Columbia expands into the future

By Kayla Drebenstedt
Express Staff

Columbia’s MACC campus has expanded to accommodate increasing enrollment and business demand. Eric Ross, MACC’s Director of Plant Operations, states that nine classrooms, including three computer labs, a resource center, a tutor/study room, an art room, and a lab for the newly-offered field of study “mechatronics” were added to campus and in use by Spring semester 2014.

Mechatronics is an emerging field fusing mechanical, electrical, and computer engineering. The field is supported by multiple businesses looking to hire students with such training. MACC is the first school in Missouri to offer mechatronics classes. According to KOMU (11 Mar. Spain), Columbia manufacturers include Kraft Foods and Gates. Columbia’s mechatronics instructor, Mike Klote, states that the program is a win for employers, workers, and the community:

“Jobs that students can be eligible for cover a wide technological path, which is the beauty of the program. Mechatronics students will have knowledge in mechanical systems, electricity and electronic controls, and industrial IT systems such as PLCs and other programmable systems. As such, they are great candidates for any manufacturing position that deals with industrial automation and control systems. Mechatronics technicians are involved in power plants, alternative energy systems, alternative fuel production facilities, agricultural technology positions, and numerous other industries.”

Klote has over 38 years of experience in industry and industrial technology education. He recently retired from the University of Missouri, where he managed and maintained the College of Engineering’s teaching and research facilities. He also runs his own business designing, building, and troubleshooting mechatronic systems.

Current mechatronics students, knowing opportunities will abound upon completing the program, are excited to be the first to receive this specialized training. They take two 2-hour classes twice a week and receive an Industrial Technology-Mechatronics certificate upon completing a minimum of 32 credit hours, after approximately two semesters.

MACC-Columbia hosted an Open House in March.
An educator’s endless pursuit of learning

By Aja Gross
Express Editor

The life of an educator doesn’t stop after the classroom lights have shut off or after the halls of the school have emptied for break. The life of an educator takes dedication and drive to strive for the answers others often lack the motivation to seek.

The Rev. Dr. David Eugene Fray dedicated most of his life to educating. Fray wasn’t only teaching in the classroom to his students, he was always teaching himself and those around him. In his daily life he learned beyond the topics of his classroom: learning to play multiple instruments, teaching himself different languages, playing in a few bands, earning a black belt in Taekwondo, becoming an ordained minister, and being the leader of his family.

Fray was a known MACC instructor. He taught ethics, logic, and philosophy at MACC for years. Fray began teaching at MACC in Fall 1999. He started as an adjunct teacher and eventually became a full-time instructor in Fall 2008. Before coming to MACC, Fray was the minister of Presbyterian United Church of Christ in Le Mars, Iowa.

Fray began his pursuit of higher education after graduating from Moberly High School in 1966. Fray continued his quest for knowledge attending multiple colleges. He earned a degree in accounting from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1974.

While at MU, Fray met Julie Kadelzete on a blind date in January 1974. Fray charmed Julie with his intellect and sense of humor. They knew it was meant to be and married that same year on June 29. After meeting the love of his life, Fray started a family. Together, they raised two sons: Aaron David Fray and Michael Thomas Fray.

Having a family didn’t slow Fray in his pursuit of knowledge; it made him even more determined. He passed his joy of learning down to his children. Growing up, Fray’s sons Aaron and Michael would come home from school and tell their father about things they had learned and he would re-teach them these lessons and expand on them.

Although the family constantly moved during his career, Fray kept a close relationship with his wife and kids. He never lost touch with his sons, bonding with his children by playing instruments, cooking, and never missing any of their sporting events.

Growing up, his sons liked to imitate their father. “They would imitate the way he walked and the way he talked. It never bothered Dave because he was in his own world,” Julie Fray said.

While working at MACC, Fray developed lifelong friendships with his co-workers. They liked his sense of humor and his enthusiasm for teaching.

“He was a nice guy, very funny, dry sense of humor, and he loved teaching,” said Joyce Pauley, the coordinator of the Humanities department at MACC.

