How **YOU** HERE?!?

A new student wanders around campus searching for his 9 a.m. class, and stops and asks the first person he sees where the Science Center is. When the woman hears the accent of the new student, she asks them where they were from and how they got all the way to Marshall, Missouri.

This scenario is likely to happen every semester at Missouri Valley College.

This small liberal arts college, with less than 1,500 students, boasts an international population that consists of students from 36 different countries, according to the MVC website.

This may confuse people who do not understand how students can come from so far and end up in the rural Midwest.

Shane Conlan, a freshman Business Administration major, said he was fascinated with how many international students attend MVC.

Conlan arrived 4,010.6 miles away from his home town of Portaferry, Northern Ireland at Valley through a scholarship program called the “Business Education Initiative,” which places hundreds of students from all over Northern Ireland into schools in the United States.

Conlan said the students, who participate in this program, are under contract and only have one year to complete their core classes before returning home. Conlan added that the students do not get to choose their own college, but that they are assigned to one and are told that the colleges would be in small towns.

“I was very surprised that so many international students ended up in such a small town, when the country is so big,” Conlan added.

Not only is there a significant international population at Valley, but 44 of the 50 states are represented in the student body like Markus Russell, freshman volleyball player and Accounting and Secondary Math Education major.

The Manassas, Virginia, native (who is also one of only two student athletes from the state of Virginia on a varsity roster) was offered “a lot in scholarship money” to travel 846.3 miles to MVC. Russell said he had never even heard of Missouri Valley College or even Marshall until they started recruiting him his senior year in high school.

The majority of Valley students are student-athletes, and since recruitment is a major tool in getting student athletes to a college, recruitment can be considered a major factor in how students end up at Valley.

Marque Black, a graduating senior and Criminal Justice major, said that coaches like to recruit from certain areas, and a lot of times when a player comes from out of state and out of the country, they can influence other players from their same high school or same area to come to Valley as well.

As is the case with Black, he came 656 miles away from his hometown of New Orleans, Louisiana to Valley on a football scholarship. He found out about Valley from two of his former high school teammates: former football all-American at Valley Merlin Benefield and Bryan Crayton.

Benefield and Crayton, now Valley alums, came to MVC together on football scholarships from the same New Orleans high school and that paved the way for Black and fellow graduating senior Bronson Jones to come to Valley.

Black added that Valley has always been good about giving prospective students the chance to get an education as well as compete in college athletics, and that has been a big help in getting a diverse student population.

According to the MVC website, there are 20 different countries and 38 different states represented on the men’s and women’s varsity rosters. If the rosters are broken down individually, then there are certainly recruiting trends.

For example, according to the MVC website, both men’s and women’s rodeo teams have as many student-athletes from the state of Illinois as from the state of Missouri and the women’s rodeo team actually has more. Also both men’s and women’s wrestling teams have more states represented on their rosters than any other sport.

Behind only the state of Missouri, California has the second highest number of student athletes on varsity rosters.

More than 90 percent of the men’s varsity soccer roster is made up of international students and this trend could be partly explained by the fact that Head soccer coach Vladimir Simic is originally from Serbia, played soccer in Europe, and because soccer is such an international sport. The men’s varsity tennis teams, along with men’s soccer, are the only two sports with more international student-athletes than Americans on the roster.

Though a lot of student athletes are sought after and heavily recruited by coaches to come to Valley, there are also many students whose journeys are not so easy.

Josh Weir, a junior and Sports Management major, contacted every school in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics in order to generate interest and find a school to finish his degree. Weir, who is originally from Bunbury, a small coastal city in western Australia, started college in Kaskaskia College in Centralia, Illinois.

Weir said that after being out of school for a couple years, he didn’t think he would be able to get into a NCAA school, so he thought his best option would be to attend a NAIA school.

“I spent hours on the computer for weeks trying to find a school,” Weir said.

Missouri Valley College was one of several schools that showed the most interest. Weir chose Valley and traveled 10,790.6 miles to attend the school.

Weir added that, when people ask him why he came all the way from Australia to Valley, he tells them Valley gave him an opportunity to finish school and have a new life experience.

Students travel from across the country and across the world to attend Valley, not only adding more culture and diversity to the college but also bringing with them stories of their unique journey to Marshall, Missouri.
Thanks for publication, web support

David L. Roberts
DELA FACULTY ADVISER

First of all, congratulations to the 207 MVC graduates of the Class of 2011.
Secondly, as faculty adviser for the Delta, I would like to thank the MVC community for reading and supporting the Delta student newspaper. It is a learning experience for the students and a lot depends upon the cooperation and patience of the people they need to talk to or the resources they need to find.

This year’s Delta was again led by Co-Editors Devon Wade and Ralitsa Gospodinova. The fall semester staff included Juliana Doyle, Arionne Hampton, and Allison Student. The spring semester staff included Will Claggett, Matt Ellis, Jessica Marrs, and Paulene-Wendy Ntsame Assoumou. I’d like to thank them for their dedicated work.

The small staff size provides a big challenge, and there is a lot of news and activities on campus that the Delta just can’t cover. One big recommendation for all groups and organizations would be that they add one purchase from their budgets--the purchase of a digital camera--and they not only choose a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary, but they also add the position of photographer, so their events can be documented especially when the Delta or yearbook students can’t get there.

