What will you pledge?

By Addie Rose Davis
Express Staff

Each year in the U.S., we fill enough garbage trucks to stretch from Earth halfway to the moon. Every day we produce enough trash to equal the weight of the Empire State Building. We throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour, produce enough styrofoam cups annually to circle the earth 436 times and trash enough office paper to build a 12-foot wall from Los Angeles to New York City. These statistics are straight from MACC’s Go Green Initiative and are exactly the kinds of harsh realities that the committee set out to inform people of and fight against.

In 2008, after being inspired by Wal-Mart’s personal sustainability project, Gary Steffes, the vice-president of finances at MACC, called a meeting to begin talking about how MACC could take steps toward being a “greener” environment. Soon after that, the Go Green committee was formed. Matt Crist and Tarasa Gardner, instructors at MACC, are co-chairs of the committee.

“The committee wants to raise awareness of environmental issues,” said Crist.

The committee started by sending out e-mails to all of the faculty and staff asking for pledges. Soon after, they received e-mails from each member of the faculty and staff with one “I pledge to…” statement with one action that each individual intended to do to conserve energy, water, or paper. Later, the committee held an Earth Day recycling drive and, in 2010, made it possible for recycling bins to be distributed to each classroom and in the hallways of each campus. The committee also made reusable grocery bags available for purchase at the book store and developed a website to support the Go Green activities (http://maccgoesgreen.wetpaint.com).

The committee’s latest venture was adopting a section of highway 63 in MACC’s name. Each semester, a group of faculty/staff members carpool to the space and picks up the litter in and around it.

According to Crist, there is no student involvement in the committee at the moment. However, if there is any interest in helping with the highway cleanups, students may contact Crist or Gardner for information on the next scheduled cleanup.

Crist stated that the easiest ways to stay green are to recycle aluminum pop cans, purchase reusable water bottles instead of buying bottled water, recycle paper products at home and at work, replace your current thermostat with a programmable one, shut down computers and printers when you’re not using them, change at least one light bulb in your home to a compact fluorescent light bulb, reuse grocery bags when shopping, and wash clothes in cold water. What do you do to conserve energy?

By Jon Gilliam
Express Staff

Charlie Spoonhour, a long time coach at the college level, was charismatic, an unforgettable character to many.

Charlie Spoonhour was born on June 23, 1939 in Mulberry, Kansas and graduated from the University of the Ozarks with a degree in education. Growing up, Spoonhour had a love for the game of baseball and a dream of playing second base for the St. Louis Cardinals. Instead, he became one of the better basketball coaches on the college stage.

Continued Page 2
Making it easier for Hannibal students to donate

By Shelby Mahsman
Express Staff

Hannibal students and faculty demonstrated generosity when they donated nonperishable food items, as well as hygiene products to the Buddy Pack Program at the local middle school.

The Buddy Pack Program allows children who rely on school breakfast and lunch for nutrition to have meals during the weekend as well. Buddy Packs are backpacks filled with nutritious food that the students take home over the weekend or holiday break. When the children come back to school at the start of the week, they bring back the buddy packs to be refilled by volunteers. The Buddy Pack Program helped approximately 6,500 kids each week during the 2010-2011 school year. Volunteers hope to provide for more in the years to come.

The idea to run a food drive came about in a student advisory committee meeting. Students representatives and staff meet and share ideas for student activities.

Megan Tischer, MACC student and member of the student advisory committee, feels that “food drives are a great thing.” She believes students are a big majority of the population and could make a huge impact.

For the food drive, faculty, staff, and students of the Hannibal campus collected easy-to-prepare food items, along with soaps, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Donations began in late October, and the items were delivered to Hannibal Middle School in mid-December. Deliveries were made by Wendy Johnson, director of Hannibal campus, accompanied by Ashlie Miller, evening secretary, and were received by a grateful teacher, Whitney Holiday.

The students from the Hannibal campus found it convenient to donate. The college, where everyone assembles day after day, is a suitable collection site.

When the lives of students become hectic, sometimes they forget to think about others. “They get very busy with classes, work, and families,” Johnson said. “Students want to donate, and they enjoy it.”

The simplicity of having an item drop-off near the front desk proved to be effective. Roughly 100 items were collected and donated. It was as simple as dropping off an item as you walk through, and the rest was taken care of.