Fray had practiced ministry since 1993. He earned a Doctorate of Ministry while attending the McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois. After receiving his doctorate, he became an ordained minister. After spending a year at the Presbyterian United Church of Christ in Le Mars, Iowa, Fray moved back to Missouri. He became the pastor at Bethel Presbyterian Church in Mexico, Missouri. He was minister for 16 years.

Fray also spent time working with children that were taking Taekwondo when he wasn’t training himself. After his first cardiac arrest in 2010, he was advised not to return to Taekwondo, but Fray was determined and went back and earned his black belt.

When Fray wasn’t helping out at the Taekwondo studio, he was at home spending time with his dachshund dog, Max, and his 8-year-old granddaughter, Alesse. He enjoyed playing games with his granddaughter and teaching her new things. Fray also spent his time reading; he read anything he could get his hands on.

“He loved to learn,” Julie Fray said.

She said Fray could read a handful of books at a time and remember everything he read.

The last lesson Fray taught was how to live life. He was always in his own world and always gave his best effort toward his goals. He had a passion for teaching things he learned.

“My father encouraged people to better themselves. He wasn’t teaching for a grade; he wanted students to take things out of his class and apply them to their lives,” Michael Fray said.

Fray left a legacy that will last a lifetime for his family, MACC students, and others that he helped along the way.
Phi Theta Kappa welcomes new members with honors

PTK chapter and members recognized with honors.

By Taylor Quisenberry
Express Staff

Phi Theta Kappa, the largest honor society for community college students, has inducted new MACC students into Alpha Tau, its local chapter.

Phi Theta Kappa and its Honors in Action program’s intents include “fostering a stimulating intellectual environment” and “creating opportunities for leadership and action,” according to the organization’s website.

In order to nurture challenging learning environments, the Honors in Action program selects a pertinent issue for its members to explore. The study topic, which is reselected every two years for relevancy, is currently “Frontiers and the Spirit of Exploration.” Phi Theta Kappa, on its website, asserts that this particular study topic is “a timely and relevant subject of importance to the human experience in a global context.”

Phi Theta Kappa’s Honors in Action program hopes to guide its members to opportunities for leadership and action. The knowledge gained through the study of this year’s topic, “Frontiers and the Spirit of Exploration,” is supposed to guide the program’s members toward the organization’s goal of creating new opportunities in leadership.

Participants in the Honors in Action program develop skills for their betterment. Students involved in the program are expected to experience improvement in their decision-making skills, abilities in drawing conclusions, skills in planning and initiating action, leadership skills, and in their abilities to overcome challenges in complex circumstances to progress toward a goal.

Prospective members of Phi Theta Kappa or its Honors in Action program must first complete a minimum of 12 credit hours at MACC and maintain at least a 3.5 GPA. Those who wish to join the organization must pay a one-time membership fee of $75.

If you are a student interested in joining Phi Theta Kappa or its Honors Program and meet the eligibility requirements needed to do so, contact the advisor at your MACC campus. Students should contact the following advisors as they correspond to their campus: Bill Justice in Moberly, Michelle Scanavino in Mexico, Don Tennill or Sheila Bradley in Columbia, Gil Verser in Kirksville, and Jeanne Bastian in Hannibal.

A formal induction ceremony of new members was held on March 7 at MACC’s Moberly auditorium, where current members’ Honors in Action projects were also on display.

Lilit Khamalyan and Mallory Belt were recognized as PTK All Missouri Academic Team at a ceremony in Jefferson City on Mar 5, 2014.
Clear Skies Ahead

By Taylor Quisenberry
Express Staff

Spring is fast approaching. No longer are we subject to winter’s tempestuous storms and ravaging temperatures. Gone are the colorless skies which bombard us with blizzards. Replacing winter’s wearisome drear is spring’s rousing exuberance, and the impending spring is more than welcome after such an extraordinarily grueling, inexhaustible winter.

