MVC to host semifinal football game

The Vikings will host a semifinal game in the NAIA Football Championship Series against Marian (Ind.) University on Saturday, Dec. 1, at 1 p.m. at Gregg-Mitchell Field.

The MVC Viking Football team is currently undefeated with a 12-0 record and is number two in the country.

The team finished the regular season with a 10-0 record which was the second time that the Vikings have had an undefeated regular season under Head coach Paul Troth and first time since 2006. The Vikings captured their second straight HAAC championship.

Head coach Paul Troth and junior defensive back Tyler Davis were given individual honors for what their achievements during the regular season. Troth won HAAC Coach of the Year and Davis won the HAAC Defensive Player of the Year. In addition to the Coach of the Year award, Troth won his third conference title and second undefeated regular season. Troth has an 88-33 regular season record and is 6-4 in the postseason and 3-0 in the quarter final round.

The Vikings had 24 players receive HAAC honors for their play during the regular season.

Seven Vikings took home First Team All-Conference honors in nine categories. On the offensive side of the ball, seniors Chris Owens, Stephon Kelley, and Fabian Miramontes took home first team honors. Sophomore Ty Phillips, senior Mike Hall won Defensive first honors and senior LaQuentiin Black and junior Tyler Davis each won two awards on defense.

Freshman Seth Martin, and seniors Rob Barrington and Zavier Stewart achieved Second Team All-Conference on offense. Senior Tripp Thomas, juniors Leon Jackson and Andrew Huhman, and sophomore Michael Barnes earned second team on defense.

Third Team All-Conference for offense were senior LaNorris Dukes, junior Dave Stewart and sophomore Bruce Reyes. Seniors Phil Kraft and Danny Reyes were third team on defense. The honorable mentions on offense were freshman Delvon Franklin and sophomore Jason Mayden and the honorable mentions for defense were seniors Nick Pula and Demarcus Blackmon and junior Phillip Fowler.

(Information for this article was compiled from MVC Sports Information stories.)

The “Celebration of Christmas” Holiday Show, with song and dance, continues tonight, Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m. at Eckilson-Mabee Theatre.

The annual holiday show featured the MVC Concert Choir, the Valley Connection Show Choir, and the MVC Repertory Dance Ensemble.

The traditional songs include “Carol of the Bells,” “O Holy Night,” and others.

Featured singers throughout the concert include Natalie Cotto-Garcia, Theresa Callanan, Amy Charles-Huff, Kelley Cupp, Jasmine Duckworth, Kwaku Noamesi, Katie Arends, Sabrina Bartley, Devin Walker, Megan Weathers, and Sam Spurgin.

Photos: The concert features (left) the Valley Connection Show Choir and MVC Concert Choir; with (right) some members of the choir and violinist Devin Walker.
Considering a holiday meaning

Commentary
by Melinda Houttuin
Delta Writer

Thanksgiving leftovers are history. Black Friday has left its mark on another year. Visiting relatives have returned home, at least in most cases, and the celebratory emphasis that seems to be innate in us all has refocused.

Homes and businesses around town are beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

Considering lights and other preparations in neighborhoods, it appears that not even a deep recession holds the power to challenge holiday traditions.

That said, we have to wonder just what the most important part of the Christmas season may be.

Is it those brightly lit ornaments and displays? Is it sitting on Santa’s accommodating lap, and enjoying a hearty “ho, ho, ho”? Is it seeing a small child’s face beam in opening a special gift? Is it the worship services that recall how the holiday came to be?

What does Christmas mean to you?

Christmas can mean so many meanings to so many people. When I was little, Christmas was all about the magic of waking up to find a coveted gift under the tree that Santa sneaked into the house, ever so quietly.

But now, to me, Christmas is about being with family and sharing in quirky traditions and memories of Christmases past.

With the holiday quickly approaching, I wanted to know what Christmas means to others. In general most people said spending time with family and friends.

Junior Jessie Pratt said to her Christmas is a time to help those less fortunate than her. “I love helping with canned food drives and at food banks.” Christmas is a time of sharing and doing what Jesus may have done.

It seemed that the hearts of Missouri Valley students were all in the right spot.

Each answer was better than the last and showing that everyone took time to enjoy and give the gift of care around the holiday season.

But it was one answer that really summed up Christmas to me.

Senior Patrick McKinney said the true meaning of Christmas is “love.” Love is defined as an intense feeling of deep affection. And no matter what, Christmas will always possess that quality.

It seemed with one simple word that Christmas came back to life.