According to Johnson, “Items were brought in, and students knew they were going to a good place.”

Tischer shared her hopes for the future: “There is always room for improvement, and the students could always be more involved.” Future food drives will be held at the MACC Hannibal campus because donating is important, and every item received is appreciated.

Medical marijuana bill

By Justin McMahon
Express Staff

Missourians could possibly see the first major change in the state’s marijuana laws since 1938.

The Show-Me Cannabis Regulations, an association of organizations and individuals fighting to repeal the current prohibition of cannabis and hemp in Missouri, received official certification from the secretary of state’s office to start gathering signatures for a petition that would place a cannabis/hemp reform bill on the 2012 November ballot.

“Cannabis would be available for adults 21 years of age or older, and anyone who wishes to purchase it must show a valid ID,” Amber Langston, SMCR Campaign Director, said. “Medical cannabis patients under the age of 21 must have a doctor’s recommendation and parental/guardian consent to be able to possess cannabis.”

If the bill passes, the Department of Health and Senior Services would have until February of next year to draw up guidelines and must start accepting licensing applications by July 1, 2013.

According to Langston, “The first establishments could expect to be approved by September or October of 2013.”

While many local businesses and organizations around the state have shown support for the initiative, there has been some opposition from the Missouri Narcotics Officers Association. However, they declined to comment on the subject.

“Their first concern on record was the loss of funding for their departments to enforce this failed policy of marijuana prohibition,” Langston said.

Thus far, SMCR has over one thousand volunteers collecting signatures across the state. They have until May of 2012 to gather 150,000 signatures from six of the nine political districts.

More information about the initiative, and where to sign the petition in your area, can be found at www.show-mecannabis.com.

This article was written by a volunteer for SMCR.

Charlie Spoonhour continued from pg 1

Spoonhour’s time at Moberly Area Community College was brief. He was head coach from 1972-1974. During his first year at MACC, he went 26-9.

With the 1973-1974 squad led by Vernon Dixon and John Gordon, Spoonhour would see his mark left at MACC. The Greyhounds went 32-8, winning the region and finishing 3rd in the national tournament. During Spoonhour’s two-year stay at MACC, he compiled a total record of 58-17, a .733 win percentage. He was inducted into the Greyhound Hall of Fame in 1984.

Charlie Spoonhour returned to Moberly last year for the Booster Club golf tournament. More recently, he followed the Greyhounds because of its new head coach. His son, Jay Spoonhour, has been head coach for the Greyhounds since 2009. Spoonball, as it is known, has made its mark with a newer group of athletes.

Following his stay at Moberly, he was hired as the assistant coach at The University of Oklahoma taking star, John Gordon, with him. Spoonhour then accepted the position at another Junior College: Burlington Community College, a rival of MACC. His stay at Burlington lasted six years. He would make one more stop as an assistant at the University of Nebraska before heading to Southwest Missouri State (Missouri State University), where Spoonhour built his nationally known legacy. From 1983-1992, he compiled a record of 197-81, leading the Bears to the NCAA tournament five times and the NIT two times.

After coaching at Southwest Missouri State, Spoonhour was hired at Saint Louis University. By his second season, the Billikens were 23-6 and ended a 27-year NCAA tournament drought. Spoonhour was known for a plain-spoken wit and for using down-home expressions like “Hickory Nut Head” when criticizing a player.

After compiling a 122-90 record in seven seasons at SLU, he briefly retired.

He returned to coaching at UNLV. He went 54-31 in three seasons resigning with 10 games left to go in the 2003-2004 season because of health problems.
Smoking Cessation

By Addie Ross Davis
Express Staff

Three years ago the St. Charles County Health Department sent the Randolph County Health Department in Moberly an offer to train their employees to teach a smoking cessation class. For the first year, classes were held in Moberly at a cost of $15 a person. Later, the Missouri Foundation for Health offered the health department a grant making the classes free to the public.

These classes are still successfully being held in the Moberly area and are offered in six-week sessions. Two separate classes are currently offered. One meets on Tuesdays from 12 to 1 p.m. The second class meets on Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Both are held at the Randolph County Health Department.

Times vary depending on which 6-week session one signs up for. Days and locations vary as well. Students may have seen posters around MACC about the classes. This is because at one point the classes were being held at MACC!