In unanimity, students are elated to toss winter aside. Though students are in agreement in anticipating spring’s arrival, their favorite aspects of the spring season vary.

While some students, including Alex Nichols, most anticipate mushroom hunting, others, including Brandon Todd, are pining to return to riding their four-wheelers.

The spring season conjures different memories for each individual. Heather Walden reminisces upon planting tulips with her daughter. Ethan Brown recalls the aroma of hyacinth blooming at Lowe’s, where he previously worked. Brandon Todd longingly reflects on attending a Bob Dylan concert in St. Louis last April. Todd also elaborates on a less jubilant experience last spring in which high winds struck Hannibal, toppling historic downtown buildings and uprooting an innumerable quantity of trees.

“When I found out that a dangerous storm was imminent, I hurried outside, rolled up my windows, put up the four-wheelers and then awaited my impending doom. Luckily, I survived,” Todd jests.

In spite of his encounter with last spring’s hazardous weather, Todd still considers spring’s benefits, mainly warm temperatures, to override the season’s potential perils.

MACC students have partaken in spring-related events hosted by the college. Each MACC location has hosted a Spring Fling, where students are pleased to enjoy free food. The Evelyn E. Jorgenson Fine Arts Gallery recently held a Spring Poetry Celebration. Additionally, MACC’s calendar anticipates its Spring Commencement ceremony, which is scheduled to be held May 16 at the Activity Center Arena in Moberly.

Your College Works for You:

By Cody Cooley
Express Staff

College can be expensive. Students who live in Moberly pay $93 per credit hour to attend school; those who live out of district pay $130 per credit hour. Those prices add up for someone who is a full time student. For some students attending Moberly Area Community College, finding a job to help pay for the expenses of college is a necessity. One option is the work study program.

Work Study is a program that places college students in part time jobs on campus or at a non-profit organization off campus. Work study allows students to earn money to help pay for their classes and other expenses.

“I get additional money that I wouldn’t get from financial aid, and it’s not taxed,” said Stephanie Ley, who is currently in the Work Study program. Ley works in the MACC auditorium. She helps run shows for plays, supervises activities scheduled in the auditorium, and helps the Theater Appreciation class prepare for upcoming productions. Her supervisor is Greg Pauley.

“She keeps the shop cleaned up, usually works 19.9 hours a week, helps with theater appreciation students, and really helps when I can’t be there.”

These are some of the duties that Pauley assigns to Ley. According to Pauley, having Stephanie Ley as a work study is helpful because there are a lot of tasks that take two people to do. She is also consistent.

Students apply for a Work Study position by first completing an application at the Financial Aid office. Amy Hager, director of Financial Aid, advises applicants that they should treat it as a regular job. Applicants will be interviewed, so she advises that they be professional and respectful. Mrs. Hager herself was a work study student when she was in college.

“It’s not for everyone, but it can lead to a career opportunity,” Mrs. Hager said about the work study program. She did work study for the financial aid office while in college and has worked in financial aid ever since. Those who aren’t sure about what career they want to seek may find it by doing the work study program.

Students who are part of the work study program work for minimum wage and work between 10 to 19.75 hours a week. This way they earn money and can still attend classes. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) indicates whether the student is eligible for a work study position. When a student fills out a FAFSA, it takes into account the amount of federal money the student is getting vs. the amount of money that is needed to go to school to determine the eligibility of a student.

Work study positions are usually a first come-first served system. College staff who needs someone for work study look over the applications and interview the ones they feel will do the best job. Most jobs are on campus helping out in offices. Some college tutors are also part of the work study program; some tutors also go to local elementary schools to help children. A list of positions is kept in the Financial Aid office, and eventually a website will be up to list the positions.

Prospective work study students must be enrolled in at least six credit hours, be degree seeking, be taking classes for the said degree, and be a U.S. citizen. In addition, students cannot be on financial aid suspension.

