Special night for Hounds fans

By Josh Garner
Express Staff

Autograph night for the Greyhounds brings enjoyment and activities. The players are usually as excited as the fans. For the 2010-2011 season, autograph night was February 5. That night the Hounds played MSU-West Plains. The Greyhounds had held their ground and put up a fight against the No. 1 nationally-ranked Grizzlies team earlier in the evening in an exciting and close match until the end but lost the battle 78-68. Although the end result was not what the Greyhounds were looking for, they had a chance to redeem themselves and gain back confidence.

The players returned to the court after the game to sign autographs for the kids and other fans. Current player, Denny McDonald, one player on hand to sign autographs, was very excited to do so. McDonald said that he probably signed 50 autographs that night.

McDonald said, “The fans usually wait for special events for autographs. A couple of kids occasionally ask for an autograph after the game.”

McDonald, a freshman at MACC, has been playing basketball since he was in the eighth grade. He would like to make a career of it if possible but has a fallback. His other interest is broadcasting. McDonald likes to see the kids’ faces when he signs a shirt or autographs a team photo. He likes that fans want his autograph. It lets him know that he is looked up to and admired. On autograph night, McDonald signed t-shirts, season calendars, and team photos. According to one 8-year-old fan, “I like getting autographs because they may become NBA players or super stars someday.” His favorite Greyhound players this year are Denny McDonald and Derrick Dilworth.

Other than autograph night at Johns-Fitzsimmons arena, the team has had one other event to sign autographs for the fans. Earlier this year, the team visited South Park Elementary and signed autographs for the kindergarteners.

When asked if it was hard to come out and sign autographs after a tough loss, McDonald said, “At first it was tough, but it definitely lifted my spirits seeing the excitement on the kids’ faces.”

Autograph night has become an annual event for the Greyhounds. Spoonhour’s teams have also showed their appreciation for their fans by going up into the stands and shaking hands with fans after every home game.
The Storm Drain Stenciling Project

By Vince Smith
Express Staff

The Watershed Protection Program is a group of concerned volunteers willing to take action in preserving the surrounding wildlife from polluted wastewater carried out of town by runoff. Runoff is when rain falls faster than the ground can absorb, and it begins running downhill. Runoff is usually channeled out of a city by curbing, storm drains, culverts, and ditches.

A watershed is any area of land that drains to a particular body of water through creeks, streams, runoff, etc. Moberly uses four different watershed areas to drain away excess rainfall. The pollutants that are washed off our roads or poured into our ditches and creeks affect various wildlife in our surrounding environment.

Sponsored by the city of Moberly and the Alpha Tau Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at MACC, the Watershed Protection Program’s main goal is to raise public awareness of how interconnected the city of Moberly’s storm drain system is with the local lakes, creeks, and streams. Volunteers for the Storm Drain Stenciling Project go out on a Saturday or Sunday in old clothes and paint the storm drains.

“It’s not work, it’s not hard at all, just paint,” said Gerri Blakey, the water quality coordinator for the city of Moberly. Blakey and Phi Theta Kappa encourage others to volunteer.

“Phi Theta Kappa members have been our only volunteers since the beginning of the project,” said Blakey. “They are vital in raising the awareness in our community of the watershed problem.”

Many steps can be taken to protect our watersheds and create a better life for wildlife. Various household chemicals we use are toxic and have non-toxic or less toxic alternative brands.

Chemicals need to be disposed of properly; don’t pour them down the drain or pour them at the back of the yard.

If throwing these useful materials away isn’t for you, donate them to the Household Hazardous Waste Program where various chemicals will be stored safely and reused. The drop off is located at the Moberly Public Works facility on 2305 North Morley St. For more information on hours of operation, what is accepted, or the charge for disposing of tires, call (660) 269-9450 or visit Moberly’s official website moberlymo.org.

Another way to help preserve our watersheds from polluted runoff wastewater comes from your very own landscaping. Low use watering systems, preserving and planting trees, and cleaning out storm drains and gutters are all good practices. These methods help retain moisture so that less water is necessary to maintain a healthy lawn.

Organized community action is the biggest effort we can make as citizens of an ongoing problem in our water system. According to Moberly’s official website, a public meeting is being planned to form a budget for the project. As citizens, we can promote and communicate with local representatives to encourage them to promote water protection and get other community groups involved.

Together everyone can make a difference by supporting and securing the future of our surrounding wildlife, starting with water preservation. If you would like to help with the Storm Drain Stenciling Project, email Gerri Blakey at gblakey@cityofmoberly.com.

Student government in icy waters

By Danilee Canaday
Express Staff

The student body selected its president, vice president, and representatives for student government while eating, relaxing, and enjoying the rock wall at the 2010 Fall Picnic. Student government at MACC has been described as inactive, unknown, or otherwise nonexistent by some students. President Thaddeus Sherwood hopes to change that.

“I’m kind of hoping to innovate a little bit and try to get student government reinvigorated because they haven’t been as active as they have in the past,” Sherwood stated.