These classes are led by different instructors, but the same basics are covered in every six-week session. The four Ds: Distract, Do something else, Delay, and Deep breathing, is the main motto expressed to the attendees, according to Karla Voss, Tuesday meeting instructor. Voss says that she used to be a social smoker and that Kim Buckman, the Thursday meeting instructor, used to be an addict. She claims that teaching the class to others has helped her to say “no.”

According to Voss, the Randolph County Health Department has held about a dozen 6-week classes over the past few years, and the class size usually ranges from 5 to 10 people. She states that most of the class time consists of conversations about a plan to quit smoking, ways to manage stress, and discussion of products meant to aid in the quitting process, such as gums and patches. The health department provides these aids for participants. Attendees make a $15 deposit and receive whatever product they think would work better for them. If an attendee continues to come to the classes, he or she will get that money back at the end.

Voss estimates that of those who complete the classes, about 75 percent of them stay smoke-free. However, Voss also states that only about one-third of people who sign up, actually complete the full 6 weeks.

Think you have what it takes to kick your habit? Contact the Randolph County Health Department to find out when the next six-week session is to find out if you do. It’s free and just one hour a week.

Interest rate to double on student loans

By Monique Cole
Express Staff

COLUMBIA, MO- If Congress doesn’t act this summer, interest on student loans will double from 3.4% to a whopping 6.8%.

In 2007, College Cost Reduction and Access Act, was passed by Congress to lower interest rates on the Stafford Loans that the government issues to students needing help with tuition costs. That act expires on July 1st this year, unless an agreement can be reached before that.

Laura Landis, a student at MACC, thinks that letting the reduction act expire is reckless.

“I don’t think the economy has gotten any better. This will cause a lot more people to be unable to pay back their loans,” Landis said.

Congressmen Bruce Braley (D-IA) and Joe Courtney (D-CT) have introduced a bill to Congress that will stop the interest rate increase.

“The bill will extend the 3.4 percent indefinitely,” Jeff Giertz, the Communication Director at Braley’s office, said.

Braley and Courtney have been trying to get the attention necessary for the bill, but to no avail.

“It’s being discussed, but no committee has taken it up yet,” Giertz said.

Due to the inaction of Congress, there is no current time frame for the passage of the bill.

The cost of college is on the minds of several people, including President Barack Obama. Obama stated in his State of the Union speech that, “Student debt has now surpassed credit card debt,” and later mentioned the rising of interest over the summer.

For those who live in the Columbia and Moberly areas, Blaine Luetkemeyer is the congressman representing this district. For any discussions about this interest rate hike he can be reached by phone at (573) 443-1041.

Spoons

He was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in 1994. Other honors include the U.S. Basketball Writers’ Coach of the Year in 1994 and ESPN/RCA National Coach of the Year in 1994. His son, Jay Spoonhour, who was an assistant took over as the interim head coach. In 2010, Spoonhour was diagnosed with Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, which required a transplant at Duke University Medical Center. He passed away on February 1, 2012. His survivors include his wife Vicki, two sons Stephen and Jay(current MACC head coach) and five grandchildren.
Karen Seward: Beginnings, endings, and bugs

By Mariah Maiden
Express Staff

Karen Seward, Language and Literature Instructor at the MACC Hannibal campus, has been leaving students with indelible memories for the last eight years. At the end of the 2012 spring semester, Seward will say goodbye to MACC and a 24-year teaching career.

MACC student Joni Johnson reflected on a public speaking class with Seward and chocolate covered bugs: “She encouraged me to talk about bugs in my speeches because I worked at Reliable Pest Solutions. For my last persuasion speech, I was convincing the students to eat a chocolate covered bug. Mrs. Seward started eating the bug and collected bugs from other classmates that did not want to eat theirs. She pulled me aside a couple semesters later and showed me that she still had a chocolate covered caterpillar for a rainy day.”

Hannibal MACC students have enjoyed her encouragement and her classes. Anna Banton, one such student, stated, “She did everything she could to help you in class. If you were short a minute on a speech, she did what she could to help you stay up there asking questions about your speech to help you make your time.”

Director of Hannibal MACC campus, Wendy Johnson, explained what she will miss the most about Seward: “I will miss her good sense of humor and her desire to assist every student in any way she can.”

Sara Sapp, mathematics instructor, has shared an office with Seward for the last five years. Sapp says she will miss “her chaos at her office space- just because it is her. It’s organized chaos, which is good. She knows where everything is, but it’s her own.”