Students who are looking for work that works around their schedules should consider using college to help them out by applying for the work study program.
Dr. Jackie Fischer: Dean of Academic Affairs

Express Staff
By Cody Cooley

“lt’s been a huge learning curve for me. I came from a four-year institution where I’ve been for 18 years, so to come here and learn the community college environment was new for me.”

MACC is different in several ways. Saint Mary-of-the-Woods is a private school, unlike MACC which is a public state school.

The academic dean is responsible for the transfer program for associate arts, teaching, and science programs. She’s also responsible for the hiring and evaluations of the 47 full-time employees as part of academic affairs and oversees the evaluations of the adjunct faculty, which includes all MACC sites.

“I mentioned our 47 faculty; I’ve just been real fortunate that so many of them have been willing and able to help me get up to speed. We’re pretty lucky here; we have a great group of faculty,” said Fischer about her staff.

Dean Fischer likes the way that MACC is run.

“One of the things I really like about MACC is that our staff is so focused on teaching.”

Her previous college was a women’s college, so she also likes getting to interact with both male and female students. Her only dislike is that she isn’t teaching right now.

Fischer, who worked at her previous institution for 18 years, felt it was time for a change, so she applied for the job as Academic Dean at MACC. She originally wanted to be closer to Louisville, Kentucky, where her mother lives, but was drawn to MACC. Since she’s been here, her biggest goal has been learning the environment and building relationships with her faculty and staff. One thing she misses is the student interaction.

“I know one of the things I’d like to do over this next academic year is to really get to know our students better.” Fischer taught half time at her previous institution.

“I really miss being involved with students—seeing them on a daily basis. I’m hoping when I get settled, I’ll be able to teach a class or two.” she taught Techniques of Counseling, Psychological Research, a first-year experience course, and Psychology Senior Seminar, which helps seniors with the steps after college.

“Professionally I was ready; it was a year overdue. I was ready for a change. I was ready for a new challenge,” said Fischer about moving to Moberly for the job. Fischer has family in Louisville and in Tampa Bay, Florida.

Her mom works as a nurse and a brother who works for the Louisville school corporation, and her sister works for the state of Kentucky as part of their Work Keys program, an assessment tool that is part of the ACT program. This program is administered to the tech side for our CTE students as well. Her father lives near Tampa Bay where he is retired.

Fischer now lives in Moberly and loves not having a long commute.

“My hope over the next few months is to get involved in the Moberly community a little more,” said Fischer. That is one of her personal goals she would like to accomplish while living in Moberly. Outside of school, Fischer enjoys watching baseball. Another personal goal?

“My goal is to find another Red’s fan on this side of the country,” said Fischer. For the past 11 years, Fischer and several friends have traveled to watch baseball games in other stadiums. The group has seen a ball game in every city but plan to revisit new stadiums such as New York, Washington, and Miami. Her favorite stadium was Great American, of course, home to the Reds. She also enjoys the sitcom Nashville. A friend is the nanny of several of the show’s characters. Fischer met the actors.

Jackie Fischer, our new dean, is ready for any new and challenging task.

NBA delivers the death sentence
By Aja Gross, Sports Editor

The Clippers delivered a stunning performance to defeat the Golden State Warriors 126-121 in game 7 at their home court Staples Center in Los Angeles, California. The series had been one of the most exciting since this year’s playoffs began. Before game 4 at Golden State’s Oracle Arena in Oakland, California, recordings of owner Donald Sterling making insensitive racist comments had been released by multiple media outlets.

The NBA drew criticism from fans, celebrities, former players, other NBA owners, and current players. Clippers player Chris Paul, who is also the President of the NBA player union, decided his team should have a silent protest by tossing their warmups to the ground and flipping their red Clippers shirts inside out to hide the team’s logo. They also wore black wristbands and black socks during the game.

The players from all NBA teams were considering sitting out of games if the issue wasn’t resolved immediately.

In the days following, Adam Silver, the NBA Commissioner, held a press conference after reviewing the facts and decided to fine Sterling 2.5 million and ban him for life. The NBA owners will get together and decide to vote to terminate his ownership.

