason Rinne said the boost in the bandwidth had been considered for a while, especially when Valley started getting record enrollment.

“We’ve been maxed out for quite a while,” Rinne said. The IT department along with the rest of the college began seeing the connection to the internet lagging quite a bit.

“We didn’t have enough power for the computers that we have on campus,” said Rinne, explaining one of the many reasons the bandwidth had to be upgraded.

“Bandwidth is the connection to the Internet,” said Rinne.

Many features could be the blame for the lagging of the connection, before the upgrade, but some are aspects that people probably wouldn’t expect.

This is a college campus, so, of course, there is going to be online gaming, a lot of which being done through Playstation 3 and Xbox Live. That takes a huge chunk of the bandwidth.

“Xbox does affect the bandwidth, but it shouldn’t affect normal Internet browsing,” Rinne said. Xbox and online gaming aside, the MVC community might be surprised to find that YouTube.com is the number 1 hit webpage on the Valley server.

Whether it is streaming videos on YouTube or the online gaming, there is a certain amount of bandwidth preserved for each. While they haven’t seen a need to just yet, IT can limit how much bandwidth can be used for certain features.

The IT departments main goal in boosting the bandwidth was “making it faster for everyone,” Rinne said.

With the upgrade to the bandwidth, there are more positives than someone might think. Valley is looking to broaden the horizons, and using the upgrade to do just that.

The Mass Communication department, in cooperation with the Athletic department, plans to stream athletic sporting events as well as other college events live on the web.

Students may have heard of online streaming websites such as Ustream, justin.tv, along with many others, where you can watch television shows, and other events, while they happen, over the web. The Mass Communication department currently streams games such as football and basketball on Valley’s website, however the streams are strictly audio streams using Stretch Internet out of Colorado.

The goal is to expand what is now known as the Viking Sports Network. Ken Kuja, director of Viking Sporting Network who has vast expertise in radio, is going to play a part in the play-by-play of the sporting events.

“We will have the football games, the video streaming on the web, along with the audio, we’ll do some basketball. As we go along, we will probably do soccer, baseball, softball, and wrestling,” said Kuja, about how it will help Valley sports.

Valley will be able to use the streaming of events as a public relation tool, along with a recruiting tool for the athletic coaches.

“This is going to be a tremendous PR tool for the entire college,” Kuja added.

Streaming athletic events online isn’t a new concept as colleges and high schools are doing it all over.

“It’ll be great for the Mass Communication department here. The students are going to get a lot of hands-on experience. If you can go and put on your portfolio that you went ahead and worked on some production of a live football or basketball broadcast that is some tremendous experience to help you get a job,” Kuja said about how it will help the students of the mass comm area.

For radio and play-by-play, Kuja has one main goal. “To get about every sporting event streamed, being produced completely by students,” said Kuja, about streaming events online. “I think that is somewhat why I was attractive to the college, that I had the expertise to do this, at least the production aspect of it,” Kuja added.

“If indeed we are streaming 10, 12, the sky’s the limit, athletic events a year, that’s going to dictate a lot of what we are,” Kuja said concerning how the streaming of events is going to affect the television area of the Mass Comm department.

The television area of Mass Communication tapes a news program about the college as well as community, events in Marshall.

“Our news program at this time won’t be streamed live,” Kuja said.

For more information about the Mass Communication department, visit Valley’s website, or watch past MVC-TV events on the Television’s official YouTube channel, mvcviking. You can also add the Television department on facebook at MVC-TV.

In the Online version...

Watch for the added pages of stories, commentaries, photo pages, and reviews to the upcoming Delta Online version. Stories will feature fund-raising efforts for Japan after the recent earthquake and tsunami, the “Big Man on Campus” pageant, and others. Photos will highlight the Spring Choral and Dance Show, the “Seventh Monarch” play, and other activities.

Upcoming events...

The Sierra Leone Refugee All-Stars will answer questions and perform an acoustic set at the Eckilson/Mabee Theater on April 20. A related documentary is set for tonight and a film on Monday evening. Check out your e-mails for times and locations.

The Spring Concert Choir will perform at the Eckilson/Mabee Theatre April 27 through 29.
Cheer squad takes third at nationals

Will Claggett
DELTA REPORTER

Missouri Valley College Cheer Squad took third place in the NAIA Co-Ed Large Division at the National Cheerleaders Association College Nationals in Daytona Beach, Florida earlier this month. A total of 17 cheerleaders took the trip to Daytona Beach.

According to the MoVal website, under the athletics tab in the Cheer section, NCA is one of the largest Cheer and Dance championships in the world. They are even televised on Fox Sports Net and Varsity TV.

The squad has been to national competition before but this time it means something more to the squad. Cheerleading has been declared as a sport by the (NAIA) National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. Head Cheerleading Coach Kristin Lyming, who joined the

The MVC Cheerleaders in Daytona Beach, Florida. (MVC Sports Info photo)

Commentary by Micah Petersen

They shuffle by in suits, stern faces abound. They’re always walking into a building.

Into a wilderness of ambiguity and propaganda that leaves the average fan’s head spinning. It has become little more than a he said/she said public relations battle.

We hear leaks of proposals and counter-offers, but all we can be sure of is what the meetings between the NFL owners and players haven’t done; ensured there will be football in 2011.