The Delta also always appreciates the additional articles and photos that come from other Mass Communication classes, such as the Photojournalism class, the Basic News Reporting class, the Copy Editing class, and the Sports Reporting classes. This semester, Professor Carrell’s Advanced News Reporting class submitted stories and commentaries, including some for this online edition. Thanks to all! The Delta also would like to thank MVC Webmaster Jessica Wise and the people at the IT Office for ongoing assistance; Jacob Hatfield, Shelly Arth, and the Marshall Democrat-News for printing the traditional newspaper; and Bill Duvall of the Maintenance Department for placing the additional 17 newspaper award certificates as well as radio award certificates on the wall in Ferguson hallway. Take a look and tell a student you saw their name cited.

Watch for an upcoming edition of Zoom, the online photojournalism magazine, designed by and with photos from Photojournalism students.

Sabiduria yearbook project continues to have its share of challenges, too. Watch for a yearbook presence on the MVC website, like the presence of the Delta and Zoom, with pages about MVC by online yearbook project editor Chase Burgess and the other students from the yearbook class.

An attempt by Phillip Hamer to take portraits of MVC students resulted in less than 40 students taking the time to get their photos taken. That was disappointing, of course. But, wow, for the ones who took the time, Phillip’s photos are stunning. Watch for their appearance at an upcoming yearbook site on the college’s website sometime in the summer, after all of the editing and proofing is completed.

‘127 Hours’ adventure film also inspires

Review by Jacob Uhrig

You are in a canyon hiking down when suddenly a boulder is knocked loose and lands on your hand. You try to pull it out but discover that your arm won’t move. Aron Ralston knows what this feels like.

‘127 Hours’ is based on the true story of Ralston’s 2003 book “Between a Rock and a Hard Place” which chronicles his struggle to survive after a loose boulder fell on his right arm and trapped him in Canyonlands National Park in Utah for 5 days.

He had very little food and water with him, a cheap pocket knife, and a video camera which he used to record his last days if he died. Academy Award nominee James Franco plays the role of Aron and he does a great performance where you can’t really tell if it is him or the real Aron since they both look a lot alike in real life.

One scene where this is shown is when he is leaving a message to his parents about how much he loved them and that he was sorry that he didn’t appreciate them more.

The film is filled with many suspenseful moments and some humorous moments as well. One scene in particular that is very good is during one of the days that he has been trapped when he pretends that he is on a radio show and is being interviewed.

He talks about how he never told anyone where he was going and probably should have. Throughout this scene, you can hear a laugh track in Ralston’s head.

Danny Boyle (Trainspotting, Slumdog Millionaire) does a wonderful job directing the film and capturing the tension of being trapped and courageous as it shows how strong a person can be when they are in danger.

I would recommend this movie to anyone who likes adventure films and inspirational films.

The Delta

May 5, 2011

Co-Editors:
Ralitsa Gospodinova and Devon Wade

Staff:
William Claggett, Matt Ellis, Jessica Marrs, 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

The Delta reserves the right to edit or reject any articles or other material submitted. Opinions in the Delta do not necessarily reflect the views of MVC or the Delta newspaper.

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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
It was a cast of seven, sitting in a semi-circle, all with a script in their laps. The small audiences, about 25, all listened attentively at the edge of their seats. This was a read through of playwright Jim Henry’s newest play, “Brother of All.” Henry’s plays usually have a mystery about them, allowing the audience to decide what really happened. Although enjoyed by the audience, each member seemed to have their own interpretation and as soon as the reading ended, the debate over the story began.

“I want the audience to struggle,” said Henry. “I always want to create dialogue for the audience after the show, for them to disagree on what it was that actually happened. The pendulum can’t be too far to one side.” Even the cast chosen to read the script was divided around what actually happened.

Henry had come to Missouri Valley again to see the Missouri Valley College production of one of his plays, “The Seventh Monarch,” and hear a read-through to test his newest work “Brother of All” on an audience. Since his son was a pitcher on the MVC baseball team and one of his best friends was a Missouri Valley alum, Henry was familiar with Missouri Valley College. After meeting the theater department and dropping off one of his scripts, “The Angels of Lemnos,” the department and Wade Hughes did the show.

“I was so impressed by the show. I have seen the show professionally done and this one rivals all of those productions,” Henry said.

“With the audience at the read-through,” Henry said. “Just hearing that a script is just ‘excellent’ or garbage isn’t good. It’s the controversy and dialogue that really helps me as a writer. If any of my shows become movies, you can say ‘Hey, cool. That was my idea,’ but hey, I copyright it all!”

Henry had been working on the ending for his show “The Seventh Monarch” for years. The original ending, he thought, was too “Hollywood.”

“I struggled with the ending for six years and I was still struggling. I was ready to scrap the project,” Henry said. When Wade Hughes, director of last year’s “Angels of Lemnos,” read “The Seventh Monarch,” he agreed that it was “too Hollywood.”