The league needs 75 percent of the owners to agree to terminate Sterling’s membership.

Despite all the criticism facing the team and their former owner, the Clippers are still delivering for the fans. Their next series is against the championship contender Oklahoma City Thunder and newly crowned MVP Kevin Durant. If the Clippers want to make a NBA finals appearance, they must come together to face their biggest challenge yet.
MACC student government elections took place during Spring Fling activities on the main campus. Two candidates for student government president were freshmen, Shaylon Heetland and sophomore, Mallory Belt. Kyle Barnes, current full time student at MACC main campus, was one of the students who voted.

“I ended up voting for Mallory Belt. I didn’t know either candidate who was running, but I went ahead and voted anyway.”

Shaylon Heetland won the election and will receive the William A.E. Eden scholarship worth $500 per semester.

“The scholarship honors a fallen soldier and a former MACC student government president from 1998 to 1999, William A.E. Eden, said Dean of Student Services, Dr. James Grant.

According to Dr. Grant, the student government president represents students’ concerns. Just two years ago MACC campuses became tobacco free campuses because of the leadership from the student government pushing for the change. The student government also sets up fundraisers to raise money for campus activities and advancements of campus facilities. The student government sponsors events such as the MACC Spring Fling.

According to Dr. Grant, each MACC campus has its own student government representatives; the off-campus sites will begin their elections in the Fall.

Students who have concerns about the main campus should make suggestions to their new student government representatives: President Shaylon Heetland, Vice-President Mallory Belt, and Secretary Katie Matheis.
Lust for life

Be warned: after a brief chat with Martina Woodard, the banality of your own life may become apparent.

Martina is only 18 years old, but she can already claim to have traversed a sizable segment of the nation; the student, currently enduring her second-semester’s course load at MACC-Hannibal, has already visited every state both south and west of Missouri, including Hawaii.

This feat of nationwide wandering is one that would take many people a lifetime to accomplish and is one that many will never even attempt. One can safely assume that Martina’s life, quite literally, is miles ahead of many of our own.

What brought her to Hawaii, that idyllic fiftieth entry into the States? It was an international swim competition in which she was a participating athlete. Martina has been swimming competitively for 12 years and has competed regionally, nationally, and internationally. In these competitions, Martina has met people from all corners of the globe.

Martina hails from Portland, Oregon and has lived in Hannibal for a brief length of time. She has moved a total of ten times, and these relocations, before situating her in the Midwest, have taken her everywhere from the Pacific Coast to the American Southwest.

Just where could Martina be off to next? If her goals materialize, her eventual destination will be a foreign land, for once Martina earns her teaching degree in elementary education, she aims to educate children in other areas of the world. Additionally, Martina appears to have God on her side; faith is of paramount importance in her life, and she envisions herself completing work as a missionary.

Through her travels, Martina’s hunger for both adventure and the outdoors has been realized. Her appetite for the escapades allowed by the outdoors is insatiable; Martina’s connection to nature is undeniable and is almost spiritually-based. In addition to working as a teacher and missionary, Martina is interested in pursuing a career in nature conservation.

Martina’s goals are far-reaching, but after considering all that she has already achieved, it becomes clear that she possesses the confidence and ability to accomplish anything that she wishes.

In spite of her youth, Martina is both well-traveled and well-versed; an unmistakable sense of maturity is evident as she speaks. Sophistication, however, is always susceptible to the occasional hiatus. Kayla Drebenstedt, a friend and classmate of Martina’s, reminisced on a humorous occurrence in their Public Speaking class.

“I looked out into the class as I was giving my speech expecting to see the usual blank stares, but instead I saw Martina grinning back at me with pretzels stuck in her teeth to look like walrus tusks.”

Martina’s smile, whether silly or sincere, is always eager to brighten one’s day.