Sherwood kicked off the spring semester with an activity called Polar Bear Plunge. Polar Bear Plunge is a fundraiser for Special Olympics that originated at Lake Michigan in the early 1900’s as swimming in January. Since then, plunges have been held across the United States and in Canada annually to raise money for charitable organizations.

This year’s participants paid a registration donation of $50 each to jump into a freezing cold Stephens Lake on February 19 in Columbia. Participants go in groups or individually and dress according to a theme.

HoundPound is the name MACC’s student government selected for the ritual this year. Sherwood and MACC student, Austin Loethen, jumped into Stephens Lake at 2:30 p.m.

“The money that we will donate will be pretty substantial. But we are not really raising money for us in this aspect. It’s solely for Special Olympics,” Sherwood said.

According to the Special Olympics organization, the Polar Bear Plunge in Columbia raised $65,870 after 402 people ran into the freezing water.

After the fall ice cream social where students told Sherwood and the rest of his council that they didn’t even know MACC had a student government, Sherwood hit the ground running this spring semester to get student government revamped.
MACC digs out

Students dug themselves out of one of the worst snowstorms in the last quarter century and found it tough to get back into their regular schedule. Since then, students have questioned whether classes will have to be made up.

Michelle McCall, dean of off campus, released a statement to students that “Some evening classes may have to meet an additional session, but the classes will not meet beyond finals week. Your instructors will let you know in each class.”

MACC student Matt Spicknall said of the recent snowstorm, “The hardest thing about having all the snow days is actually getting back into the swing of school again. Everyone was real excited about being snowed in, but the week after, everyone was sick of the sight of snow.”

The snow has created problems for snow crews as well. Columbia and Moberly had an astonishing, record-breaking snowfall of over 20 inches. MACC Director of Security, Lori Perry, has been with MACC for 11 years and has never seen a storm tear through Moberly quite this badly.

“I live close by, which can be good and bad, so getting to campus and back home wasn’t a problem. On the days MACC actually closed down, my security staff didn’t work. The snow was just too deep for them to get on the campus lots. If there had been an emergency, I would have gotten here somehow,” Perry said.

One of Perry’s many responsibilities is to monitor the weather maps and keep the dean of student services informed.

“One of the decision is made to cancel classes/close MACC, I am the one that sends out the Hound Alerts (e2campus), and I also make calls to the local radio stations,” Perry said. If MACC decides to hold classes, it is also Perry’s job, along with the daytime security officer, to get out on the lots to make sure everyone can see the parking spaces.

“We put out cones and barricades marking where the parking lines are located,” Perry said.

According to KOMU.com, Columbia/Boone County Office of Emergency Management estimated the cost of snow removal, supplies, and personnel damage to be 1.7 million.

“One thing that I noticed after the streets were cleared, that there were a TON of pot holes everywhere in Columbia, said MACC student Matt Spicknall.

For the first time in history, the state of Missouri shut down highway 70 from St. Louis to Kansas City.

Although students at Moberly Area Community College and other local colleges and universities had a great little extension to winter break, it was a tough act to get back in the swing of things.

Movies and studying don’t mix!

Or do they?

A class offered at MACC-Hannibal is History On-Screen II.

According to Wendy Johnson, director of the MACC-Hannibal site:

“We’d been looking for another humanities class, and Mr. Aebel was excited to step up.”

Mr. Ian Aebel covers the portrayal of American history and culture in the movies from the Great Depression to recent history and future visions of America and the world.

This three credit-hour class begins like every other history class. The instructor lectures and leads discussion of past events. However, class takes a dramatic turn as the students sit back and begin analyzing a movie that represents the topic of that day.

The class is only one day a week; this semester’s class meets Tuesdays from 3:00 to 5:55 p.m. Students receive a small packet from Mr. Aebel each week that is associated with the next class period’s topic that the students use to take notes on for their specified readings.

During the following class, the students take out their packets when it is time to watch the movies.

Each class period includes a full-length movie associated with the topic and several “secondary” videos, clips from movies that also relate to the topic.

During the prohibition era week, the students read several passages from their three books that gave the history of how the Italian gangsters and mobs were really just fantasized by Italian immigrants.

During the class, Mr. Aebel showed five secondary films: Little Caesar (1931), Bonnie and Clyde (1967), The Untouchables (1987), Road to Perdition (2002), and Public Enemies (2009). Students discussed and took notes on how each film portrayed Italian gangsters. After all the secondary topics were discussed, it was time for the grand finale. For the prohibition and Italian gangsters theme, students watched Scarface: The Shame of the Nation (1932).

Though this class sounds trouble-free, students should take note that there are prerequisites: American History to 1865, Part I or II of American Survey, or Functions and Policies of American Government.

Mr. Aebel also believes that to succeed in his class, each student should put in at least three to five hours of studying each week. When asked about their view on the level of difficulty of the class so far, Chris Hays and Billy Inman, two students taking the History On-Screen class, both replied with a sheer “Challenging!”