Two months ago, the images of the NFL were Aaron Rodgers’ championship belt and the Lombardi Trophy returning to its namesake’s team.

Now they are of Commissioner Roger Goodell and NFL Players Association Director DeMaurice Smith leading caravans of lawyers in the Super Bowl of negotiating.

Let’s break this down to the core of the argument. NFL owners and players are attempting, and failing, to find a way to split $9 billion. That staggering number is the NFL’s current yearly revenue stream that most fans would willingly settle for even a minute percentage of. many are saying both sides should be satisfied with their already abundant riches, but the world of the fan is far different than those involved.

Baseball is still called the national pastime, but football has taken over as America’s favorite sport.

The viewership says so, and in an economic state that hinders almost all, the NFL is thriving. Perhaps that is the very reason both sides can find confidence in their stubbornness.

The accumulated fan base now serves as a safety net the league knows isn’t going away. In a lesser profile situation, a boycott might be at hand, but the chances are next to nothing in this football-crazed country.

As it stands now, negotiations failed and the Collective Bargaining Agreement expired.

In anticipation on that, the NFLPA pre-emptively decertified as a union, becoming only a trade association. The NFL went on to lockout the players to force further negotiations.

The players responded by filing an antitrust lawsuit, claiming they were no longer a union so the NFL could not lock them out collectively.

If the players win their claim the NFL will be forced to rescind the lockout, while, if the league wins, the players must return to negotiations.

With the labor strife now in the hands of the judicial system, the court of public opinion has heard harsh testimony thus far, including bold accusations from both sides.

The NFL’s lead negotiator Jeff Pash went as far as to call the decertification of the player’s union “a sham.” Kevin Mawae, president of the former NFLPA, said the league was spreading, “complete falsehoods and complete lies.”

In this public war of words, the opinions of the masses can make or break each battle. In its early stages, this labor strife seemed to be leaning toward the players through the eyes of the fans. Numerous polls and articles pointed fingers at the NFL and the owners.

The tide has turned in a different direction now. The fans are taking their own side instead, because the realization of no football in 2011 has set in as a realistic possibility.

The NFL and its players have reached the fourth quarter of a showdown of negotiation, litigation, and verbal jabs. What may have once been a tight game is now a blowout, and it’s the fans who are on the losing end.
Delta wins 12 awards

Zoom magazine takes first-place

Missouri Valley College’s Delta student newspaper won awards in 12 newspaper categories at the Missouri Collegiate Media Association convention in Springfield on April 2.

“By the numbers, for the 12 winning Delta entries, 17 certificates were awarded to MVC students,” faculty adviser David L. Roberts said. “Two entries had more than one student involved with their work.”

Student work in Delta newspapers for Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 competed in the convention contest which involved student newspapers from 28 colleges and universities in Missouri.

Delta Co-Editors Ralitsa Gospodinova and Devon Wade received four awards each for their newspaper work. Gospodinova won second place for in-depth reporting for a story about printing costs for students, and three honorable mentions for design of a news section page, news writing for a story about a campus gun incident, and for the web version of the Delta. Wade won second place for design of editorial pages, second place for a regular column about a child at the YMCA, third place for feature writing for a story about the Ezekiel’s Wheels project, and an honorable mention for the web version of the Delta.

The Spring 2010 premiere edition of Zoom, a photojournalism magazine by students in the Photojournalism class, won first place in the special section category. Photojournalism students who were recognized with certificates for their work on the online magazine were Taylor Castillo, Juliana Doyle, Sara Gross, Katie Kimble, and Samuel Njuguna.

Other Delta reporters receiving awards were Megan Shepherd with a second place award for an entertainment review about a Columbia bistro restaurant, Jessica Gates with an honorable mention for sports writing for a story about the cheerleading squad, Geneva Looney with an honorable mention for a sports photo of a volleyball player, and Cory Petersen with an honorable mention for investigative reporting for a story about the mystery of a Facebook user.

The keynote speaker for the evening convention banquet was Clyde Bentley, associate professor of the University of Missouri, who described the fast-moving technology of cell phones and texting devices.

MVC student Ashalyn Ellis, a Mass Communication and Criminal Justice double major, said she enjoyed the speech. “Some of the technology he talked about I didn’t even know was out there.”

Journalism presentation sessions in the afternoon featured speakers on topics ranging from online journalism and photography to feature writing and job-hunting. The Delta editors also attended a round-table discussion of college student editors.

Besides Roberts, Gospodinova, Wade, Shepherd, and Ellis, MVC students who participated in the trip were Paulene-Wendy Ntsame Assoumou, Phillip Hamer, Jim Whitaker, and graduate students Nick Peker and Paul Harmon.

In addition to convention activities at the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, the group enjoyed a performance called “The Aluminum Show” at the Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts on the Missouri State University campus.

The show combined amazing dance performances and special effects as aluminum materials “came to life” through movement, acrobatics, music, and lights.
Coleman looks to continue inspiring Valley students

When students look back at their high school and college years, there is usually that teacher who always had the right thing to say, at exactly the right time.

Debbie Coleman, Special Education teacher with the Marshall school district and Valley adjunct instructor, is that kind of teacher.

Graduating from the University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, with a bachelor of science degree in Education in 1979, Coleman has been an educator for 31 years.

Starting her career as a Special Services teacher at the Marshall Habilitation Center for 1 year, she then went to Slater High School to teach Secondary Special Education until 1989.