Judging by the amount of discipline demanded by the activities that she enjoys, it is clear that Martina maintains determination enough to fulfill her objectives. Present her with an oceanside cliff and she will be unhesitant to leap off the edge into the water below; cliff-diving is among Martina’s favorite pastimes. Even the prospect of a grueling triathlon is not too much for Martina to bear. She has already completed two, the last of which was in the summer of 2013.

In just 18 years, Martina has attained ambition enough to last a lifetime. No fences face Martina; her lust for life is unburdened by traditional restraints. Take a page from Martina’s book: never leave a day of your life unlived, and as she encourages, “Find joy in all things.”
Hannibal Hosts Miss Gay River City

By Kayla Drebenstedt
Express Staff

Hannibal recently put its quaint, conservative manner on pause to devote a night to wholesome big-city debauch, replete with liquor, lipstick and silicon. On the eve of Jan. 26, Hannibal welcomed female impersonators Adria Andrews and Destiny Michelle to compete for the Miss Gay River City crown at QPEX Church on 515 Lyon St.

The theme of the night, “Reach for the Stars,” was chosen by reigning Miss Gay Missouri Christa Collins to celebrate the stardom of all gays and transgenders. Competitors Adria and Destiny honored the theme in silver evening gowns, Miss Christa in gold. Coordinators provided dollar-shots, cake, and burgers for attendees. The evening passed without a hitch with seasoned hostess Jade Sinclair in the spotlight.

Entertainers ventured from Kansas City and St. Louis to perform for Hannibal. QPEX Church (formerly Hannibal Community Theatre) owners Mike and Jackie provided the venue and Garden House’s Chris Bobek provided lodging and an after-party space for the entertainment.

Miss River City runner up Destiny Michelle wowed the audience with professional choreography and displays of astonishing flexibility, but competitor Adria Andrews stole the crown with a monolog from Designing Women episode “The Beauty Contest”. Impersonating character Julia Sugarbaker in a confrontation with Miss Georgia World, Miss Adria delivered drama and raw emotion that belonged on a Broadway stage, no less. A collective gasp from audience and judges alike could be heard as the monolog reached its climax, tension tangible. Thankfully the fragile of health declined to attend the show because Miss Adria’s performance could have stopped hearts.

Both contestants will go on to compete in St. Louis for Miss Gay Missouri 2014 in April.

Brooke: an Odyssey

By Kayla Drebenstedt
Express Staff

Spotlight’s on Brooke Drebenstedt, MACC-Columbia over-achiever and beauty queen. You may recognize her from her tumbling cascade of natural curls (a blessing she attributes to a healthy diet and daily vitamins) or the Professor McGonagall-like staredown of displeasure she inflicts upon those who dare to make prejudiced or tasteless remarks within her domain.

The newly 19-year-old developed an early need to spend her time constructively, and as such has acquired a grocery list of accomplishments rivaling those of peers of greater years. Brooke graduated from Hannibal High School in 2012 with an ACT composite score of 30, acceptance letters from multiple universities, and a proposed $30 thousand scholarship from Rollins College in Winter Park, FL for outstanding academic achievement.

Brooke chose to enroll in University of Central Florida in Orlando, FL to be near her mother. She joined Air Force ROTC and was elected president of her dorm council. The following year, Brooke decided to continue pursuing her AA at home through MACC to save money.

Brooke’s first and only class at MACC-Hannibal was Sociology during the summer semester 2013. Brooke convinced her 21-year-old sister, Kayla, to take the class with her for kicks. Kayla had graduated in 2011 and did not plan to continue her education until Brooke got her started. The sisters passed their summer class with A’s and went their separate ways, each studying full-time at MACC (Brooke in Columbia, Kayla in Hannibal).

This year, Brooke juggles a challenging course load including Calculus and Development of the Short Story with a 25-30 hr/week work schedule at Staples. She likes to keep her days full.