Students who are up for the thrills of history in films should speak to an advisor about signing up for the class. Once there, pull out a pencil, paper and some popcorn, and be prepared for a learning experience like never before.
The first exhibit of the spring 2011 semester opened at the MACC Art Gallery in January. The exhibit, known as “Digital Elements,” included work from artists Russell Shoemaker and Steven Silberg. The exhibit, scheduled to open January 20 was delayed because of the record-breaking snow storm. The exhibit did open on January 27 and closed February 18.

One of the artists, Steven H. Silberg, is a new media artist who has seven years of experience. Silberg has his bachelor’s and master’s in new media art. He uses video art and computer art for his creations. The tools that Silberg uses for his art include Max and MSP. For his photography, Silberg uses a Nikon camera and a webcam.

Silberg enters a lot of his art into exhibits when he has the time. His art has been in shows around the globe.

Russell Shoemaker, whose works were also included in the exhibit, currently resides in Odessa Missouri. According to MACC’s website, Shoemaker has had his art in such galleries as the Slingluff Gallery in Philadelphia Pa., The Late Show Gallery in Kansas, Mo., and the Lawrence and Kristina Dodge Building in Kansas, Mo.

Unlike most ideas of art, Digital Elements is created electronically, using pixel lapse photography. Works are created one pixel at a time, which allows each part of the image to show different captured moments.

Another method used to create this form of art is called reductive video,” in which video frames are analyzed with the previous. Video frames are reduced to only advancing pixels. In the end, video prints are compilations of the pixels.

Using these methods, the artists have created a new and somewhat unknown form of art. Students and community can experience it and other shows at the MACC Art Gallery.

A group for the overachieving student

For those hard-working students who want something a little more than a high GPA to put on college applications, joining Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), if invited, is a good route to go.

PTK started at Stephens College in 1918 and is an international society with over 100,000 members. MACC members attend college sites in Hannibal, Kirksville, Mexico, Columbia, and Moberly. Students who earn a 3.5 GPA and have 12 college credit hours are sent an invitation to join.

“PTK is a good group to join for scholarship opportunities, and it is also a great activity to add on job resumes and applications,” said Ann Parks, advisor for PTK in Moberly.

PTK strives to have many different fundraisers each semester to raise money for the not many events scheduled for the year, the advisors and productive PTK.

“We try to have the 5K run-walk every spring. This event is a college project that brings students together from all campuses.”

“We try to have the 5K run-walk every spring. This event is a college project that brings students together from all campuses. While have yet been spring semester in hope for a fun group. While have yet been spring semester in have the 5K spring. This college project that brings students together from all campuses to raise money for the school and other service projects. We are also planning a blood drive for April," said Don Tennill, advisor for the PTK Columbia site.

Amanda Myers, PTK member, said, "The peanut butter drive in the spring last year was a fun event." While she has not yet used her entrance into PTK on a job application, Amanda says she will definitely add it to her college applications.

While PTK is a group that looks great on paper as the student being involved in an honor society, the events that help raise money are fun too. For the hard-working student, PTK is a prestigious, but fun group to join.
Making connections

By Josh Garner
Express Staff

Helen Gilliland enjoys working with students. “It is really cool to help students learn, shape their careers, and help them achieve their goals.”

Gilliland also finds what she learns from her students fascinating.

Helen Gilliland, a part time instructor at Moberly Area Community College, enjoys connecting with students. One of her students who takes classes online is currently outside the United States.

The student, a 19-year-old American expatriate, currently resides in the Jiangsu province of China. He is taking one of Gilliland’s online classes.

“MACC can be reached around the world,” says Gilliland. That is one thing that really stands out to her, and she wants everyone to realize.

Gilliland, who is quite experienced with how things work at MACC, has taught for 10 years. She started at MACC before a campus existed in available in Hannibal. Computers and business are her classes of choice to teach.

Her traveling students, she said, adds an additional element to teaching education online. Teaching students outside the U.S. is the same as teaching other students. Her student in China has good English and is well spoken. He understands assignments with no troubles at all. Gilliland claims she wouldn’t change anything with having students from out of the country. She has previously worked for an international sales force and found it very interesting to work with many different people. Gilliland would like to see more students from out of the country coming to MACC to further their education.

Communicating isn’t as hard as you would think. The students she has had from out of the U.S. so far have spoken fluent English. That allows emails to be relatively easy. Gilliland also has a virtual office which is a good way for the students to interact with each other and correspond with her as well.

“There is nothing to dislike,” states Gilliland.

She likes that she has traveling students in her classes that she is able to educate. She learns from her students as well. It is easy for students to enroll in the variety of online classes. For a relatively low cost, students can continue their education while working a full time job, traveling, or even moving to a new state or a new country.

Gilliland loves when students come back and let her know what they are doing and what classes they are taking. One of her former online students now assists her in teaching a computer class at the Hannibal Career and Technical Center.

Gilliland encourages students who aspire to get a higher education to take MACC online into consideration. Individuals from across town, from China, from anywhere in between can be connected with the online classes.

A simpler way to read books

By Samantha Preston
Express Staff-KV

Are you tired of paying money to your library for overdue fines? Try this new electronic site that allows you to download and read books for free. All you have to have is a valid up to date library card from the Adair County Public Library (ACPL).