Hughes pitched the idea of helping write an ending for the show. Four endings were produced; one ending for each night of the show. Henry enjoyed seeing the twists and turns of the endings and left Missouri Valley College “excited, to get back to writing Monarch again.”
Modern slavery continues terrible traditions

**Commentary by Madison Petersen**

“So profoundly ignorant of the nature of slavery are many persons,” William Lloyd Garrison said in 1845 in his preface written for the slave narrative by Frederick Douglass.

Most would associate this quote with the Southern slavery we are all familiar with. African Americans, plantations, white supremacy, violence…it’s all a very old story that most Americans are not proud of.

We look back and wonder how people of the time could not see the evil before them. We have wondered how this horrible institution was allowed to exist? But, the question should be, WHY does it still exist today?

The chilling truth is that slavery exists today all over the world. According to the U.S. Department of State, there are about 27 million people in bondage of modern-day slavery around the world. A major portion of that slavery belongs to the commercial sex slave industry also known as sex trafficking.

Sex trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion. Sex trafficking operations can be found in highly visible venues, such as street prostitution, as well as more underground systems, such as brothels that operate out of residential homes.

Sex trafficking also takes place in a variety of public and private locations, such as massage parlors, spas, strip clubs and other fronts for prostitution. Victims may start off dancing or stripping in clubs and then be coerced into situations of prostitution and pornography.

This slavery is all around us, but yet we have ignored it for so long. Like the people who lived during African American slavery, sex slavery and human trafficking has become part of our society and we are unable to even recognize that an injustice is before our eyes.

An example that this industry is constantly before our eyes is the multiple gentlemen’s clubs we see driving down interstate highways. Robin Demoss, a former employee of a gentleman’s club in Galina, Kansas, shared her perspective of what can go on behind the scenes in strip clubs.

“There is definitely a fine line between strip clubs and the sex trafficking industry.” Robin said, adding, “I wouldn’t doubt that it could be anyone doing the trafficking.” It is also not uncommon for owners of such gentleman’s clubs to pick a “favorite” girl and use them for personal deeds. Robin said she knew of an owner who constantly had one of the girls, who worked at the club, on the side “dating him.”

Robin said, “He was very controlling over his ‘girl’ and if one would quit, he would just find another one to take her place.” This can be used as an avenue to introduce women into the sex trafficking industry.

How do women even get tricked into this horrible industry? Like Robin noted, the men in charge can be very manipulative and tricky. Other ways that people get tricked into the hopeless industry include a promise of a good job in another country; a false marriage proposal turned into a bondage situation; being sold into the sex trade by parents, husbands, boyfriends; or being kidnapped by traffickers.

This industry, according to A Global Alliance Against Forced Labor, reports a whopping $32 billion revenue per year. The word needs to get out about the truths of the industry so that more people can be aware, educated, and armed to stop it.

What are people doing to stop human trafficking? There are many organizations and individual efforts being brought fourth to stop human trafficking. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) started the Blue Heart campaign in order raise awareness. Just like the red ribbon has become the symbol for HIV/AIDS awareness, their hope is for the blue heart to become a nationally recognized symbol for Human Trafficking awareness.

Another example of people reaching out is a smaller organization called The Rapha House in Joplin, that loves, rescues, and heals children who have been rescued out of slavery and sexual exploitation. They restore hope to the people coming out of the industry by teaching them traits to use in the professional world and by giving them safe houses.

A major impact was made to the industry in 2000 when the Enactment of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) was passed. This act made sex trafficking a serious violation of federal law.

We must wake up. Slavery is real and is apparent in our everyday lives. Today, modern-day abolitionists must stand up and make a difference. From African Americans being slaves in fields to having our first African American president, we have come a long way. Slavery was stopped once. It can and it must be stopped again.
Hospital lesson includes obtaining annual flu shot

Commentary by Jacob Uhrig

I had never thought about getting a flu shot because I had rarely gotten the flu before. A little over a month ago, I developed a sore throat which I blamed on my dad because he had been sick the week before. By Thursday, I was still pretty sick and was starting to experience a little nausea, but I figured my body was getting better. On Saturday, I could barely breathe. That night I wanted to compete in a trivia night at the YMCA even though I was sick. By the final round of the game, I was so out of breath that my parents took me to the emergency room and I didn’t fight it at all.

After multiple x-rays and blood tests, I was diagnosed with pneumonia and admitted. I spent that night at Fitzgibbon Hospital thinking I would be able to go home Sunday or Monday. By Tuesday, I was still at Fitzgibbon and not showing any signs of improvement, so mom encouraged me to go to St. Luke’s Hospital in Kansas City. I got to ride in a patient transport van to the emergency room and I didn’t mind it at all.

By the time that I got checked into a room, I was starving but I couldn’t have any food until the doctor came to see me. I felt like I could eat a whole cow by the time that the doctor did show up.

The next day, I had a CAT scan and a bronchoscopy to determine what was really wrong. That afternoon, the doctor came in and said that I probably had H1N1 with Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) which is caused by damage to the lungs. The condition has a mortality rate between 30 percent and 85 percent and often requires being put on a ventilator.

Symptoms of ARDS are shortness of breath, tachypnea (rapid breathing) and confusion due to low oxygen levels. It can occur within 24-48 hours of an injury such as trauma, burns, or drug/alcohol abuse or illness such as pneumonia, and sepsis.