“I do enough during the day that it helps me sleep well at night,” she said. Her proudest achievement since graduation is her excellence as a Staples employee. Brooke enjoys work; while taking extra classes to graduate as a junior, she worked nearly full time at KFC in Hannibal and was a reputed team leader without the title. This past January, Brooke was awarded Staples Employee of the Month as voted by her coworkers and supervisors. Wherever life takes her, Brooke is destined to be a crucial asset to her workplace.

Brooke’s current two-year plan is to attend Columbia College in the fall, continuing Air Force ROTC and commission into the Air Force as an officer. Brooke will no doubt make a formidable Air Force officer.

Brooke is a Chemistry major. She has big green eyes, a chin dimple, and a body like Alicia Keys. Brooke is also the proud owner of a quirky shelter-adopted cat named Pepper, a truly phenomenal cat: perfectly behaved. Brooke is compassionate, confident, and unfailingly loyal to her friends and family.

Brooke’s secret to success and advice for students and anyone with ambition is to cut yourself off from distractions. “Giving yourself nothing to do but work is honestly the best advice I’ve got.”
The Spring play hits with a laugh
By Cody Cooley
Express Staff

Performed on campus at the Agora, the spring play "The Comedy of Errors" was a comical play to put it lightly. The play was written by famous playwright William Shakespeare. Shakespeare, most famous for his tragic stories, made this one comical.

"I just always thought it was funny. I love slap-stick comedy. I love physical comedy," said Joyce Pauley, director.

Pauley has been teaching theater for years at MACC and has directed many plays as well. "The Comedy of Errors" will be her third Shakespeare play and one that she acted in when she was younger.

"I'd like them to see that Shakespeare is funny," said Pauley about what she wants the audience to get from the play. Shakespeare's more famous plays usually have a tragic, sad theme to them. In "Romeo and Juliet", both of the lovers take their own lives because they can’t be with the one they love. In "Hamlet" the prince comes home to find his father dead, his uncle in power and married to his mother, and his girlfriend breaks up with him.

"I think the idea that we need our family together is something we all can relate to," said Pauley about the play. "Shakespeare is the most produced playwright in the world; he’s talking about people who are just like us."

People like us usually like comedies, and this one is by Shakespeare, so you can bet that it’s good.

Matthew Hughes, who played Antipolus of Syracuse.
Even though the play was a comedy, it was challenging for the actors to learn their roles. Shakespeare can be hard to understand at times, but the cast was able to figure it out.

"This is definitely the hardest I've ever been in," said Dakota McWhorter, who played Dromio of Syracuse. McWhorter said this was his 20th play, so he has a lot of experience. Even though it is a comical play, audiences can still take from it and relate to society.

"I think the idea that we need our family together is something we all can relate to," said Pauley about the play. "Shakespeare is the most produced playwright in the world; he’s talking about people who are just like us."

Poetry celebrated at MACC
By Aja Gross
Express Staff

In honor of national poetry month and national library week, Moberly Area Community College held their first Spine Label Poetry contest.

Contestants used book spines to create their poems and submit a picture of the spines they used. They could use library books or their own personal books.

This year’s contest was filled with talent as 24 total competitors read to a crowd in the art gallery.

The winners were picked from three judges: Dr. Michael Barrett, Renee Field, and Jeanne Bastian.

The judges picked the winners based on a few different criteria. "I was looking for poems that were creative and unique," said Field.

First place was awarded to Tiffany Corley and her reading Alas, Babylon; Second Place was awarded to Katie Potter with Secrets of the Heart, and the final award was given to Natasha Baker with Fill in the Blank.

Director of Library Services Valerie Darst put together the Spine Label poetry contest after Susan Townsend came up with the idea.

"The students were very creative, and the judges had a tough time picking the winners," said Darst.

The Spine Poetry Contest was a success. "It will be repeated," said Darst.
From field trips, conventions, Greyhound and Lady Greyhounds basketball games and everyday activities, MACC campus vehicles are there to get the students and professors to their destination. Recently, Professor Joyce Pauley used the 12-passenger bus to take her Children’s Theater students to perform a puppet show at St. Pius School in Moberly.