That all hope was restored to this holiday that I gave up on so long ago. About three years ago, my father died after his long hard fight with cancer, only two nights before Christmas.

No matter how strong a person may be, the loss of a family member that close to Christmas really takes its toll. It seemed as every ounce of joy or love that I once had for Christmas was gone.

As life progresses, sometimes we lose those family members that we spent even the most recent Christmas with. That feeling is the worst and you begin to question whether or not your Christmas will be one of joy and love.

You say to yourself that it couldn’t possibly be the same. Not being able to share laughs and exchange those embraces as you always have. Nor to see those smiles that once were on their faces. Nevertheless, it is and it will be.

Although it may hurt, and maybe it won’t be the same, when you begin to feel sadness and grief, somehow a sense of joy creeps up on you.

I like to believe it’s those exact same people whom we have lost creating a bit of joy in us, trying to make up for those cavities that are empty.

It’s said the soul lives on forever, in us and around us. And for that and so much more we will and must be strong and always tell ourselves that they are with us always.

We must still share the same joy we once did, and keep smiling for they are smiling down on us.

So to all who have lost family around this time of great cheer, my advice is that you stay strong and continue to spend this Christmas and many others to come the same way you always have. Full of cheer, happiness and above all, love.

Have a Merry Christmas.
Moments involve saving lives, delivering baby

Weekends for student can mean handling emergencies

Story by Jessica Crabtree
Delta Reporter

Most students relax, go home, or have a good time during weekends, but that is not the case for one MVC student. For her off-campus job, she is exposed to many stressful situations that other students would most likely never encounter. As an EMT, she already has a job that most would never be able to handle.

Nursing freshman Samantha G. Garvin has been an emergency medical technician (EMT) for almost a year. Garvin said she came to the decision of being an EMT because “I knew ever since I was a little girl that I wanted to become one.”

With the help of a friend, who later became her EMT instructor, she realized her dream and began working toward it.

Garvin took the EMT Basic class starting in January of 2011 and received her EMT license on January 6, 2012. The class consisted of 120 hours where about one-third of the class was devoted to theory, while the rest was mostly hands-on activities and procedures. After 120 hours of learning, students take a practical test for the state and then a national written exam before earning an actual EMT license. Anyone can take the class, but only students who are 18 with a high school diploma or GED are eligible for the license.

EMTs care for the injured in emergency medical settings, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. They respond to emergency calls, transport patients, and assess patients. An EMT is also able to drive the ambulance.

Garvin currently works mostly weekends and is usually on call for 48 hours at a time. She will check in at 8 a.m. at the base in Slater, then do a truck check to make sure everything is clean and in place. After eating breakfast, she and her colleagues play the “waiting game” until there is a call. There are usually one or two calls per day, but sometimes there can be four or five calls on the weekends.

She said her favorite part about being an EMT is “helping people.” She said when a person lives in a small town, they are going to see the patient again. “Seeing their faces, you can tell they are excited and happy that you helped them. They appreciate it, and it’s a really great feeling,” she said.

Garvin has already been part of several major experiences. One was when she helped one of her teachers who was in an accident. Another emergency involves her first cardiac arrest where the patient was not breathing and she was in charge of making sure his airway was clear.

One of the most memorable moments of being an EMT happened recently when Garvin helped deliver a baby. Even her instructor who has been a paramedic for 35 years has yet to experience a moment like that.

“Bringing a life into the world is a neat experience,” Garvin said.

So, the next time you are relaxing during the weekend, one of your fellow classmates might be saving a life or even bringing a new one into the world.
Student refines talents of art, wrestling

Story by Melinda Houttuin
Delta Reporter

Wrestling and art are two seemingly different worlds, one of aggression and the skill of using strength and leverage while the other is about the beauty and imagination of the mind.

How can two outwardly different passions come together? For 18-year-old Daniel Rivera, a freshman studio Art major and wrestler at Missouri Valley College, it is simple. “Poetry in motion,” said Daniel. It is using his passion of the rough and rugged to inspire his aesthetic work.

Rivera grew up in Houston, Texas, where he began his future as an artist with his first set of Crayola crayons and markers.

This passion began to grow along with his skill in wrestling. By high school, Rivera had received honor awards with his art.

“The simple things that I find beautiful are what I use in my art,” said Rivera. “I like to study classics, like the Greco-Roman Era, a period that focused on the beauty of wrestling and fighting. To me, wrestling is a beautiful thing.”