Coleman began working on her master’s degree while she was teaching in Slater. Earning it in 1985 from UCM, she joined the faculty of Marshall High school.

Many of those who attend college or a university change their mind about what they want to do with their life, but for Coleman the answer was easy.

“I wanted to be a teacher when I was really little. I used to play school.

“I’d make my little brother play school, and I’d give him ridiculous assignments, and I would grade them. I just always wanted to be a teacher,” Coleman said.

Being a teacher or even an educator requires a special kind of patience, and some find that out, when it’s almost too late.

“People pick their profession by what they think they’re going to make the most money at or where the most jobs are, rather than what they really want to do,” said Coleman.

“I don’t think people who don’t want to be teachers, make very good teachers. You want to enjoy what you are doing and the subject that you’re teaching.”

Coleman has inspired and encouraged so many students to go beyond what their average learning capacity will take them. Nicole Toalson, a senior in Elementary Education major, can’t help but speak about Coleman in high regard. “She always has great ideas and is extremely positive and helpful,” said Toalson.

“She has gone to great strides to make all her classrooms a great and successful learning environment.”

In teaching and instructing her students and even having them inspire her in the process, the motto in which Coleman lives by is simply, “Say what you mean, mean what you say, and follow through with the consequences.”

She said that teachers in general should be clear about what they want from their students, and lead an example by doing what they say they are going to do.

Elementary Education major Linda Dial who takes Assess Diagnosing Exceptional children and Career Development with Coleman pleasantly agrees with Toalson. “She can truly make you understand the special education process and everything involved in it,” Dial said.

When you work in the special services area of education, you don’t actually go into a general focus of teaching. As Coleman describes it, you may be teaching general education classes during one period, then vocational skills the next.

“Through my career, I’ve done everything from basic life skills to science, social studies, and English, but as my career evolved, my subject has just turned into being math,” Coleman said.

Given Coleman’s experience in the classroom, and background in education, Missouri Valley College has benefited very well in the 10 years she has taught evening classes.

“We had a need for an instructor to teach in the evening. It was a Special Education class, and we knew her from her work in the Marshall School District,” said Earl Wellborn, dean of the Division of Education.

Wellborn, shares the same view as Coleman’s students in admiring her not only for her experience in a growing educational area, but also for her ability of applying different teaching strategies in an educational environment.

“I admire her for her characteristics in planning, being prepared, and being knowledgeable,” said Wellborn.

Coleman will be retiring from the Marshall School District in May, after teaching with the district for 21 years. After retiring, Coleman hopes to continue being there for the next generation of teachers, by teaching more classes at Valley. While any classes that Coleman may possibly teach in the near future at Valley have not been disclosed, the possibility has definitely been considered.

“We have talked about her teaching in a part-time status and possibly evening classes,” Wellborn said.

Coleman is not only interested in spending retirement in putting her inspiring touch on future students, she looks forward to being able to spend time with her children and grandchildren, and traveling. In a joking fashion Coleman said, “My son just moved to New Mexico. I may go see what New Mexico looks like.”

As Coleman closes the door to one chapter in her educational career, to open another, she leaves many students who have either had the opportunity to work around her or be a student of hers, joining MVC student Mark Clemens in saying, “Thanks for everything, Ms. Coleman.”
MVC hosts fifth Institute of Entrepreneurship

Speakers include alums, visitors from Europe: First blind woman to host weekly TV show, ‘Where’s the beef?’ ad campaign executive

The first blind person to host a weekly TV show, a former marketing executive for the Washington Redskins, and a businessman who built a company to more than 100 reps and $170 million in revenue were among the Missouri Valley College alumni who returned to campus this week to serve as speakers for the Fifth Annual Maastricht Institute of Entrepreneurship.

They were joined by entrepreneurs from the Netherlands and others for the three-day symposium of presentations and breakout sessions for students.

One institute speaker, Judy Redlich, who was involved at MVC in drama and had a weekly radio show, is the manager of Joni and Friends Gateway of St. Louis. It is an international organization that helps churches start disability ministries.

“Only 10 percent of people with disabilities go to a regular church,” she said, adding that it is not easy for them to get or be there. Services from the organization can include work in areas of accessible parking, signing for the deaf, and large-print bulletins.

Redlich is the first blind person to host a weekly TV show and has produced and hosted about 760 TV shows. She continues to produce and host an Internet radio show called “Cry Justice” and advocates for disability rights. Redlich was accompanied to the lectern by her seeing-eye dog. Redlich said there are rules involving seeing-eye dogs that people should remember: “You don’t talk to, or touch, or feed a seeing-eye dog because the dog is working as a service animal.”

She told the students to work hard at everything they do, have a spirit of excellence, and find themselves some good role models.

“The first blind woman to host a weekly TV show, ‘Where’s the beef?’ ad campaign executive

The Delta
NEWS
April 15, 2011

MVC student presence receives praise from clean-up day organizer

With 90 football players and 30 students from the Human Services area, the MVC presence helped in providing a record turnout of participants for the Marshall Clean-Up Day effort on April 9, the organizer said.

Organizer David Kemm had high praise for MVC. “It was awesome,” he said. The college showed it is committed to Marshall, he said. The effort involved a total of 250 people, “the most ever,” Kemm said. Cargill, Fitzgibbon Hospital, and other groups also joined the effort, he said. The next clean-up day will be April 14, 2012.
“A Little Something for Everyone” Spring Choral and Dance Show, April 13-15, did exactly that. Music and dance, Broadway video clips, and lots of talented students provided entertaining evenings in Eckilson-Mabee Theater.