After hearing about this, I was freaked out, but forced myself to be calm knowing that anxiety would only make my respiratory distress worse. However, it turned out I didn’t need to worry because by the next day, I was starting to feel a lot better.

During the rest of the week, I spent most of my time in bed while the nurses kept giving me as many drugs as possible. Unlike Charlie, I had a PICC line in my arm where they could put the drugs. A PICC line is a Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter which can be used for either a couple of days or a year depending on the condition of the patient.

Unfortunately, the drugs I received made me hungry all of the time, so my mom went down to the cafeteria and got me food which was much better than the food at Fitzgibbon. Also, I wasn’t too sick to notice that some of the nurses at St. Luke’s were very nice, some were very pretty.

The next Tuesday, I was finally discharged from the hospital and I was ready to get back home. However, by nighttime, I discovered that I was turning back into a four-year-old wanting to sleep with their parents again.

ARDS patients often experience Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) with an uncontrollable fear of not being able to breathe. By Saturday night, I had finally gotten used to being back home and getting back into the old routine.

Because of my absence from classes, I enjoyed a spring break catching up on my school work while others were enjoying their time off and vacations.

Lessons learned: 1). It is no fun not being able to breathe. 2). Know when to go to the ER. 3). Some hospital food is good; I was served prime rib at St. Luke’s. 4). Nurses are good people. 5). It’s good to have your parents around during a time like that. 6). Always get a flu shot.

Opinion

Relationships crumble in ‘Social Network’ movie

Review by Micah Petersen

Perhaps fittingly, a movie about a social networking site in which you gain friends, focuses on crumbling relationships and making enemies. “The Social Network” depicts the rise of Facebook, from its humble beginnings in a Harvard dorm to a multi-billion dollar company. Humble, however, is not a word to use in describing its creator, Mark Zuckerberg.

Young actor Jesse Eisenberg portrays the main character Zuckerberg as he alienates many, while becoming a hero to millions. In the initial stages of the site’s creation, Zuckerberg and his Facebook team are on top of the world, but they slowly fall into a tumultuous battle. This is a movie about the rise of Facebook, but it’s the story of the relationships behind it that you take away from your viewing. The narcissistic attitude of Eisenberg’s character is displayed throughout, often to the point of being justified by his genius.

His people skills are clearly lacking, perhaps because he is always the smartest man in the room. Zuckerberg’s inability to handle relationships is introduced in the first scene of the movie with an altercation between him and his girlfriend. This carries over into his relationship with his friend and business partner Eduardo Saverin (Andrew Garfield).

The movie eventually starts to go back and forth between a present and past setting; the present being Saverin suing Zuckerberg for backhandedly cutting his percentage of ownership in the company. This coincides with Zuckerberg being sued by twin brothers, Cameron and Tyler Winkelvoss (both played by Armie Hammer), for allegedly stealing their idea for a social networking site similar to Facebook.

The conflict between Zuckerberg and Saverin develops quickly due to differing ideas about the direction of the company. The introduction of Napster creator Sean Parker, played by Justin Timberlake, furthers this rift, as he is the one person that holds the power of influence over Zuckerberg.

The power of money and fame is a theme of the movie, and the corruption that it can include. The movie relates to our inner desires for success and unimaginable wealth, but tempers it with the reality of those things holding the potential to change you for the worse.

The creativity of the movie’s design is its ability to portray the characters in both positive and negative lights, which gives the viewer the opportunity to make their own determinations about them. The film takes a character in Zuckerberg, who by many rights deserves no sympathy, and gives the viewer the opportunity to feel sympathy for him.

The viewer that focuses on his arrogant attributes will find no pity for Zuckerberg, while others will see a genius mind trapped in the body of a boy forced to grow up fast.

“The Social Network” is a movie I would recommend to those who are serious about film, as well as the casual viewer. It reaches a wide range of audiences, and pulls on the viewers emotions from an array of directions. The story of the billionaire only recently a teenager would seem to be a fairy tale, but this movie depicts a much different story.
Student shows photos about Paris experience

Valley students dream big when it comes to their future. Sara Gross did as well, but for her it’s a little different. Sara spent six weeks of her 2010 summer in Paris, France. Yes, there is a wide array of tourism in Paris. Sara, on the other hand, was there to study.

Gross, a senior Graphic Arts major, debated between studying in France and Italy. She ultimately chose France. “They’re both really big art hubs for the world,” said Gross. “Photography started in France so I thought that would be the perfect place for me to go, to be able to take a photography class.”

Gross, had always been a photographer at heart, but it wasn’t until she came to Valley that the photographer inside her started coming out in full force. When she was younger, she took a fascination with the camera. “I used to steal my mom’s camera, when we still had film cameras. I would just go and take random pictures. My mom would develop them. She would be mad,” said Gross. She would say, “Sara, you just wasted a whole roll of film.”

If you were to ask her mom about Sara taking her camera, you will get a nice laugh. “She would take pictures of the cats or the dogs, or just of a leaf, instead of a tree. Just sort of random things,” said Terry Borgman, Sara’s mom. “They would be different than what anyone else would do, I suppose. They’re different. You don’t see pictures in the angles that she takes them in.”