It was his opportunity to come to Missouri Valley College, thanks to the persuading of a good friend, Jake Ekster, a sophomore at Missouri Valley College, which allowed Riveral to further his education in art and his talent in wrestling.

“Jake and I have been friends since I was four. We have even wrestled together,” said Daniel. He told Rivera how great the program was and how Missouri Valley College has a lot of great programs to allow him to develop his art skills.

Gustave Dore, Raphael, M.C. Escher, and Pablo Picasso are just a few of Rivera’s favorite artists. “I enjoy fantasy, surrealism, and abstract pieces of art.” It’s the beauty of life and the combination of wrestling and practicing mixed martial arts that inspire him.

Concerning his future ambitions, Rivera said, “Wherever art takes me. I never know what opportunities might open up.”

Moving to new place tests coping skills

Story by Will Lee
Delta Reporter

Remember moving down the street to your college dorm? How about moving a few states over? What if you moved across the world to a new country?

For freshmen, this whole waking-up-doing-my-own-laundry-stuff is new.

Andrew Humphry, a Political Science freshman from Branson, said, “Passing my classes was my biggest fear and keeping up my GPA.”

Humphry said college is more relaxed than high school, including sometimes homework deadlines.

Brynton Johnson, a Biology and Conservation freshman, from the Bahamas, said, “Getting my crap back home or my visa getting revoked” is what he was most nervous about in moving to America.

He added, “Food is definitely different.” He said getting used to the way people talk also can be a challenge because “words and phrases we say back home don’t fly here and people might get offended.”

For Kayla Cross from Humansville, Mo., said, “This year is a lot like high school. I didn’t expect that, but I’m looking forward to change.”

Daniel Ayala, a Nursing major from Chicago who originally came from the country of Mexico, found that moving meant an interesting transition.

He said, after he moved to America and went into the sixth grade, “They were teaching subjects I had already learned back in Mexico.”
Differences for rodeo as sport include distance, costs

The Delta Reporter

The MVC Rodeo team is different in many ways from the other sports on campus. Their practices are different; they have their own dorm, they drive what some people think are ridiculously big trucks, and they are gone from the college a lot.

However, one feature that most people don’t realize is, unlike other teams, the rodeo team is completely responsible for providing a way to get the members and their horses to the rodeos as well as financing every rodeo they attend.

The rodeo team travels to 10 rodeos every year, five in the fall and five in the spring. The team travels to Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi.

Over the course of a year, the team travels more than 9,000 miles and spends more than 160 hours on the road.

Because the rodeos are so far away, it is not uncommon for team members to leave late Wednesday night for a rodeo. They drive through the night and arrive anytime between late morning to mid-afternoon the next day.

After spending three days at the rodeo, they will pack up again and leave late Saturday night, arriving back in Marshall early Sunday morning. This means for every rodeo, they miss two days of classes and only have Sunday evenings to get caught up on class assignment work.

Each member is responsible for paying their own way to and from the rodeos. The team is good at “carpooling.” Groups of four or five people, sometimes more, will get together to travel and split the costs of the fuel and motel rooms.

On average, a rodeo costs close to $100 for each person plus $100 for each horse that they bring. Some contestants will take as many as three horses to each rodeo. The cost varies depending on the distance of the rodeo.

Team members are also responsible for paying their entry fees for the rodeo. These fees start at $70 for the first event entered and then $45 for each additional event. It is not uncommon for a contestant to enter two or more events, meaning they could pay up to $160 just to enter the rodeo.

On the plus side, unlike other sports competitors, rodeo athletes compete for not only points individually but also cash prizes. Part of the entry fee goes into what is called the “jackpot.” The top four in each round is paid a percentage of that money. It is possible to win close to $1,000 at one rodeo alone.

Many who don’t rodeo question how exactly a rodeo works. First of all, there are nine events that rodeo competitors can compete in: barrel racing, breakaway roping, and goat tying are women-only events. Bull riding, bareback riding, bronc riding, calf roping, and steer wrestling are men-only events. The team roping is an event that either men or women can compete in.

At the rodeo, everyone who enters will get a chance to compete once. This is called the “long-go round.” There is no varsity or junior varsity in rodeo. As long as a team member is in good standing with the rodeo team and have entered properly, they are able to compete. After the long-go round, the top 10 contestants with the highest score or fastest times get to come back and compete again on Saturday night. This is called the “short-go round” or the championship round.

Prizes are given to the top four winners in each round and then the times are added together for what is called “the average.” Prize money is also given to the top three winners in the average.