Musical numbers ranged from “I Gotta Feeling” and “Over the Rainbow” to “He Ain’t Heavy, He’s My Brother” and “The Prayer.”

Dance performances graced the stage to “Songbird” as well as a presentation titled “If Only A Dream” which included the powerful voice of Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Valley Connection Show Choir, Valley Voices, and the Repertory Dance Ensemble brought the show together, under the choir direction of Diana Malan and the dance direction of Janie Morgan. Dance students also participated as choreographers for some of the performances.

Jay Rozema provided the technical direction and sound work. Others involved with the show production included Harold Hynick, Kate Reuter, Charlique Rolle, and Sarah Webb.
Radio, TV students win five MBEA awards

Ralitsa Gospodinova  
DELTA CO-EDITOR

Missouri Broadcast Educators Association annual conference and award ceremony 2011 took place at the University of Missouri Kansas City on Friday, April 15. MVC Mass Communication students and faculty attended the event and came back with five awards.

In the MBEA audio categories, Devon Wade, Ian Gray, Allison Student and Jessica Gates won first place for news. Wade also won honorable mentions in the commercial and station promo categories.

In the video categories, Megan Shepherd won first place for commercial/promo/PSA script and Matt Ellis received an honorable mention for news script.

Harry Carrell, assistant professor of Mass Communication and Public Relations, said he was pleased that Valley students were able to compete with such big schools as Missouri State University and Truman University and win awards.

The 2011 MBEA guest presenters were freelance sports journalist Greg Echlin, media artist and producer Joan Grossman, political correspondent for the Kansas City Star Steve Kraske, and award-winning journalist Kathy Quinn. They shared their experience in the field and gave advice to the young journalists.

The Silver Screen Film Festival 2011 was held the same night on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia with six MVC students in attendance along with Mass Communication instructor Stan Silvey. The Silverscreen was established in 2008 to connect young Missouri filmmakers. Serving as a creative outlet for young directors, among the 27 films shown, two were of the MVC students Phillip Hamer and Megan Shepherd. “It was a very good experience to be able to have my work put on display and to see other students’ work as well,” Hamer said. “It was a great learning experience for me.”

Hamer’s documentary film “Living My Life” tells of the struggles he experiences living with Crohn’s disease and how it impacts his everyday life.

Shepherd’s documentary film “Jim the Wonder Dog” explores the interesting stories about the dog, which lived in Marshall and predicted the gender of unborn babes as one of the many not-easily-explained things he could do.

“Our two students’ films played very well among the other films,” Silvey said. “In general, it was a great experience for all the Valley students that attended,” he said, adding, “It’s something I definitely want to involve more students in the future.”

SGA presents awards, new officers take oath

Student recognition, faculty awards, and an official ceremony for new officers were part of the second annual SGA Banquet, last week in the R. Wilson Brown Room.

SGA President Raymond Banks and SGA faculty adviser Jim Crozier led the event, which included the swearing-in ceremony for the 2012 SGA officers.

They are President Natalie Cotto-Garcia, Vice President Logan Stapp, Treasurer Chase Burgess, and Secretary Garret Hill.

The recipients of the special outstanding faculty awards, determined through a student vote, were Education Assistant Professor Peggy Sherman and Biology Assistant Professor Waylon Hiler. Students were recognized for their instrumental work within an organization or project.

The students included Shruti Bedi, Tessa Belcher, Chase Burgess, Kaitlin Buzzard, Morgan Cornine, Sara Gross, Garret Hill, Jennifer

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More than 170 plants and 120 animals were discovered. Congress provided $2,500 for the 1804 expedition, but it ended up costing $38,000.

A young, pregnant Indian girl named Sacajawea, who had been won in a card game to serve as a second wife for a French interpreter, helped guide the group, which included a black slave.

That information and more about the Lewis and Clark expedition was provided by historian Jim Two Crows Wallen during his presentation at the Murrell Memorial Library in March. The second half of Wallen’s presentation was about the 1821 Santa Fe Trail, a route for commerce. For each topic, Wallen donned clothing of the eras and displayed historical items, from a U.S. flag with 15 stars (above) to timber wolf fur.

Visiting MVC for the first time, Wallen, who had a Cherokee ancestor, has presented 19 different historical programs around the nation.
Former MVC security officer elected mayor

Mark Gooden, a former director of MVC Security, was elected Marshall mayor in April in an extremely close election with a difference of just 8 votes.

Gooden received 755 votes to 747 votes for current Marshall Mayor Pro Tem Ron Duvall.

An election recount confirmed the victory by Gooden.

An interview of Gooden by Delta reporter Will Claggett will be featured in an upcoming Delta online version.

Student faces charges over gun on campus

A Missouri Valley College student was charged April 7 with possessing a loaded handgun on campus.

Darren O. Spears, 19, of Raytown, Mo., was charged with a class D felony of unlawful use of a weapon on school premises.

According to the probable cause statement, Marshall police searched four students and two backpacks, with consent from the students, at MVC student housing on South Conway.

Below a pair of shoes that were in one compartment in a backpack, the police found a fully-loaded revolver, according to the statement.