Her friends would get together and have photo shoots, taking pictures of themselves, and doing other goofy things with the camera. Growing older, she began to grow away from the camera, only to have the spark come back.

“Coming to college here, I realized that I really liked it. It came back to me,” Gross said.

With her passion for photography coming back, she began exploring different ways to make her photos unique.

While studying in Paris, she was taught by Claudio Cambon, a documentary photographer. It was through Cambon that Gross began to be challenged.

“He really pushed me to try and take pictures of people,” Gross said about Cambon encouraging her to move out of her comfort zone. “In a way, that made me not be as timid, and it made me just want to keep taking more pictures, and keep looking around to just push myself further.”

Cambon, taking documentary photography, led Gross to open up to other areas of photography and not just stick with one kind. Like Cambon’s, Gross likes to make her unique.

“I do a funny thing with photos. I like them to come out of the corners of pictures. I like weird things. I like to morph people’s reality without actually having to do any Photoshopping,” Gross said about her work.

Photographers in general are pretty touchy when it comes to their work, but when it comes to perfection, there is almost little or no such thing.

“They’re like an instant kind of thing for me. It helps me to be able to snap something and go and keep moving,” said Gross. “You can still take a million pictures but only be happy with one.”

Upon graduating May 7, Sara hopes to find a job doing what she enjoys doing the most, taking photos, and possibly going to graduate school for Photography or Graphic Design.

Above: Sara Gross stands in front of her photo of the Eiffel Tower, a photo she took while studying in Paris, France. The photo exhibit was at the Vern Nestor Art Gallery in Bailey Hall. (Photo by Will Claggett)

Left: A photo of apples taken at an angle, making it look like they are coming at you.
Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Stars, on stage at the Blue Note in Columbia, were like a violent smack on the right cheek. Yes, they made that kind of great impact too on acoustics at the Eckilson-Mabee Theatre on the MVC campus.

It was hard for the students to stay still in their chairs. Peter Warnock, assistant professor of Anthropology, got carried away by the energy of the members of the band that he knows well. He spent two years in Sierra Leone teaching the civilians’ position is pictured: “Today you set-tle, tomorrow you pack!”

Reuben M. Koroma sings “Ya N’Digba” for his mother who died.

The album also describes the political, social and economic flaws of the country through African proverbs. “Afropop” is the term that people use to describe Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Stars musical genre.

The Delta

EVENTS

May 5, 2011

Students ‘feel the music’ of Sierra Leone group

Paulene-Wendy Ntsame Assoumou
Delta reporter

What is “life” in one word? Reuben Koroma, the leader of the group, asked the audience during an interlude. Some answered “sex”, some answered “love”, but the crowd agreed with the singer on “happi-ness” as the percussionists of the band Makengo Kamara, Jahson Bull, Christopher Davies, started a crescendo on a frenzied song.

Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Stars, on stage at the Blue Note in Columbia, were like a violent smack on the right cheek. Yes, they made that kind of great impact too on acoustics at the Eckilson-Mabee Theatre on the MVC campus.

It was hard for the students to stay still in their chairs. Mass Communication student Leon Emperio was the first on stage to feel the music, followed by some others who shared the groove.

The rest of the audience, probably more shy, were either at the edge of their chairs, clapping a hand on a knee or giving a bunch of nods on rhythm.

Peter Warnock, assistant professor of Anthropology, got carried away by the energy of the members of the band that he knows well. He spent two years in Sierra Leone teaching before the civil war there happened.

He was, through the Anthropology club, the main sponsor of the free bus ride to the concert in Columbia.

Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Star is the story of group of brave musicians who, after the brutal civil war that has devastated their country between 1991 and 2002, formed a band in a West African refugee camp to keep their hope alive.

Their first album “Living like a Refugee” is a testimony of what they have been through. “Refugee Rolling.” for instance, deals with their instable condition as they move from camp to camp: “Today you set-tle, tomorrow you pack!”

It is also a goodbye to family members they lost. Reuben M. Koroma sings “Ya N’Digba” for his mother who died.

The album also describes the political, social and economic flaws of the country through African proverbs. “Afropop” is the term that people use to describe Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Stars musical genre.

There would be several definitions to the term but “Pat Malonthone” (that means ‘cooking okra’ a favourite Sierra Leone dish) would be the best one. In that song, they play an indigenous music traditionally played on bamboo pipes but adding an electric guitar. One word: transcendental.

The band is going to be sharing happiness through the United States as they are in tour until May 28.

I now have my wish list for my upcoming birthday, with their new album “Rise & Shine” on top of it. I added “locking my hair on dreadlocks” on my summer to-do list. And I made my own answer to what is life is one word. Music. “Jah bless.”
New mayor seeks to expand business in town

Will Claggett  
DELTA REPORTER

Former director of campus security at Missouri Valley College Mark Gooden has been elected mayor of Marshall.

Gooden has lived in the town for the last 35 years, with his wife and four kids. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Gooden knows what it is like to live in a big city.

Gooden has a good standing history with Marshall, and hopes that history will help him in his goal of promoting Marshall.