Jami L. Cox, an Education senior, said she really enjoys the feeling of family that the rodeo team has for one another. “We live together, we travel together, we practice together, and we study together. We pretty much do everything together.”

She said that this is the reason that the team is so close and that, no matter what happens, she can depend on her teammates to help her. Cox competes in goat tying, breakaway roping, and barrel racing.
Dating

Expectations vary for students in college world

Story by Katherine Flores
Delta Reporter

A knight in shining armor, love at first sight, long-term marriages, and chivalry have evolved over the years to something more modern, simple, and fast. With time, comes evolution of traditions and everyday life. And one of those areas of change involves dating.

Meet a girl, court her, win her over, cherish her, and develop a relationship with her. With all of the advancements in technology and with how fast-paced life is, has it caused a change in the dating process? A typical date in college is a controversial statement because what is typical for one person is not typical for others.

MVC student Megan Blaylock, a sophomore Nursing student from Atwater, California, said, “I honestly don’t know, I don’t have dates.” In the time that Blaylock has been in college, she has never been taken on a date but rather has the typical incident of a guy approaching her at a party, exchanging numbers, and meeting up another night, and simply hanging out at each other’s houses.

MVC student Travis Smith, a sophomore majoring in Education from South Central, Missouri, said his idea of a typical college date is more traditional. He said he likes to take a woman out to lunch or dinner and then “maybe a movie after…and a kiss at the end of the evening is always nice.”

Dating styles have changed from the ideal qualifications of a knight, including courtesy, generosity, and valor, all the way to meeting a girl at a party, getting her number, and then texting to ask her out on a date. Technology today has a huge impact on dating and how men and women interact with each other.

In the early years of dating, everything was done in a face-to-face manner. Now when a man wants to communicate with a woman, all he has to do is text her. A phone call isn’t even a common gesture anymore.

Another Valley student responded to the “typical first date” question with an interesting remark. Bo Sanchez, a junior majoring in Education from Fresno, Calif., said, “I get her number first and text to get to know her and if I like her, then I’ll invite her over to hang out…I don’t really take girls on dates before we are in a relationship.”

From a knight in shining armor to a modern, simple, fast-paced way of dating, the evolution of dating is changing just as much and as fast as technology. Some say chivalry is dead but maybe chivalry is just different in form nowadays.

The Delta
FEATURE
Nov. 30, 2012

Story by Phillip Fowler
Delta Reporter

The standards for a first date from the views of both men and women are different yet both genders surprisingly agree to more than a few ideas about the first date.

A majority of students found it hard to imagine the perfect first date, so instead, they provided their opinions about: How to meet? What to do? Who should pay? And lastly, how should the night end and if a kiss is possible?

Several female students commented about their preference in being picked up. Education major Destinee Quinn said, “After thinking about it, I would rather meet my date somewhere. That way I can leave if he acts up.” Some women said that getting picked up would be OK if they knew the man; otherwise, if it’s a blind date, they’d preferred to drive.

The problem with men who were interviewed was they couldn’t decide whether or not they wanted to take their lady out to somewhere expensive or not. It’s not the issue of whether or not men want to impress their female counterparts; most guys do everything they can to satisfy women. The problem is that if a guy takes a girl out to a five-star restaurant on the first date, he sets the bar higher for the next date.

Besides the opinions about first dates from students at Missouri Valley, there were some perspectives on the Internet. Online at askmen.com, they questioned men on their ideas about where to go for a first date. According to the survey on the askmen website, most said to try new cuisine. They believed that trying new foods is a memorable experience and allows for two people to make a great connection.

There is no general agreement made between men about where to take a lady on the first date. MVC senior Ryan Lewis said he would take his date out to dance. Former MVC student Rod Thomas in California said he would take his date out to a boardwalk and beach. One individual even said he would take his date to the zoo. Going to a movie is another option. Students were asked whether or not the man was expected to pay for the night, generally speaking, men and women agreed that the gentleman should pay. MVC student Cameron Hope said that he would take the bill regardless if his date tried to pay for her meal or not.

Some students, like 22 year-old Exercise Science major Marisol Espinoza, said, “If he is the one that approaches me and asks me out on a date, you better believe he is going to be the one paying, or my back will be the last thing he sees of me.”

Student Destinee Quinn said she expects him to pay, but if he doesn’t, it wouldn’t be a deal breaker. Of all the guys asked, nearly all of them said that they would pay for the first date. Some women disagreed and said they would split the bill; they reasoned that sometimes paying the bill entitles men to having expectations for how the night is going to end.