The arraignment for Spears in Saline County Court will be April 27, with Judge James Bellamy presiding.

Use or possession of firearms on campus is prohibited, according to the Student Handbook. For the first offense in the area, the college response can include “possible dismissal.”

Band uses intriguing instruments

The River Ridge String Band entertained students and others at Murrell Memorial Library in March, showcasing a variety of instruments.

Right: Cliff White talks about the hammer dulcimer that he played. The dulcimer was the predecessor to the piano.

Below: Charlie Nelson, on guitar, and John Cunning, on bodhran (an Irish framed drum) perform with White on the dulcimer.
A fundraiser for Japan was held on March 21-25 in front of the MVC cafeteria. MVC International students with the help of the American Red Cross raised more than $600 to support the victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan.

For the Japanese students on campus, it is a tough time to be away from home.

MVC graduate Saori (Sally) Ogiwara initiated the event to help a close friend. The MVC International students “wanted to do this because one former MVC student Mika Hasegawa’s grandparents’ house was completely destroyed by the tsunami,” Ogiwara said. “She is from Sendai, Japan, the most affected area from both the earthquake and tsunami.”

Ogiwara said she was devastated by the fact that her friend wasn’t able to get in contact with her family for more than one week after the disaster. “I just wanted to do something to help Mika’s family to begin with. We wanted to make a change, to contribute to the country, and start something here at Missouri Valley College,” she added.

Ogiwara is from Yamanashi, Japan, which is right next to Tokyo. With an earthquake of a 4.9 magnitude, thankfully her mother wasn’t affected as much but she was also afraid, Ogiwara said. She added that earthquakes are considered normal occurrences as they happen almost every day in Japan. But they still can raise scary feelings in people.

Sean Moss, a junior from the Bahamas, said, “I think it was a very positive way to give back to those who were in need and to support the Japanese community at our school.” Amit Jain, a freshman from India, said, “I think every little bit could help Japan at this hour.”

All donations made on the MVC campus went to the American Red Cross. “To date, the American Red Cross has donated $10 million to assist with medical aid and relief efforts in Japan,” Jack Harvey, board member and volunteer for the Mid Missouri Chapter of the American Red Cross, said. “There’s also been an additional $47 million that has been donated and will be used in support of the response to the disaster that occurred in Japan,” he added.

To donate, go to www.redcross.org or text a donation to 90999.

An e-mail correspondence between Ralitsa Gospodinova and Mika Hasegawa, former MVC student who currently attends Concordia College in Minnesota, included the following message:

“I knew about this earthquake through Facebook actually, because I was flying from South America to the United States. Some of my friends were asking me about my family and me, because they knew I’m from Sendai, which had the big earthquake. At first, I didn’t know what everyone was talking about, but after I got to the United States and went to a Japanese friends’ house in New York, I was finally able to see what happened in Japan visually because of the internet coverage. I couldn’t believe my eyes. It looked like a different country. I called my family so many times, but their phone was not working for a couple days. Several days later, I could talk to my dad who lives in Tokyo. He told me all my family is okay, just my grandpa’s house got damaged by the tsunami, but he was fine. I was trying to call my mom too, but because she was in Sendai. I couldn’t talked to her for a while. Finally she sent me e-mail that she was okay. Only glasses and dished got broken at home, but the people were fine. And the house was fine too. I was so happy to hear that. Even now, they still don’t have electricity, water, or gas. Their life is so limited right now, but as long as they are fine, I’m really happy. I will able to see them next week, I’m so excited about it. I was gone for only one month, but I think Japan looks so different right now. It’s going to take more than 10 years to bring everything back to normal. I’m praying for the people who are still missing.”
Japan disaster increases debate over nuclear energy

**Jacob Uhrig**  
**DELTA REPORTER**

After the events at the Fukushima Power Plant in Japan, conversations have returned to the idea of nuclear power and its safety.

Nuclear power has always been a hugely debated item. Those who are for nuclear power say that nuclear power reduces greenhouse gases, unlike fossil fuels. Also, the process for nuclear power is said to be entirely enclosed and produces no gases at all.

Waylon Hiler, assistant professor of Biology, said, “Nuclear power can be a good thing because it will help us reduce our dependence on resources such as oil.”

Hiler also said that he can understand those who are against nuclear power because of some of the dangers that it presents.

Those who are against nuclear power, say that there are cheaper and safer ways to get power besides using up our resources. The biggest concern with nuclear energy is the radioactive waste that can be deadly if someone is exposed to it for too long. Another big concern about nuclear power is what measures can be done to prevent the cores from melting down during an accident. Hiler agrees.

“One of the biggest problems with nuclear power is where to store the waste so that it won’t be a danger to people,” Hiler added.

In 1979, the Three Mile Island Plant in Londonderry Township, Pa., experienced a meltdown when one of the relief valves failed and released a large amount of nuclear reactor coolant. The reactor was eventually brought under control. According to Yahoo news, the cost to decommission the reactor was nearly $837 million. The incident was rated a level 5 (accident with wider consequences) on the International Nuclear Event Scale. The INES ranks events from 0 which is no safety significance to 7 which is known as a major accident.