In 1978, Seward earned her Bachelors degree in English from Truman University. After several years of teaching, she decided to continue her education and earned her Masters of Science in Education degree in 1999 from William Woods University.

Throughout her career, Seward has received some honorable awards. In 2003, she was bestowed the Prideful Adjunct award and in 2009, the Alfred and Hazel Parrish Award.

Seward has been teaching since 1987 and taught at Monroe City middle school for 10 years and at the high school in Monroe City for 7 years. She started teaching at MACC in 2002 as an adjunct instructor and moved to full time in 2003.

Of the many different age groups Seward has taught, middle school students are among her favorite to teach. She explained that middle school students “were the hardest, but I enjoyed them the most. It was, for some strange reason, more rewarding. You can make a difference anytime, but you can make the biggest difference, I feel, with middle school students.”

Seward admitted that the toughest part of her teaching career, by far, was teaching her own children. “I think teaching my own children was the hardest thing I had to do, especially when you send them to the office.”

It’s clear that Seward leaves her students and fellow staff with everlasting memories. Seward’s plans for retirement are to turn into a housewife and to clean her home. She hopes to return to MACC on a part-time basis, “if Wendy [Johnson] will have me,” she said laughing.

Seward’s words of wisdom to students who are following in her footsteps by choosing a career in the educational field are simple: “You will have no problems with discipline if you have a well-constructed lesson plan.”
Write On!

By Kyra Shipp
Express Staff

Would you like a chance to express your creative side?

MACC students have formed Write On, a new club for individuals interested in sharing and improving the creative side of their writing.

The group was collectively created by Cynthia Droege, the Learning Center coordinator who will also be an advisor for the club, and several of the Learning Center tutors, including Dustin McGary. He wanted more variety in the types of clubs offered to students.

“I am tired of MACC only offering the multicultural club and boosters,” McGary said.

Droege said they considered simply having a creative writing class; however, it was decided that sharing work and thoughts without a grade attached would be a better choice.

Being involved in the club will help students improve their basic writing skills as well as their creative sides, according to Droege. Students will receive constructive criticism from their peers, all in a safe, fun, and creative atmosphere.

McGary, who is an English major, said that being involved with clubs and activities looks good on resumes and transcripts when transferring to other colleges. Involvement with Write On should look especially good for other English majors.

The focus of the writing club will be poetry, short stories, and memoirs; however, if students have a section of a larger piece they would like to share, they may bring it. Sharing and discussing each other’s work will take place during each meeting.

Students will bring a prepared piece of work to every meeting. It is preferred that students refrain from bringing in another author’s work since the club is focused on developing and improving the individuals’ styles. After sharing a piece with the group, students may bring a revision of their work for a follow-up discussion.

Meetings are informal and relaxed rather than structured. “Everybody’s equal,” McGary said. However, a few of the Learning Center tutors will lead the club when necessary.

Meetings are held in the Learning Center on the Main campus Thursdays at 4 p.m.

As one of the Learning Center tutors who will be leading the club, McGary explained that as long as students can attend the meetings, any student from any of the MACC campuses may participate in Write On. However, students will have to attend as many meetings as possible because commitment is necessary. According to Droege, students who cannot make every meeting and miss one or two are still welcomed to participate.

Showing up to the meetings is the only requirement for students to be involved. Participation is free; however, students will need to provide their own materials. Students who want more information may email Cynthia Droege at cynthiad@macc.edu or stop by her office located in the Learning Center. Both Droege and McGary hope that the club will continue over the summer and fall semesters. McGary commented that they plan to keep Write On going “as long as we have enough members to support it.”

A head start

By Mariah Maiden
Express Staff

Head Start programs in Hannibal and surrounding areas are helping to make college more affordable for some MACC parents by offering an educational and safe environment for their children while they attend classes.

Head Start, which is run by Douglas Community Services, is for low income families working or going to school full time. Head Start programs are educational based. Douglas Community Services oversees Head Start programs in Bowling Green, Hannibal, La Grange, Louisiana, Macon, Moberly, Monroe City, Palmyra, New London and Shelbina. There is no cost for a child to attend unless hours are needed after 2:15 p.m. Head Start offers an extended day program for only $20 a week; however, parents are required to file for day care assistance with the local family services office.