According to Kara Drury, Administrative Assistant at ACPL, since October of 2010 this trend is growing bigger. “As of right now our number of libraries is at ten, but it is steadily growing, there will be several more libraries added to the consortium in February of 2011.”

When more libraries added, more titles will be available for downloading. Statistics show that from ACPL’s patrons alone, a total of 260 checkouts have been currently downloaded from the site. Currently 11 more libraries are said to be added in February.

You can download audio books and e-books to I-pods, kindles, nooks, story-readers, smart phones, and story readers.

When asked about the future of the libraries themselves, Drury said “I don’t think this website will shut down libraries in the next five years, because there’s still not much available and there’s something special about picking up a book and reading it from page to page; it depends on the person and their interests.”

If this website interests you, there are two parts to it; you have to download both parts of the website. The audio part and the e-book part are separate, so you’d get two for one.

This website has restrictions that are not like the ACPL. As a patron of the website, you can only download five books at a time. You can put a hold on a book, and once there are five holds on it, the company buys another copy to add to the collection. Just like the ACPL orders multiple copies of popular books. If you absolutely have to have a book right now, you can make a wish list for the next downloadable book and get it quicker that way.

One convenient feature about this website is that the books expire automatically after two weeks. You don’t have to worry about checking them in at all.

The one bad thing is there are no scholarly books available. So students, if you are looking for a way to score a free textbook, this website doesn’t have access to textbooks.

There is also another way to download books if you don’t have a current library card at ACPL. It’s a project called “Project Gutenberg.” You get to download books for free and you don’t need a card at all.

“The cost to run this site is correlative to the size of the library and its current city’s population. If you were in Kansas City or Los Angeles, the cost in KC would be considerably smaller than LA. The costs for the libraries currently in the trend are even in numbers across the board for towns similar to Kirksville or Macon,” said Drury.

The e-books are simple to use and very easy to figure out. The service is an online library for students to use with easy access to computers or their own laptops.
MACC Students perform in all-collegiate choir

By Zach Kroening
Express Staff

Students Leighanna Bonnet, Josh Thorp, April Day and Josh Admire represented MACC at the Missouri All-State Collegiate Choir. The choir showcases the best talent across Missouri. The competition to be selected for this choir is sponsored by the Missouri Music Educators Association (MMEA). The event is held every four years at Tan-tar-a Resort in Osage Beach.

“They are definitely on par with any student from a four-year college choir,” said MACC choir director of 17 years, Karen Werner.

“This year the competition was tough, especially between the tenors. The talent of the MACC Singers was the best we’ve probably have ever had,” Werner said.

Karen Werner selected four students from MACC Singers; each auditioning student tried out in front of a panel of three judges and had to know his or her individual part of a choral section titled, “O Magnum Mysterium,” a very complicated piece.

“I was nervous because I didn’t feel as ready as I would have liked to, but I hit all my notes, so we’ll see,” said first-year attendee, Josh Admire.

Students arrived early for a three-day rehearsal period. Between rehearsals, students viewed different exhibits.

“Although there will be many music companies and other businesses there, all the music departments from colleges in Missouri and several from other states will be there. These students will have the opportunity to visit these music schools to help them make a decision of what college to attend after MACC,” said Werner, 4th year representing MACC at the concert.

“After visiting with a college rep, it helped me broaden my views on musical capabilities and inspired me to become a better singer,” Josh Admire explained.

Karen Werner stated, “I am also excited that Lindsey Fitzpatrick, a former MACC student whom I had several years ago, will be in the honor’s choir as well. She is now a student at College of the Ozarks studying under a fantastic choral director, Linda Jesse.”

Fitzpatrick will graduate this spring and hopes to be teaching music next fall.

After three days of tough rehearsal, The Missouri All-State Collegiate Choir was ready to perform for families, friends, and college music departments from all across Missouri.

MACC Abroad

By Sarah Smith
Express Staff

Students at MACC have many opportunities for out of this world experiences, or, at least, out of this country. Study abroad opportunities available for students include study abroad tours and the semester abroad program.

Students benefit from study abroad programs at MACC. Students can earn college credit. These opportunities also allow students to experience personal growth and expand their knowledge of different cultures.

“Students could become more knowledgeable on other cultures and other countries,” says Professor Steven Voss, a faculty leader with the study abroad tours.

Study abroad tours are usually during the summer and last several days. One upcoming tour, set for May 17-28, will take students to London, Paris, Florence, and Rome. Students who participate in this tour can earn credit for Cross Cultural Psychology. The tour is required for this class. Students pay fees and the cost for the class. Students must also possess a valid passport in order to take this or other trips through MACC.

Another opportunity for students to study outside the country is the semester abroad program. In order to participate, students must possess valid documentation, 15 completed credit hours, and a 3.0 GPA. Students need to have passed Composition I with at least a B. Students are also selected based on their student profiles, a short essay, personal character recommendation, academic recommendation, and interviews. Fees include paying for the program in Canterbury, airfare, tuition, health insurance, and personal spending money. The students who are selected usually leave at the beginning of September and stay until mid-December.