In 1986, the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in the Ukrainian USSR (now Ukraine) exploded during a systems test. The fire released a large amount of radioactive smoke into the atmosphere which drifted over the western Soviet Union and much of Europe. Many parts of Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine had to be evacuated and more than 336,000 people were relocated. The Chernobyl disaster is often labeled as one of the worst nuclear power plant disasters in history and was rated a 7 (major accident) on the International Nuclear Events Scale.

In the United States, there are currently 104 commercial reactors at 65 working nuclear power plants across the country. Sixty-nine are pressurized water reactors and 35 are boiling water reactors. In a pressurized water reactor, water is the primary coolant and is pumped to the reactor core where it is heated by atoms. The primary cooling loop keeps the water from boiling within the reactor.

In a boiling water reactor, demineralized water is used as a primary coolant and neutron moderator. Heat is created in the core by nuclear fusion and produces steam which then is used to drive a turbine after which it cools down and is converted back into liquid water. To complete the loop, water then returns to the reactor core.

The debate over nuclear power will continue to be a hot subject for the rest of the year and probably the decade.
The Delta
CAMPUS

April 15, 2011

Art on campus

Five mysterious strangers appeared around campus recently. But all was good because they were tape figure sculptors created by the 3D Design Art class. The class is instructed by Art Assistant Professor Valerie Wedel.

Photos: Left, students taking the Baity stairs would have noticed a tape figure sculpture by Jena Shaw. An interesting feature of this piece is the masking tape curly hair. Below, a tape figure sculpture by Kelly Cordray "reads" a tape book in the library. The lights in the brain flicker on and off at irregular intervals, so that it looks like it is thinking, Wedel said.

More about SGA event includes oath of new officers

Photo: 2011 SGA President Raymond Banks (back) leads with the reading of the oath of office as new officers are sworn in. The 2012 SGA officers are, from left, President Natalie Cotto-Garcia, Vice President Logan Stapp; Treasurer Chase Burgess; and Secretary Garret Hill. (Photo by Ralitsa Gospodinova)

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Land, Amanda Marquette, Chris McDaniels, Patsy Middleton, Matt Shull, and Devon Wade.

Crozier presented Banks with a special award for his service as SGA president. Following the ceremony for the new officers, Cotto-Garcia
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FEATURE

‘Big Men’ strut in pageant for worthy cause

Paulene-Wendy Ntsame Assoumou
DELTA REPORTER

The women in the audience are unleashed, wild with response. Alex McKinney, one of the male contestants, is wearing only a black, banana hammock.

On stage, Summer Sistad, treasurer of the Alpha Sigma Alpha and host for the night, is blushing. The jury? Diane Weinreich, the college nurse; Mike Machholz, head’s men wrestling coach; Shawn Terryberry, assistant professor of Human Services and Recreation; and Heath Morgan, the Dean of students, all are speechless.

Seven guys were in competition for the title of the Big Man on Campus 2011. Alex McKinney or a slightly Arabic wrestler who, if he could be an animal, would be a catfish. Alex Thompson or “Big L” who liked watching television drinking mostly water. Melvin Capers or “Big Mel” who did a great entrance with Professor Shawn Terryberry beat-boxing on a background. Zak McKinney, a representative of the Theatre program who loves bubble-bath. Bo “Chimmey” Young from Sigma Nu fraternity who sees world trade as a main element to reach world peace.

Andrew Winston Jr. or “Blue,” a football player who claims to be the main character of the movie “The Blind Side.” And the international golfer Thomas Merlot whose French touch does it all.

The contestants were indeed all full of, if not talent, self-mockery! The strong wrestler can walk on his hands. “Big L” takes the audience to the day when burping the alphabet was the recess main attraction. Truman Clayton featured “Big Mel” dressed up with the Lakers gear for a “No hands” rap. “Beau Chimmey Young” strummed the guitar so well that nobody could have guessed that it has been three years without him practicing on it. “Blue” was an illusionist who can disappear (or not!) behind a pink broom stick. Thomas Merlot, the Frenchy, shows his incredible juggling with two golf clubs and a little ball.

But it is the outstanding performance of Zak McKinney, aka Venus, working the heels better than half of the Lady Vikings who impressed the most of the jury. Twirling around with a long blond wig, short dress and sparkling heels, Zak was innocent, fresh, bubbly and cute. As if Taylor Swift came to Moval to interpret the hit “Halo” of Beyoncé. Wearing the costume, the most feminine and delicate competitor won the Big Man on campus contest!

The jury gave the second place to McKinney, who took the points on the swimsuit contest. He modeled on stage, showing great confidence, six-packs and butt cheeks!

Indeed, the wrestler greatly amused the jury with his black G-string. He did come back to the stage twice, acclaimed, cheered and hailed back by the excited ladies of the crowd.

The easiest part of presenting the show were the men, Chelsea House said. House is the president of Alpha Sigma Alpha. Elected in January, she is a junior majoring in elementary communication. They have great personality and are willing to make a show out of it, she said.

“Big Mel” took third place and “Blue” got the Mister Congeniality crown.

Sistad closed the show by giving some prizes to all the contestants and a bunch of thanks to the jury, the audience, the competitors, and the donations. All the donations will benefit the house of the Alpha Sigma Alpha and their future projects, House said.

Getting the word of the show out and working on the public relations (facebook, twitter, moya e-mails, and cafeteria flyers) was a real challenge for this pageant show, but it was a success as the theater was full, she said.

They sought seniors and upper-class contestants and well-known people on campus organizations for the show.