Chesney Peuster, Professional Development Administrator for Douglas Community Services, stated that around 30 percent of parents in the Early Head Start and Head Start programs are attending school. Brittany Schneider, MACC nursing student, whose son Gage has attended Head Start programs for two years, spoke of Gage’s progress since beginning the program.

“The strides that my son has made since beginning the program have been impressive, to say the least. It is thrilling to see how quickly his language skills are developing.”

The Head Start program is an enjoyable experience for the children that attend. Schneider said, “Gage comes home excited about school and eager to demonstrate what he is learning there. Gage’s enthusiastic attitude towards going to school is a testament to the incredible program that we are so fortunate to be a part of.”

Stephanie Meyer, MACC student, has had her two boys in the program since they were eight weeks old and stated, “My two boys love to go to school. They make friends and have fun learning. My 4-year-old, Blake, absolutely adores his teachers and school time.”

Schneider explained how much the program has helped her. “The Head Start programs have been a huge blessing in my life. Because of the program, I am able to go back to school to pursue my Associates Degree in Nursing Science. I feel good about going back to college because I know that my son is in a nurturing and highly educational environment while I am attending my classes.”

According to Peuster, Head Start programs have yet another way to give to parents attending school; the program offers the PEAR scholarship. The $250 dollar scholarships are available to parents attending school or vocational training.

To learn whether you qualify for this educational program for your child, call your local Head Start office to set up an appointment. To find the nearest location, visit the informative web site at http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/hslc_grantee_directory.

Both Meyer and Schneider said that it is very important to them to find small ways to give back to the Head Start, whether it is helping out in the kitchen or spending time with their children by volunteering in the classroom. The program is always looking for volunteers. MACC students who may want to volunteer can call the central office at 1-800-530-5016 for more information.
Badge of Honor

Book Review: *Courageous* by Randy Alcorn

By Donna M. Monnig
Express Staff

Four deputies, four fathers, four Christians. For these four men, which duty is most important? Deputy Adam Mitchell and his friends usually put the job ahead of their families and their faith. After all, keeping criminals off the streets is important work. It’s not until tragedy strikes that they realize how important being a father and having their faith can be.

Each man realizes that to have honor behind the badge, honor must first begin at home. Each also realizes that being courageous isn’t just about facing down drug dealers with guns, but being able to face his own faults and fears.

The book *Courageous*, written by Randy Alcorn, is a novelization of the screenplay by Alex Kendrick and Stephen Kendrick.

While the story is good, the book, like its characters, has its faults. It can be hard to keep up with who’s who, and some of the scenes are jumpy, making it difficult to keep up with what is going on.

While religion and morals are welcomed in a story, *Courageous*, could be considered overbearing by some. Some women would consider the men in the book to be overly dominate with the constant insistence that they be the ones to lead the household.

All this is not to say that the book doesn’t have its good points. It shows strong family, friendship, and moral values; at the same time, it is inspirational and humorous. When Deputy Adam Mitchell and his partner Shane are on the road, Adam is talking with his wife on his cell phone:

*Adam felt the phone buzz and pulled it away to read the screen. “Hey, Victoria, the sheriff’s calling. I gotta go. Love you. Bye.”  Adam pushed the button to connect.  “Hello, sir. Yes. Headed right there.”

Shane pointed left to indicate the turn.

“Yes, sir. We did that. Thank you, sir. Love you. Bye.”

Shane gaped at him wide-eyed.

“Oh no, no!” Adam stared disbelievingly at his cell.

Shane snorted. “Did you just tell the sheriff you loved him?”

“I can’t believe I said that. Should I call him back?”

“You gonna tell him you don’t?”

All in all, *Courageous* is a good story. It deals with triumph and tragedy, honor and shame, friendship and betrayal, happiness and grief. *Courageous* is a view of life through the eyes of four deputies who try to make ends meet.

Other viewpoints in *Courageous* come from a young gang banger trying to find his place in the world, a Mexican man trying to support his family, and teenage children who don’t see eye to eye with their parents. Discover that no matter what your place in life, being courageous is hard.

The Greyhound Express is a student publication produced three times a semester at MACC, 101 College, Moberly, MO 65270. (660)263-4110. express@houndmail.macc.edu

**Editorial Policy:** All letters should be no longer than 150 words and must include identification as student or faculty and a phone number. Phone numbers will not be published. All letters are subject to editing for length. To place an advertisement: contact the faculty advisor, Ext 627, or the advertising manager to request rates, sample issue, etc.