According to information in MACC’s Semester Abroad program highlights packet, students who participate in the semester abroad program study at Canterbury Christ Church University College, an accredited British College in Canterbury, England. There, students have the chance to expand their cultural knowledge since the college caters to students from over 50 different countries. Students are enrolled for at least 12 credit hours and will participate in excursions, which are important to this educational process.

Students who participate in the semester abroad program live with a British family in Canterbury and stay in contact with the instructor who accompanies the group.

“All those new experiences a student is exposed to are good for them because they get to experience another country,” says MACC Vice President for Instruction, Dr. Jeff Lashley.

Aside from earning college credit by participating in study abroad programs, they can also experience personal growth.

“Study abroad gives faculty members the ability to immerse themselves in another culture,” says Dr. Lashley. The faculty members are also able to witness the growth of each student.

“The thing that I gain the most is being able to see the ‘aha’ learning moment on the students’ faces,” says Professor Voss.

Joshua Thorpe, April Day, Dr. Richard Sparks (Chair of Conducting and Ensembles of University of North Texas), Leighanna Bonnett, and Joshua Admire attended the Missouri All-State Collegiate choir event at the Lake of the Ozarks in January.
Using your spring break wisely

By Sarah Smith
Express Staff

From March 28 to April 2, MACC students will be released for Spring Break. Being free from all classes, what will students do with their free time?

Many students plan to go on vacation with family and friends. According to studentcity.com, top destinations for Spring Break 2011 include Cancun, Punta Cana, and Panama City. Vacationing during Spring break is a good way for students to catch up on some much needed fun and rest, as well as experiencing new and exciting places.

There are, however, a few risks involved in traveling, especially for students. Safety should be in the forefront of your mind as you prepare for fun in the sun. Using sites like chiff.com or www.state.gov can be especially useful if you’re not sure what safety guidelines to follow in your travels. Basic guidelines include baggage safety and vehicle inspections. Most importantly, make sure trusted friends and family know where you are and the route you plan to take. Stay in contact, and you are sure to have a safe and enjoyable vacation.

For many students, Spring Break is a good time to allow themselves to rest from all of the hard work they have been doing and catch up on some sleep. In a survey conducted at the Hannibal site, a majority of students who took the survey said that they plan to rest during their free time. Sleep is vital to the functions of the body, including temperature control and brain activity. In animal studies, a lack of sleep has shown to shorten the lifespan of rats from two to three years to approximately three weeks (emedicinehealth.com). Imagine what that amount could equal in the life of a human! Catching up on sleep could be a very useful way to spend Spring Break because it can improve your overall mental and physical well-being.

One option that many of the students didn’t think of was community service. There are many fun and interesting ways for students to help the community while on their Spring Break. One easy way is to donate. Most of us have a lot of old clothes and other items that are no longer in use. A great way to clear some space is to donate those things to stores like Goodwill, which help employ so many people.

During Spring Break, students also have many opportunities to give their time by volunteering. Opportunities can be found by contacting international, local, and religious organizations. Many students choose to go on mission trips.

“That would be pretty cool. I would go on mission trips with my church if we could raise the funds,” says MACC student Elizabeth Mansfield.

No matter what you do during Spring Break, it is important to consider all of your options. Do what you want to do, whether it is to travel, to rest, or to volunteer.

Striking the Balance

By Sarah Smith
Express Staff

In today’s tough economy, college students are finding it hard to strike the proper balance between their education and work obligations.

Evidence of this rocky economy can be seen everywhere. Unemployment is on the rise and the cost of goods (not to mention tuition), keeps increasing. As if the job market weren’t competitive enough, it is nearly impossible for workers to make it without a college degree under their belts.

How are students finding the time to go to class and work enough hours to make ends meet?

One student, Ashlie Miller, has found the perfect solution. She is enrolled at the MACC Hannibal site, where she also works at the front desk. Miller works 25 hours per week and is often able to catch up on homework if there are no students needing assistance. Miller noted that her work schedule almost never conflicts with her class schedule.

Another student, Mary Schiable, is currently self-employed, making Pretty Visions beaded jewelry. This provides her with a flexible work schedule since she can work on her pieces on her own time. On average, Mary says she works 10 to 20 hours each week and is enrolled as a full-time student.

Not all students are able to strike the perfect balance in such creative and convenient ways, however. Most students must get rid of their old habits, such as procrastinating, and become almost super-human. At least, that’s the case for student, Heidi Pfeifer. She balances her job at Avenues, a shelter that services seven counties, and is also planning her wedding, set for September 2012. Pfeifer’s advice for other students who are struggling to prioritize their busy lives would be to kill two birds with one stone.

“It’s a fine balance, but you have to find a happy medium to do homework, go to class, have a life, and go to work,” says Pfeifer. When her work schedule conflicts with her class schedule, Pfeifer says that the choice is clear: she’d choose school over work any day.

MACC offers a wide variety of tools to help students effectively manage time between obligations. One tool is the required course, College Orientation, or SKL101. This course helps students learn the ins and outs of college life, as well as study skills and life skills that help students become more effective learners.