She added that being a newly elected president, her goal is that Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority will reach out and get more involved in activities, with T-shirt and bakery sales and also intramurals. She is positive about the organization as it has “13 new members from the pledge who are promising new faces,” House said.
When it comes to Greek life at Missouri Valley College, one might not know much about it, and what they do know often ends with the phrase, “drinking institutions,” or a “menace to society.” Those that have this tainted outlook often do so because of television shows, movies, or because of certain web pages.

And, of course, everyone remembers that scene from Animal House when those perverted imbeciles of the Delta Tau Chi house threw a toga party while engaging in outlandish sexual acts and drinking a substantial amount of alcohol. And evidently everything that we see on a movie or the Internet is true. Right, and Christmas is in July.

What this article is going to inform you about are the good things, yes, I said the good things, that one certain fraternity here on campus has done is the past, and is doing right now. That fraternity is the Beta Gamma Chapter of Sigma Nu.

As a member of Sigma Nu, I believe that there are stigmas about us that our peers and mentors cannot let go of. In order to speak the truth about the actions of this house, justice could only be done by starting from the rich tradition and history that was set in the beginning.

Missouri Valley College was chartered in 1888 and opened its first session on September 17, 1889. Two years later in 1891, Sigma Nu fraternity started the Beta Gamma chapter at Missouri Valley College. Sigma Nu acquired their first fraternity house, Birchhead Maples, in 1895.

A few years later a student was blackballed from the fraternity. Unfortunately for Sigma Nu, this student was the son of President Black of Missouri Valley College at the time. With vengeance, President Black barred fraternities from the college in 1903. Sigma Nu, rather than return their charter to national headquarters, operated “sub-rosa,” or underground. Later, this secret society would be known as the Tharsos Club, originating September 21, 1928. Hundreds of students, teachers, and trustees came and went as “sub-rosa” members of Sigma Nu during that period. The college finally changed their position on banning fraternities on December 19, 1931, and the Beta Gamma chapter of Sigma Nu became active again.

On October 16, 1965, the men of Sigma Nu fraternity held the dedication of their new home, in which they reside today. The house was dedicated to John Marshall Roberts, former member of the Beta Gamma chapter and trustee of Missouri Valley College. Attending the ceremony were William Ira “Pop” Ferguson, also a member of Sigma Nu, Vice-Regent Flavious Freeman, Dr. M. Earle Collins, who was Missouri Valley College’s President at the time, as well as Mr. Fred Pierce and members of John Marshall Robert’s family.

As students walk into each classroom and building, we enter a dedicated place to specific members of Missouri Valley College’s tradition and history. For instance, the Ferguson Center was built in honor of William Ira “Pop” Ferguson in 1970. At the time that Sigma Nu had been shut down, “Pop” was pledging the fraternity. Once the chapter was revived, he was finally initiated into Sigma Nu, after forty years of pledging. During “Pop’s” time here at Missouri Valley College, he served as the sponsor of the Tharsos Club, as well as staying active in the “sub-rosa” chapter. “Pop” went on to serve as a faculty member of Missouri Valley College for almost half a century, becoming a daily visitor to the fraternity house.

As “Pop’s” legacy holds strong, many remember him for his undying love for this campus, as well as the activities in which are held here. Though officially retiring in 1966, “Pop” remained a tutor, counselor, and substitute teacher until the age of 95. An ardent sports fan, he attended nearly every football and basketball game during his time here, always wearing his trademark hat, now bronzed and displayed in a trophy case in the Formal Lounge. “Pop” spurred athletes on with his famous gesture, a thumb up. He urged adoption of the Viking nickname for athletic teams and coined the college’s motto, “Valley Will Roll!”

As “Pop” became a Missouri Valley College celebrity, many other influential individuals made their mark as well. The R. Wilson Brown room has become a staple for Missouri Valley College events, holding student affairs events to faculty and congratulatory meals. Yes, Ralph Wilson Brown was a Sigma Nu as well. Not only was he a member of “sub-rosa” Sigma Nu, but he was a board member for many years, as well as served on the board of trustees.

Lastly, the Delta, you know the one that you’re reading now, was also a result of Sigma Nu. While Sigma Nu was operating “sub-rosa,” literary societies were on the rise of becoming popular. There were three at Missouri Valley College when they decided to start a school newspaper. In the name search for the paper, two of the societies were led by “sub-rosa” Sigma Nu members. They convinced the third party that the Delta would be a good name, due to the idea that there were three of them, making a triangle, also the shape of the Greek letter, Delta. Little did this third party know that the Delta was also the name of the Sigma Nu national magazine.

In the 1930s, several issues of Sigma Nu’s national magazine were delivered to the college instead of their off-campus address. At this time, rumors had already been spreading that the name was actually influenced by Sigma Nu. However, with Sigma Nu’s magazine in hand, so were confirmations of the rumors.

Today, Sigma Nu is involved in philanthropic events, including their annual trip to Kansas City, MO to help set up and close down a silent auction for autistic kids, as well as helping pack and send off clothing apparel to third world countries. Sigma Nu also annually helps set up and participate in the Hanging of the Greens, highway clean-ups, and shoveling snow for the elderly within the community. With Sigma Nu actives doing their part, it is encouraged that alumni do as well. You can often see these alumni at the Maastricht Institute, as well as at football games and other school activities.