Gooden’s track record consists of serving as senior pastor of the Family Worship Center, part-time police officer with the Marshall Police Department, taught D.A.R.E in area schools, former director of the Saline County Youth Court, member of major case squad, and has served on numerous civic boards within the town.

Marshall, being a small-town community, with just over 12,000 people, Gooden sees it as a resource that hasn’t been tapped into yet. “I desire to be the PR for the city. Public Relations. I want to go out and sell Marshall to the world,” Gooden said in an interview conducted while he was still running for mayor of Marshall.

“I believe that we can bring in new businesses, new eateries, new industry here,” Gooden said. “We have to go out and sell it. We have a lot of good things, Missouri Valley College, we have two golf courses, a nice park. We also have a lot of good leaders.”

Marshall has seen new development within the past several years, but Gooden has the desire to bring a whole new set of things into the town. Gooden said the best way to do that is to go out and show those who don’t live in Marshall how good of a community Marshall really is.

Being a small community might be the town’s biggest asset. “(We’re) close enough to some big shopping, but we don’t have near the problems that other communities have,” Gooden said.

As the mayor of Marshall, Gooden hopes to clean up the city and make it a better place to live, eat, and play. While the town is small, it has a lot to offer. Gooden said that the positives in Marshall will overshadow any negatives.

“We have some sore areas in the town, and I believe if we go out and clean those areas up, people will come.”

Gooden would also like to tap into the community of the college, by helping those students, who want to get part-time work, find jobs.

“Businesses won’t hire them because their seasonal. They need jobs too.” College students have busy academic and athletic schedules but Gooden knows of many students who are looking for work.

A positive that Gooden sees in the city is the people.

“We are a bunch of friendly people. If we can just get a group of people together, and go out and do a job, I think we can bring new things to the city,” Gooden said.

With the goals that Gooden has, and the creativity that he wants to bring, Marshall hopes to see some new and exciting accomplishments for the town. Like the old saying goes, don’t blink, if you do, you might miss something.
Teacher emerges from eventful life of student

Matt Ellis
DELTA REPORTER

On this night, most 20-something-year-olds are out with friends at a bar or house party, celebrating the past year and looking forward to the future. In the basement, cold, scared, nervous, and unsure of what will happen before the clock strikes 2011.

Kimberly McDaniel sits huddled in the corner of the basement with a friend, only seeing what’s in sight of the flashlight. Outside the wind has picked up, making the house feel as though it might fly away. It’s dark, chilly, and eerie calm inside the house but outside the wind whistles like an oncoming train getting closer and closer.

At home on New Year’s Eve with only a friend from college and armed with a flashlight and cell phone, Kim was in a place she feared and never wished upon anyone. “My parents were out of town, my brothers were gone for the weekend, and I didn’t know what was going to happen. I didn’t know what to do but stay in the basement until it was quiet,” Kim said.

The tornado hit the small town of Robertsville, Missouri with little remorse, leaving behind only shattered memories and a warpath of destruction that would take a lifetime to repair.

“We got lucky. The tornado didn’t do much to our house. A couple shutters were missing and shingles were scattered throughout the yard,” Kim recalled. Her neighbors weren’t so lucky. Their house looked as if it had a train run through the middle of the living room, leaving a gaping hole. Kim is no stranger to traumatic events happening in her life on coincidental dates.

On Kim's birthday, December 19 in 2005, Kim was in the process of making the trek to school for her last week of school before Christmas break when her mother called and told her to come back home because school was canceled until further notice.

The local news broke a story of a student planting a homemade bomb in his locker after being kicked out the week before for bringing drugs to sell. Luckily nothing happened, the bomb was removed and no one was hurt. “It kind of sucked. I loved going to school on my birthday because everyone would tell me happy birthday, and that day I didn't get to hear that!”

Growing up, Kim had a good-sized family. She has two brothers, piles of cousins, aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews. The entire family would gather on holidays as well as after church on Sundays for lunch. Being in a tight knit family helped shaped Kim as person. She had decided from a young age she wanted to not only have a big family but also teach young children. In her fourth year at Missouri Valley as an elementary education major, she is getting ready to embark on another life-altering choice.

Kim’s entering a field where there is a constant need for people to teach our future generations the life skills to succeed at a young age. A lesser person would say they wouldn’t teach because the money isn’t right or they’d rather have a job more fulfilling. Kim’s attributed with being caring, selflessness, and the drive to help others. Fully understanding her reward won’t be the amount of money she’ll earn but the number of kids she can impact in a positive way.

Only two semesters away from gaining her bachelor’s of science degree, there are two options open to Kim. Finish her degree requirements at Missouri Valley with the friends she’s made through playing softball for two seasons and the friends she’s made as site coordinator for the after school program at Benton Elementary, or move back home and finish school though East Central Community College.

“I can finish school living at home with my family and substitute teach. The schools around my hometown are where I want to work, so I want to get my foot in the door by subbing,” Kim said.

“I want to be able to impact kids at a young age like I was. I had great teachers growing up and a great family that supported me. I want to do the same after I graduate. Hopefully helping kids so they don’t put any drugs or bombs in their lockers ruining someone’s birthday!”