Class schedules are also very flexible for students at MACC, with morning, afternoon, and night classes. This way, students can balance their class schedules around their work schedules. These tools should be used to the fullest extent, in order for students to effectively manage their time.

Although many of us have different situations and different schedules, all of us must become flexible in each aspect of our lives in order to work for the education that will ensure our futures.
Hungry for heritage

By Stephanie Linhart
Express Staff-KV

When a person chooses where they are going to eat for the evening, they not only look for a place that serves food and has great experience in their business, but also a place where they will receive excellent customer service.

Those three qualities are what Kirksville’s Long John Silver’s employees follow to keep their popular reputation intact. The restaurant has been in business from 1969 to the present, an amazing 42 years of serving the public seafood of their delight.

“I personally enjoy working with my fellow employees. Also, the paycheck is always nice to have, but truthfully winning the hearts of the customers and having a bonding relationship between customer and employee is what I consider rewarding,” says Scott Mckim, general manager of Kirksville’s Long John Silver’s.

Mckim has 10 years of customer service experience and has been the store manager for four and a half years.

Helen Millhouse, a frequent customer of Long John Silver’s, stated, “When I come to a restaurant to eat, I want a restaurant that is clean, has friendly service and reasonable prices. The employees of Long Johns are always really friendly and allow the customers to feel right at home, as for the service itself, when I am there it is always superior.”

When Millhouse was told the restaurant had been in service for 42 years, she was shocked, but yet she understood that a great restaurant always keeps on going. Even now Millhouse attends the restaurant regularly and recommends Kirksville’s Long John Silver’s to everyone she sees.

According to Mckim: “Corporate Managers have given us second in state of all Long John Silver’s restaurants, but I believe that our store is so excellent that it should have been in first place.”

The employees at Kirkville’s Long John Silver’s are also preparing and going for the gold--the number one position in the state. Their corporate inspection to determine such a position will be held on Feb. 1. To show their continued appreciation toward their customers they give college students and senior citizens a 10 percent off their meal.

“Come in hungry, and we will make sure you are taken care of,” McKim said.

Making a difference where no one cares

By Samantha Preston
Express Staff-KV

Former MACC-Kirksville student D’Markus Brown has found success working with school-aged children. Brown has been the director of an afterschool program since August of 2010.

“I have a vision to see that particular area restored to be respected and honored in the community,” Brown said.

He also has a huge heart for the children who live in the Devlin Area Complex. “There is a greater need of academic help in our community and in doing this we are able to make a difference in a broken and impoverished area.

“Since we started this program, there have been about 20 children registered. This is a place where the children of the Devlin Complex can come and do homework and have a healthy snack without wondering where their next meal is coming from. The children don’t have to worry about anything at all for at least a couple of hours until dinner time,” Brown said.

“Out of all the needy areas around town I chose Devlin Place because my parents live about a block away, and I can relate to some of the stuff the children are going through. I also think that Devlin would benefit the most from the afterschool program.”

The afterschool program has a strict homework-first policy, then about an hour into the homework the children get to stop for a few minutes and have a snack and conversation. Children specifically picked rules during the first day of the program.

The program is based on a similar structure to the YMCA program in that it’s Christian based, a safe place to go and do homework or just hang out, and talk if they don’t have homework.

When asked how he came up with the idea for the program Brown states, “I had a similar afterschool program in Columbia and I wanted to bring that same atmosphere to the children here.

“My main goal is to create a love for learning in an environment that will promote and enhance self-worth, self-esteem, respect and responsibility, when the children who live here might not have had that to begin with.,” Brown said.

Most of the people who volunteer for the program are church members from the congregation where Brown is a member. This program isn’t privately directed and many church members have been willing to help, including other former and current MACC students.

Brown is working hard to see his vision come true. With people who are helping him from the community and volunteers from in and outside his church family, he hopes he will see his vision come to pass.
A show we can relate to

By Katie Brewer
Express Staff

There is no denying that community college is a much different experience than a “real university” as the dean of Greendale Community College calls it. He is only one of the characters that many watchers fell in love with in fall of 2009 when the pilot of the sit-com “Community” aired.

This show is based around a diverse Spanish study group created by the main character, Jeff, a suspended lawyer who is obligated to go back to school after his degree is deemed invalid, who started the group solely to hook up with a fellow student, Britta.

The characters in the group range from an elderly tycoon full of partying or alcohol and just the way the characters are trying to make it through their education as painlessly as possible.

Although there are a couple of unrealistic situations that taint the good humor of the show in my opinion, I would recommend this show to any friends whether they go to a community college or not.

“Community” airs Thursday nights 8/7 c on NBC, but I would recommend getting your hands on the first season before you start in, the development of characters is nicely done and I wouldn’t want anyone to miss out. As the popularity grows, I hope it finds its way into more community college students’ lives as it has become one of my favorite shows and made me appreciate my education a little more.

The Roommate

By Paul Muehring
Express Staff

Sara Matthews discovers her new roommate Rebecca may not be all that she seems in this suspenseful movie thriller, The Roommate.

The beginning of the movie is something most college students go through: waiting and wondering just who their roommate will be? Will he or she be annoying, nice, gothic, religious?