Regardless of what this article says, there will always be students and faculty who will disagree with Greek life. However, for those who have gone Greek, it has impacted your lives for the better. Most Greek students and alumni often say that if it weren’t for their Greek experience, they wouldn’t have stayed in college. These societies are a home-away-from-home. No, they’re not “paying for friendships,” nor are they drinking every night of the week. It would be irrational to say that Greek students do not drink, but then again, we must remember that so does probably 95 percent of the rest of the students enrolled at Missouri Valley College. There may be arguments and fights between one another, but then again, that’s often what brothers and sisters do.

If your outlook on Greek life hasn’t changed after reading this, it may be safe to say that it probably won’t ever.

But for those of us who went Greek, and for those of us who can appreciate the pride and tradition that their Greek letters hold, that is all that matters.
Bullying causes nationwide concern

**Jessica Marrs**
**DELTA REPORTER**

Bullying is a word becoming more common as time passes on in schools across America. Not only is it a familiar subject in middle schools and high schools, it is also showing its ugly face in colleges and universities as well.

NBC’s Dateline recently aired a show called “My Kid Would Never Bully.” Dateline hired teenage bullies and victims to act in front of random teenagers in a placed setting. What they found was shocking.

One in three middle and high school teens are bullied. Girls tend to attack overweight girls, or girl who don’t dress as well as they do. They tend to attack because of appearance. Boys tend to pick girls who don’t dress as well as they do. They tend to bully based on rumors just on ‘weaker’ males, trying to make their victim to attack because of appearance. Boys tend to pick girls who don’t dress as well as they do. They tend to bully based on rumors just on ‘weaker’ males, trying to make their victim feel in front of a placed setting.

Bullies don’t always attack because of these reasons. Sometimes they bully based on rumors just to be mean. Meredith Marrs, a junior at Camdenton High School, has been bullied a lot in her high school career.

“I think I’m bullied because people don’t listen to the truth anymore and believe whatever is said by others,” Marrs said.

Another form of bullying that is increasingly becoming a problem is cyber-bullying. With social networks such as Facebook or Twitter growing in popularity every day, teens can continue bullying after school hours, making life harder on the bullied.

“People bully me at school, on Facebook, through text messages, and phone calls,” Marrs said.

Bullying has become such a big controversy that President Obama and the First Lady released a video message on Facebook to address his bullying conference he held in March. The president said he wasn’t looking for anyone to accept his friend request, and that his main reason was to help make people aware of his conference so that he could make everyone a part of it.

The First Lady wants the public to know how to stop bullying and the responsibility we all have to children. The Obama's attempt at reaching out through Facebook shows how much influence the network and the Internet has on people, young and old alike.

Tyler Clementi, who was once a student at Rutgers’ University in New Jersey, was bullied and eventually committed suicide because of it. Clementi’s roommate, with the help of a friend, exposed Clementi on the Internet for having sexual relations with another male. Being gay is one of the reasons middle and high schoolers are frequently bullied in the first place.

“I think bullying occurs when people try to intimidate other people,” said Missouri Valley College senior Jay Walkup.

Students, no matter what age, have to learn to stand up for themselves before things get out of control. Communities, teachers and parents all need to start showing kids how to come together in situations like these, so the bullies are stopped.

Self-esteem problems and suicide are some of the results of bullying.

If kids aren’t stopped now, their attacks could lead to other problems.

Accidents involving texting rise in May

**Jessica Marrs**
**DELTA REPORTER**

The month of May bring many events: graduations, proms, and the anticipation of summer. It is also the worst month when it comes to car accidents from texting while driving, according to texting-while-driving.org.

Many of the nation’s young people are completely wrapped up in their cell phones and cannot put them down, not even while driving. Many states are working on making this crisis disappear, but that’s not to say it will help.

“I hate texting and driving,” MVC graduate Alana Bentz said. “I feel like if I don’t answer, I will be missing out on something though.”

This is the case for many people. Driving is something that requires total attention. Drivers must be able to think quickly and be focused on the cars and people around them. If people are texting while driving, they aren’t capable of being completely focused on the task of driving while they are thinking about what they are texting.

They also cannot be ready to think and react quickly when it comes to what is happening on the road.

According to the website texting-while-driving.org, there is no national law that bans using a cell phone while driving, but a lot of states are coming up with their own laws. Of the 50 states, 29 of them ban the use of cell phones by novice drivers, which means any drivers up to the age of 18.

Eighteen of the states ban all bus drivers from using cell phones while there are passengers onboard. Eight of the states have laws that do not allow the use of hand-held cell phones, so the only way people are able to talk while driving is if they are using a hands-free headset.

About 30 states have banned texting while driving, eight have banned texting while driving for novice drivers, and two states have banned text messaging for school bus drivers.

Will this be enough? Missouri is not among the states banning hand-held devices while driving, though they probably should. Some states, like Oregon, are making sure drivers realize having a phone up to their ear or in their hand when pulled over has huge consequences. Tickets can be issued for up to $720, which is a high cost. A lot of states are taking bills that concern the use of cell phones while driving under serious consideration.

According to Textingwhiledriving.org, a driver is four times more likely to get in an accident while drinking and driving, and eight times more likely to get in an accident while texting and driving.

Next time you get a call or text while driving and pull your phone out, think again. Waiting until your vehicle is stopped not only prevent a huge fine, but also save your life and the lives of others in another vehicle.