**Express Staff**

**Lady Hounds defeat Iowa Western**

By Daylen Robinson  
*Express Staff*

The Lady Greyhounds, 6-5 in Region play, posted their most impressive win against Jefferson Community College in January.

The Lady Greyhounds started region play strong. For the first time since the 2004-05 season, the Lady Greyhounds swept Three Rivers Community College during the regular season.

After winning just seven games last season, this year has been a new story, and with a new coach, Chad Killinger. The women’s head coach led the Lady Greyhounds to a tie with Jefferson College as region play moved into February.

Since January and early February, the Lady Hounds posted wins against several tough opponents: Jefferson (66-60), North Arkansas (64-55), Three Rivers (70-56 and 67-51), Crowder (63-61), and Mineral Area (63-50).

Another impressive win was against the Lady Reivers of Iowa Western at Johns-Fitzsimmons Arena on February 4. Highlights of the Reivers-LadyHounds match was the shooting and passing game. Ashley Stevenson was also impressive at the free throw line. She was fouled after several offensive rebounds and shot a record-breaking 18 of 22 from the stripe. The Rievers' 13-2 run late in the game to catch up to the Lady Greyhounds was not enough.

Stevenson's most important shots from the line came late in the game. With only 16 seconds left, she made the first of two important free throws. After another Rievers' foul, Stevenson went 2 for 2 with 6 seconds left. The Lady Hounds won 65-58.

Everyone contributed to the victory over The Rievers. Ashley Stevenson led the Lady Greyhound scoring with 22 points. Adding to the score was Jessica Bygate, 10, Sanavien Holden 8, Shanice Jones 8, Shantoria Taylor 7, Kayla Washington 3, Morgan Vetter 3. Leading scorer for the Rievers was Taylor Turgeon who scored 14 points.

A few injuries and a few losses have plagued the team since mid-February. Region losses have been to Crowder, State Fair, Mineral Area, and Jefferson. With a 17-12 overall record and 6-5 in region, the Lady Greyhounds finished the regular season on February 29 in a battle against Iowa Western.

**Standing Tall**

By Donna M Monnig  
*Express Staff*

Jessica Bygate is a student-athlete on a mission. This New Zealand native has been playing basketball since she was 12 years old when she started filling in for a friend. From there, she attended basketball camps and competed in tournaments. Bygate said, “Basketball in New Zealand is seen as extra, something you do outside of academic related boundaries.” Jess had planned to attend a New Zealand University and play basketball in her spare time.

“Nothing had entered my mind at that stage that basketball could play a major role in my academic choices,” said Bygate. All that changed when the possibility for a scholarship to the United States opened. “My coach in New Zealand had a friend in Australia who was a big-time recruiter and had many contacts in the United States. He called some people and asked to pass on my statistics, game film, academic information and accomplishments,” Bygate explained. “It did not take long before I was receiving phone calls from all sorts of coaches all over the United States.”

The basketball superstar from Nelson, New Zealand decided on MACC. Coach Chad Killinger convinced her that MACC was the place for her. Bygate likes it here and says that her teammates are funny, and they all stick together.

Jess currently ranks third on the team in both scoring and rebounds averaging 10.6 points and 5.6 rebounds per game. Her basketball career will continue after she leaves MACC. Jess is excited as she recently gave her verbal commitment to attend Southeast Missouri State next season.

Something that surprised Bygate about Missourians is how little they travel. She can’t believe how few people have seen the ocean, which she says is only a short drive from almost anywhere in New Zealand.

Bygate is also strategic off the floor. Susan Burden, Bygate’s academic advisor, has worked with her throughout the year. According to Burden, “Bygate has an outstanding academic record. She understands the importance of her coursework and is a consistently positive role model to her teammates.”

Bygate’s goals are not a secret. This girl on a mission hopes to play for the New Zealand Women’s National Basketball team, the Tall Ferns. She did not let a little thing like the ocean or relocating to a different continent stand in her way. Who knows how far she will go; for Jessica Bygate, the world is an open court.
Greyhounds clinched the Region XVI title after winning the game.