Sara Matthews, the protagonist of this heart-racing film, has no idea that her new roommate, Rebecca, isn’t really who she seems to be. Of course, Rebecca can be kind, but only to Sara. Rebecca has her sights set on being Sara’s best and only friend, which means that Rebecca needs to take care of Sara’s best friend, Tracy, played by Alyson Michalka. During Tracy’s shower scene, and yes this is a PG-13 movie, so no nudity, Rebecca decides to give Tracy a little message that she’s Sara’s only friend, and that Tracy needs to “lay off” or she’ll kill her. After their wonderful little chat, Rebecca rips out Tracy’s bellybutton ring to show she’s not fooling around.

Most of the rest of the movie is focused on ways that Rebecca alters events happening in Sara’s life so that Sara has to hang out with or be around Rebecca all the time. For example, Sara finds a homeless little kitten with no collar one night, and happily takes “Cuddles” back to her room and tells Rebecca they have to keep the kitten. Both are excited and overjoyed, until they find out the kitten can’t stay with them, under any circumstances.

Sara decides to move out, take the kitten, and live in her friend’s apartment near the school. The next event in the movie is sure to make the you yell at the screen. The laundry mat scene is cut short but Cuddles’ fate is undeniable. Another example of Rebecca’s altering would be beating and cutting herself to look like she got mugged so that Sara would comfort her and stay awhile.

This movie is filled with talented actors like Minka Kelly who plays Sara, Leighton Meester who plays Rebecca, Billy Zane as Sara’s design professor, and Cam Gigandet as Sara’s boyfriend Stephen. The “best actor/actress award” would have to go to Leighton Meester. Her creepy and sometimes forceful emotions keep the audience on the edge of their seats.

Throughout the movie, Sara slowly begins discovering Rebecca’s “true” self. For instance, Sara finds Rebecca wearing her sister’s necklace, finds a bottle of bipolar disorder and schizophrenic pills, and a sketchpad of nothing but pictures of Sara. Rebecca also gets the exact same tattoo as Sara, which freaks Sara out.

The end of the movie results in a battle for survival between Sara and Rebecca. In the end, like most other typical thrillers, the good guys win.

The music kept the movie suspenseful, and the actors and actresses made the movie thrilling. Out of the many people who have seen The Roommate, Cierra Thomas exclaims that:

“I was on the edge of my seat through most of the movie! Poor Cuddles!”

Though this movie ends with the original triumphant good guys, the exciting action fight, creepy methods used, amazing actors and actresses, the upbeat music, and the fantastic plot and setting keep the movie going. I award this movie an 8.5-out-of-10.
Does anybody listen to new music anymore?

By Matt Angelly
Express Staff-KV

Keeping up with the newest trends in music can be a challenge for college students who may not have much time in their schedule to spend searching for new artists, genres, or styles.

With MTV playing only “reality” shows and LimeWire, the free music downloading websites being shut down, the part of the population who listens to music does not know where to look to find their next favorite song. For those in search of new music, RollingStone magazine is constantly searching for the next big thing, and in the December 23-January 6, 2011 issue they announced what they called the top 20 albums of 2010.

At the top of that list was Kanye West’s album, My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy. The media tends to pay attention to West’s public antics, yet his music is nothing to overlook. In his new album, West took the number one album spot and the number one single spot with the song Runaway.

RollingStone said, “Kanye was building hip-hop epics, songs full of the kind of grandiose gestures that only the fool-ish attempt and only the wildly talented pull off. The more he piled on – string sections, Elton John piano solos, vocoder freakouts, Bon Iver cameos, King Crimson and Rick James samples – the better the music got.”

MACC-KV student Foster Asher, who also attends Truman State University, said of the new album: “It’s pretty out-there, and I don’t like Kanye West really, but you can’t deny his talent. That whole album was good, so much better than anything else that’s come out recently.”

He discovered the album on Youtube.

The second best album on that list was the Black Keys with their album, Brothers. The Black Keys have been around since 2001 and have been impressing critics since their first album released. The band consists of Dan Auerbach, vocals and guitar, and Patrick Carney on the drums.

RollingStone says, “The duo boil it down on their best record yet: vivid tunes stripped bare and rubbed raw, with hot splashes of color and hooks popping through like compound fractions. Its rock minimalism pushed to the max.” The magazine is not the only one raving over the album, for it was nominated for six Grammys. The band has also been featured in tv commercials, and the tv show House.

Twenty-one-year-old Kyle McDonald, a music major at Mizzou, said, “The Black Keys are the best rock band to come out in a long time, and they have that bluesy southern feel that America loves. I think they are unpopular as far as mainstream music because they aren’t changing their sound to fit the mainstream. I saw them live at Lollapalooza and it was one of the best shows I have ever seen, and it’s just the two of them on stage rocking out. It’s almost like viewing a garage band’s practice or something, so raw.”