Kim holds up the painted arm and hand of one of her students.

Kim McDaniel paints with some of her students.
Baseball player to leave field for business

Matt Ellis
DELTA REPORTER

The Missouri Valley College student body has consistently had a large amount of its students involved in some type of sport at MVC.

Earning a scholarship and being a college athlete could be described as a dream for most small kids growing up in the United States.

With the end of the semester approaching and the spring sports seasons nearing their finale, the shadow of not playing sports at a competitive level ever again begins to creep in for many seniors.

One particular senior has decided this will be his last baseball season, hanging up the spikes after playing baseball since he was six years old.

Jarrod Hogan, senior at MVC, has decided once this season started he wouldn’t play baseball anymore at any competitive level.

“Making money is important to me. After the season we are having this year, it just made me want to graduate faster and start working without the thought of baseball,” Hogan said.

He added that he won’t miss playing baseball right after the season but, in the long run, he will miss the memories and friends he’s made through baseball over the years.

Hogan is currently majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Business Management.

Playing baseball in college has its ups and downs like any sport. Those ups and downs have taught Hogan many lessons he said will help him while trying to develop the restaurant he would like to open in Huntington Beach, Calif., called Hogan’s Hoagies & Smoothies.

A downfall to being a student-athlete at the college level is dedicating a lot of time and effort into the sport while other goals like school work can sometimes get neglected.

The MVC baseball team didn’t have a lot of home games because of field renovations, putting a strain on the team’s work load because of missing class and assignments. “Juggling home work assignments, missing class, and especially not having any home games this year have made my decision to stop playing baseball pretty easy,” Hogan said.

Hogan will graduate in May, and then return to California to what is a new beginning without 5:30 a.m. running or 3:30 p.m. practice. He said he has no regrets about playing baseball at MVC and hopes the younger guys on the team have learned from him while playing with him.

Ruben Salazar, junior at MVC and catcher on the baseball team, jokingly said that besides his physical appearance, Hogan has been a model teammate and a good friend.

Feature Report

UFOs

Leon Emperio
FEATURE WRITER

“Something is going on in the skies that we do not understand. If all the airline pilots and Air Force pilots who have seen UFOs and sometimes chased them have been the victims of hallucinations, then an awful lot of pilots should be taken off and forbidden to fly.”

Nicolaus Copernicus denoted with his revelations of observing the configuration rotational system of the galaxy and the motion of the stars that Earth is not the center of the universe. Galileo Galilei expanded on Copernicus’ studies of astronomy and concluded that the sun does not orbit around the planet Earth. The science that subsidized the backbone of these profundities was too secular for its own time in the 15th century. The heliocentric perspective was contradictory to the scripture of the Catholic Church; therefore Galileo was condemned by the Roman Inquisition and subsequently met his end.

Sigmund Freud audaciously declared that humans are not in control of their minds and that the subconscious is the Chief Executive Officer that authorizes the manifestation of all of human actions, scruples and deportments.

Scientists have debated the existence of ET-like creatures for years. Do they, or do they not exist?

Giant stone edifices, like the Great Pyramid in Egypt; Machu Picchu and the Nazca Lines in Peru, are offered as possible proof of living intelligent alien life intervening on Earth.

Some anthropologists agree with a theorem that alien intervention transpired during the early stages of human development. Numerous infrastructures and architectural landmarks simply were too advanced for a human prototype of antiquity.

English Professor Loren Gruber said, “I see no reason why there should not be life elsewhere in the universe.” He added, “Earth is populated by numerous different types of life, from viruses to whales; from moss to redwoods.”

From astronomers and astronauts to average Joe and Jane, many accounts of extraterrestrial encounters and of sightings of peculiar flying objects have been reported. Notably, Roswell, New Mexico, the

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Spring brought a variety of sports news to Missouri Valley College. The MVC baseball field was finally completed in time for a few home games, and the cheerleaders headed to Florida to compete at Nationals. The cheerleaders did a great job and took third at the competition. The baseball team endured the cool April weather to play some games on their newly renovated home field.

Top left: Senior Ian Gray waits for a pitch. Top middle: Junior Deante Bernstine prepares for a possible throw from the pitcher. Top right: Senior Matt Ellis looks at his sign from the catcher. Left middle: Senior Sebastian Salas brings a hit with his teammates watching from the dugout. Left middle: Senior Jarrod Hogan in the middle of his windup.

Before their trip to Florida, the cheerleaders practiced their routine for Nationals for the MVC students. Below are some photos from their routine.

(Photos and page by Jessica Marrs)
More about UFO accounts generate debate

(Continued from page 10)

most famous UFO incident and suspected government cover-up, occurred in 1947.

Recovered fragments from an alien aircraft, or was it an “experimental high-altitude surveillance balloon as claimed,” were located in the desert of New Mexico, commencing one of the biggest controversies and mysteries in U.S. history.

Regardless of the discrepancies and ambiguities of ET witnesses’ accounts; there are many common denominators in their statements that depict sincerity and a high probability of ET existence.

Kenju Terauchi, Japan Airlines pilot, said in 1986, “It is impossible for any man-made machine to make a sudden appearance in front of a jumbo jet that is flying 910 kilometers per hour and to remain in steady formation paralleling our aircraft... Honestly, we were simply breathtaking.”