February 25. In the double overtime victory, the final score was 89-88. The game. Jon Gilliam added 6, TJ White 9, Derrick Dilworth 6, Davonne Henry 21 points, 4 assists, and 3 steals Kenny Williams made a big impact in the region play. The Grizzles were 4-0 in the region and had an 18-5 overall record.

Making that many shots, they just weren't in sync like they have been lately. Anything going the entire game, with the many turnovers they had and not Greyhound defense forced more than 25 turnovers. The Grizzles couldn't get points by half time. It was clear that defense was their main focus in this game.

Strong with a hounding man to man defense that allowed the Grizzles only 14 points in region play. The Greyhounds met the West Plains Grizzlies twice in region play. The Greyhounds started off strong against last year's Region champions, the West Plains Grizzlies.

In the 1st meeting at home against the Grizzlies, the Greyhounds started strong with a hounding man to man defense that allowed the Grizzlies only 14 points by halftime. It was clear that defense was their main focus in this game. Greyhound defense forced more than 25 turnovers. The Grizzlies couldn't get anything going the entire game, with the many turnovers they had and not making that many shots, they just weren't in sync like they have been lately.

The Greyhounds entered the night with a 14-7 overall record, and 2-1 in region play. The Grizzlies were 4-0 in the region and had an 18-5 overall record. With 21 points, 4 assists, and 3 steals Kenny Williams made a big impact in the game. Jon Gilliam added 6, TJ White 9, Derrick Dilworth 6, Davonne Henry 8, and Daylen Robinson with 7.

The Hounds faced the Grizzlies for the second time at West Plains on February 25. In the double overtime victory, the final score was 89-88. The Greyhounds clinched the Region XVI title after winning the game.

Daylen Robinson finishes as a Greyhound

Scoring 57 points in a single game was basketball player Daylen Robinson’s most memorable game experience before coming to MACC, but playing for the Greyhounds has given him other opportunities in both academics and basketball.

Growing up in Kansas City, Robinson’s passion for basketball began when he was in ninth grade. “I used to box, but I kept messing up my hands,” Robinson explained.

“My uncle told me I should play basketball because I was fast. So, I just started playing.”

From there, Robinson developed a love for the sport by playing and watching his uncle and brothers play basketball, all the while knowing he could take it to the next level.

During Robinson’s senior year of high school, MACC Greyhounds Coach Jay Spoonhour scouted Robinson and offered him a scholarship. Robinson explained that he decided to come to MACC not just because of basketball but because he heard it was one of the best schools in both academics and basketball.

Robinson currently plays the point guard position on the team. His primary job on the court is to “be the coach on the floor, pass, and give people shots,” he explained. One thing that Robinson likes best about playing for the Greyhounds is the rivalry games. According to Robinson, playing in a rivalry game is fun because it is quite intense.

“When you get to play, there’s a lot of passion, and I really like that.”

Robinson also stated that the Greyhounds have good players, teamwork, and a good coach. Each person involved with the team works hard, so it is little wonder that the rivalry games are exciting for both the Greyhound players and fans.

Jon Gilliam, a Greyhound teammate, says Robinson is a strong player because “his ability to see the court helps out the team because he is able to find open guys.” It should not be a surprise then, that Gilliam described Robinson as “a very good team player” because, while Robinson also gets points for himself, Gilliam said he also gives a lot of assistance to the other players by opening shots for them.

Basketball has benefitted Robinson as a person.

“It has helped me on and off the court by giving me a good education; it helped me be independent and be accountable for my own mistakes.”

For Robinson it has always been school first and basketball second. To him, being able to play on the team is a privilege. However, Robinson remains an exceptional talent on the team.

Along with playing basketball at MACC, Robinson is pursuing a degree in business and financing.

“I want to graduate from college and get a degree,” he explains. “If basketball doesn’t work, then I’ve got the degree.”

Nonetheless, Robinson hopes to make a career of basketball, but he knows that there will come a day when he will no longer be able to play, so he feels it is important to be prepared.

This is Robinson’s last year at MACC. He will be transferring to the University of Texas Tech the fall 2012, for which he is quite excited. Robinson will be playing basketball at the university, but he intends to continue with his business and financing degree, hoping to at least get his Bachelor’s degree.

Wherever basketball may take him, one thing will always remain important to Robinson. Coming from a somewhat large family, he hopes to do “whatever I can to take care of my family.” Whether that opportunity is provided through basketball or another career, only time will tell.