The last manner addressed to interviewees was their opinion on how the night should end and whether or not a first kiss is appropriate. “To kiss or not to kiss,” is the question. When 19-year-old junior Allison Kushan was asked about her attitude on this subject, she said it was possible. Surprisingly enough, a number of women said that if they were impressed by their date, then there was a chance that a first kiss could happen.

Gary Taylor, a current Criminal Justice major and former MVC football player, said, “I would actually not want the girl to kiss up on me. If she does, I know she is a one-night type of chick and nowhere near girlfriend material.” In contrast to Gary’s views, other male students said they would cap the night off with a kiss on the cheek.

When it comes to call it a night, everyone who was interviewed said that they should walk the lady to the car (assuming they drove one who was interviewed said that they should walk the lady to the car; otherwise, men and women agreed that the man was expected to pay for the night, generally speaking, men and women agreed that the gentleman should pay. MVC student Cameron Hope said that he would take the bill regardless if his date tried to pay for her meal or not. Some students, like 22 year-old Exercise Science major Marisol Espinoza, said, “If he is the one that approaches me and asks me out on a date, you better believe he is going to be the one paying, or my back will be the last thing he sees of me.”

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Band keeps it jazzy

Joe Graham keeps the band on time with his drums. (Photo by Jake Coleman)

Below: As the MVC Jazz Band puts in some practice time, Kelsie Bayless and Jessica Riggins are in sync while they rehearse. (Photo by Jacob Coleman)

In the paper, on the website

With stories by the regular Delta staff, this edition also includes stories by students in the Basic News Reporting class. But with only eight pages, not all will fit here. So, look for more stories at the Delta website at www.mvcdelta.com.

NUMBER MAZE
A math puzzle by Velimir Stefanovic

Starting at the square, complete the path to the circle in 5 steps using the mathematical order of operations. (Each number is used only once to completion)

The answer to this puzzle will be published in the next Delta. The answer to the puzzle in the previous Delta is below.

(Velimir Stefanovic is an MVC student.)
Madcap confusion lends laughs for ‘Tenor’ comedy

The Delta
FEATURE
Nov. 30, 2012

Calendar

A Murrell Memorial Library book sale will be held Friday, Nov. 30, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The drawing for two life-sized cardboard stand-ups with images of President Barack Obama and Republican nominee Mitt Romney will be held at the Murrell I Library on Monday, Dec. 3. Costs are one ticket for $1 or 6 tickets for $5.

The last day of regular classes is Monday, Dec. 3. Final exams begin on Tuesday, Dec. 4.

The upcoming schedule for the Spring semester for the MVC performing arts includes an MVC Jazz Band concert on January 17, the musical Smokey Joe’s Cafe in mid February, and other future shows.

MVC Art Gallery

LeKyndra Duncan visits the Morris Gallery of Contemporary Art for the Sculpture to Wear exhibit by Marjorie Schick. The display runs through Dec. 7.

MVC Art Gallery

Madcap confusion lends laughs for ‘Tenor’ comedy

Story by Andrew Bridges
Delta Reporter

The entertaining chain reactions during the play “Lend me a Tenor” by Ken Ludwig was just some of the excitement in the Morris Experimental Theatre on November 16-18.

Though the MET was a great venue, “Lend me a Tenor” packed the house 15 minutes before the play even started, but with hard work from the crew, chairs were found and the audience was comfortably seated in time to watch the opening act.

The play is set in 1934 and is about a renowned tenor, Tito Merelli, known to his fans as “Il Stupendo,” who is scheduled to sing a lead in “Othello.” The opera is produced by a gala fundraiser for the opera company.

But a chain reaction is triggered with mistaken identity, farcical plot twists, double entendres, innuendoes, and continuous entrances and exits through numerous doors.

Directed by student Mason McCloud, the cast included McCloud, Bailey Yeater, Clayton Sullivan, Ramone Hall, Caren Coe, Taylor Castillo, Jessica Gagne, and Caitlyn Davidson.

The production team included Jesse Carpenter, stage manager; Natalie Cotto-Garcia, business manager; Samantha Hill, lighting designer/backstage crew; Tyrone Harris, house manager; Shirley Binkley, make-up/costume crew; and Connor Jenisch, backstage crew.

Taylor Castillo catches Bailey Yeater hiding in the closet during “Lend Me a Tenor.” (Photo by Andrew Bridges)

Caren Coe and Ramone Hall spit arguments at each other in this scene of “Lend Me a Tenor.” (Photo by Andrew Bridges)