The account of The Belgian UFO Wave was predicated on successions of sightings that persisted from November 1989 to April 1990, with 143 witness accounts on the first night.

The mysterious objects were traced on radar by the Belgian Air Force and termed as black triangles with bright lights that would strike a variation of color.

All witnesses concluded that what they saw indeed were UFOs; although the Air Force issued a statement that discredited the validity of witnesses’ accounts.

Captain Kervendal, French gendarmerie, said. “Something is going on in the skies that we do not understand. If all the airline pilots and Air Force pilots who have seen UFOs and sometimes chased them have been the victims of hallucinations, then an awful lot of pilots should be taken off and for- bidden to fly.”

In 1951, three Texas professors observed lights that formed a striking composition of formation over Lubbock.

The three Texas Technical College professors’ observation was later photographed by a student, who described the ‘UFO’ as featuring 20 to 30 lights that flew overhead in a “V” formation. The sighting was so popular and highly publicized that the photos and story appeared in Life magazine in 1952.

Jimmy Carter, former president of the United States, had an ET experience. “It was the darndest thing I’ve ever seen,” Carter said. “It was big, it was very bright, it changed colors, and it was about the size of the moon. Carter’s experience occurred at Leary, Georgia, in October 1969.

“We watched it for 10 minutes, but none of us could figure out what it was. One thing’s for sure: I’ll never make fun of people who say they’ve seen unidentified flying objects in the sky,” Carter added.

The existence of ET characters challenges many people of faith. They feel confirmation could be paralyzing to their belief system and way of living should the existence of aliens be conclusively proven.

The Catholic Church recently made a statement that the possibility of extraterrestrial beings does not disprove religious doctrines but fortifies it through denoting the grandeur of God’s creation.

MVC Religion instructor David Van Horn agrees. “I do not presume that aliens do subsist in some part of this vast universe,” Van Horn said. “However, I do know that God is capable of creating them.”

Barack Obama, in his presidential campaign of 2008, promised to disclose UFO files to the public should he be elected president. However, when Obama was elected, his promise to declassify files on UFOs did not transpire.

CIA Director Allen Dulles said in 1955, “Maximum security exists concerning the subject of UFOs.” Obama may have changed his mind after viewing confidential reports.

No official records categorically proving the existence of aliens exist, although there are a number of official dossiers that count stories and events that relate to the conception of alien encounters and of sightings. The questions and implications of ET existence confirmation cannot be fathomed; the social constructs would crumble and collapse under its validation. Religious doctrines would have to create a conduit to reconcile with the reality of the existence of a form of beings that are thousands of years advanced in contrast to human developments.

Human knowledge and sense of perspective would require re-evaluation; people would have to regress to the conception of Rene Descartes’ philosophical theorems of human existence. Doubts would conquer the human belief system, and genealogy of human precepts and of scruples.

Sophomore Psychology major Sabrina Nicks said, “Should ET exist, my life would become richer because I’d feel that I am a part of vast cosmos mystery. It is an exciting and thrilling possibility.” Although it seems that the young generation has a secular attitude and openness toward ET existence, many conservatives feel trepidation and apprehension about such possibility.

Sophomore Education major John Jackson said, “ET existence and conspiracy do not faze me; I have a strong believe system in my faith and nothing would alter its foundation. I think it would for- tify my faith because it will indicate the enormity of God’s creation.”

Indeed, it is a matter of perspective and perception that will determine human relation to extraterrestrial beings and the future of humanity.

However, there is a dark force and sinister side that is associated with ET.

Governments investigate these phenomena to obtain knowledge that can enable a nation to conquer the world.

The Project Blue Book, one of a series of systematic studies of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) conducted by the United States Air Force, started in 1952 and ended in 1970. It has many references about high-tech sophisticated technology that can be tremendously empowering to any military utilization.

Should any nation achieve the duplication of behavior of flying saucers, their military paradigm will have the capacity to attack its adversary with absolute immunity; which could mean world domination.

Senior psychology major Tony Quilici said, “To envision the possibilities of acquiring technologies that are hundreds of years advanced of our times is a marvelous probability.”

There are no explicit previews of what life is going to be, if the confirmation of ET existence is verified. However, there are diverse perspectives on this matter that will create division of public opinion and generate different responses and reactions.

Professor sights UFO

Editor’s note: While conducting interviews for this story, the following narrative was related to the reporter by English Professor Loren Gruber:

“My son, my younger daughter, and I sighted a UFO over Minnesota’s Cass Lake at 1:30 a.m. around 1992,” Professor Loren Gruber said.

According to Gruber, “The silver disc appeared out of nowhere. I assumed it was either a search light or an aircraft. But it lacked the cone of a search light, it lacked the projection of an aircraft’s landing lights, and it lacked red, green and strobe lights of an aircraft.”

Gruber also said there was not a full moon, an explanation usually given for the sighting of ET craft. The moon had set below the eastern horizon, Gruber said. The disc moved slowly in the June night sky from west to east, and abruptly shot upward at a 45-degree angle, only to disappear.

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