Whatever venue you choose to get new music, whether it’s the internet, magazines or radio, you now have two new albums to check out. RollingStone Magazine liked them enough to put them at the top of their year’s best list, and the consensus seems to be that these two bands are extremely talented. Keep your minds and your Ipods open, and hopefully the next great musician will not go unnoticed.
Pink Out Zone

Saturday, January 12, the Lady Greyhounds faced off against the Lady Cardinals from Mineral Area College, Park Hill. Although the Lady Hounds lost 53-66, the game was more rewarding when viewed as a bigger picture. It was PinkZone night.

WBCA Pink Zone is a cause started in 2007 after head women’s coach from North Carolina State University was diagnosed for a third time with breast cancer. Since then, Pink Zone has raised $3.3 million that has been donated to the official charity, the Kay Yow Cancer Fund.

Since the start of Pink Zone, schools across the nation have participated in February by wearing pink shoelaces or pink shirts. Saturday night the Lady Hounds raised the bar. The Lady Hounds wore pink shoelaces, warm-up shirts, and headbands.

The crowd clapped together pink fan-a-sticks and wore pink shirts. The cheerleaders, scorekeepers, and MACC activity staff, clad in pink shirts, also supported the cause. The referees got in on the action with hot pink whistles. The Lady Hounds played the game with a hot pink game ball that was later auctioned.

Even though the Lady Hounds didn’t pull out a win against the Mineral Area College Cardinals, the money they raised will help women win against breast cancer.

The Lady Greyhounds were surrounded by young fans wanting autographs after the Iowa Western game on February 5. The Greyhounds-Lady Greyhounds participated in the special autograph night event.

Lady Greyhound Lauren McKinnis shoots over a Mineral Area Cardinal player on a special pink zone night at Johns-Fitzsimmons Arena on January 12.

Lady Greyhound Lauren McKinnis shoots over a Mineral Area Cardinal player on a special pink zone night at Johns-Fitzsimmons Arena on January 12.

Lady Greyhounds Ashley Stevenson and Mykel Boyd wore pink headbands and shoelaces during the pink zone event. The Lady Grey suffered defeat in the hard-fought battle against the Cardinals.
Greyhounds can’t pull upset vs. MSU-West Plains,
Dilworth out for season

By Michael Sade
Express Staff

The MACC Greyhounds came up a little short on their opportunity to beat a NJCAA powerhouse with a 78-68 loss to the Missouri State-West Plains Grizzlies on February 5 at Johns-Fitzsimmons Arena.

Lil'Hounds club and local cub scout packs were recognized before the game followed by the national anthem. The Greyhounds were unranked with a 14-8 record coming into the game; the Grizzlies came in with the #1 ranking in the NJCAA with a record of 22-2.

"We prepared for them as we do for every opponent,” Greyhound coach Jay Spoonhour said.

The game started with the Greyhounds making one of two technical free throws to put them ahead 1-0 before tipoff. The Hounds would play fundamentally sound on both ends of the floor and eventually build a 30-19 lead late in the first half, but momentum would start to swing in the direction of the Grizzlies when MACC’s Derrick Dilworth, who was the leader of the solid first half effort, hit the floor hard as he went for an offensive rebound in the half’s final minute. This would be the final time this season that the 6’ 4” freshman out of Webster Groves High School would see action.

The Hounds would lead 32-27 at halftime. The Hounds would hold that lead until MSU-WP’s Edward Simniok made a lay-up to put the Grizzlies ahead 42-41 with 14:49 left. The Grizzlies would continue to build that into double figures when Quinton Pippen (nephew of Scottie Pippen) made a three-pointer with 5:55 left. The lead reached its peak at 12 when Lonnie Hayes scored a three-point play with 3:23 left.

The Hounds would cut the lead to 5 when Anthony Rule hit a short jumper with 1:44 left. He would foul out on the ensuing Grizzly possession with 1:34 left. The Hounds would cut the lead back to 5 on Daylen Robinson’s lay-up with 1:00 left. The Hounds would not get any closer than that.

“We played pretty well. It’s just that West Plains made plays that changed the game,” Spoonhour said about the Hounds’ effort. The Greyhounds would have to play Penn Valley on Feb. 15 without Dilworth.

“We need to get everyone else involved on the floor,” Said Spoonhour.

Greyhounds come back strong

By Danilee Canaday
Express Staff

The Greyhounds pulled off a last minute win over the Mineral Area College Cardinals on Feb 12, Pink Zone night. The Hounds wore pink warm-up shirts and tall white socks with the breast cancer emblem. The Greyhounds, down 32-28 at the half, pulled off the win with a 22-6 run over the Cardinals in the second half. The Greyhounds scored 38 of their total points after the half.

Daylen Robinson and sophomore, Ronnie Boggs, were top scorers of the evening. Robinson scored 26 points and Boggs added 20 points of the team’s total 66 points. Freshman Skip Rule helped the Greyhounds by dominating the boards pulling down five of the 12 offensive rebounds. Robinson and Boggs pulled down four defensive rebounds apiece, totaling eight of the 20. The Greyhounds conquered the Cardinals with a final score of 66-57.

The Greyhounds ended the 2010-11 season with a record of 17-12. The team will be recognized at the annual athletic banquet on April 16.