Mrs. Pauley stated, “I use the campus vehicles quite a bit to go to conferences, and I also use the vehicles to go to other off campus sites, and my theater appreciation class goes on trips using a campus bus.”

Moberly Area Community College started with a small fleet of campus vehicles, but once off campus sites were added, the demand for campus vehicles rose. The campus vehicles, paid for with MACC’s general fund, are traded off once they reach 100,000 miles; there are fewer repairs, thus limiting additional cost of the vehicles.

Each vehicle has a different purpose. According to Eric Ross, Plant Operations, MACC vehicles consists of three large buses that hold 21, 14 and 12 passengers. There are also several mini vans and SUV’s. The larger vehicles are not used often; the buses are mainly used to take the Greyhounds and Lady Greyhounds to games.

Others are used daily: the four door sedans and work trucks. The sedans are used by MACC security and the Law Enforcement Training Center. Professors also use the vehicles to drive to off campus sites and to attend professional conferences or activities. The work trucks are used by the maintenance team. MACC has a career vehicle used to take deliveries to the off campus sites. The larger buses are used most often for athletic events.

The MACC vehicle fleet, loaded with students or staff, are easily identifiable. With the college logo clearly printed on the sides, they travel the roads of Missouri--and beyond.
Former Greyhound is a national champion

Jon Gilliam, along with several former MACC Greyhounds, won this year’s Division II national championship with the Missouri State University Mules.

By Clay Ames
Express Staff

The journey began in Paris, Missouri, a town of just about 1,200 people. Former MACC Greyhound shooting guard Jon Gilliam’s road to success started at Paris High School. He excited the town of Paris with his athleticism, great three point shooting ability, and his flashy style of play on the court. Gilliam was highly successful at every sport he participated in high school. He racked up over 2,500 career points in basketball, averaged nearly 24 points per game throughout high school and was selected to the All-State Team three times. Gilliam had great success at football too; he was selected to the All-State Team three times as well. He faced a tough decision at the end of his senior year on whether to play basketball or football in college.

“I had a lot of interest from colleges to play football, but I just have too much passion for basketball,” explained Gilliam.

After high school, Gilliam accepted a basketball scholarship at Moberly Area Community College. Adjusting to Junior College basketball was a bit difficult for Gilliam. He went from being a high school scoring machine to accepting a new role on the Greyhounds. His freshmen year, Gilliam averaged seven points per game and became a leading defender. His sophomore year and final season at MACC, Gilliam averaged nine points per game and helped the Greyhounds win the regular season regional championship. Gilliam graduated in 2012 and received his Associate’s Degree from MACC.

Turning the page and starting a new chapter to his basketball career, Gilliam decided to take his talents to Warrensburg, Missouri and play Division II basketball for the University of Central Missouri. Gilliam chose to play at Central Missouri because of the great tradition and coaching staff led by former Missouri Tiger basketball star, Kim Anderson. Coach Anderson had great success in Columbia playing for the Tigers as a member of the 1976 Big 8 Conference Championship team. He also led the Big 8 in scoring in 1977 and was awarded Big 8 Player of The Year.

“Once they offered me a scholarship, I knew it was a no brainer and the perfect place for me,” said Gilliam.

Gilliam played in 17 games his first season with the Mules and averaged four points per game and shot 42 percent from behind the three point line. Gilliam’s senior year was magical. The Mules faced the Missouri Tigers in an exhibition game to start the season. To everyone’s surprise, Gilliam’s Mules played the Tigers close throughout three quarters. The Tigers eventually pulled away in the fourth quarter and received a double digit win.

“Even though we lost, I believe that game gave us confidence and fire. We knew if we stuck together it would be a great season,” said Gilliam.

The Mules did stick together, and in the end, UCM was rewarded with their first national championship in thirty years. Gilliam became a vocal leader in the locker room and on the court. Gilliam’s senior season he averaged six points per game in 35 games. Gilliam believes basketball has led him in the right direction. To Gilliam, basketball is much more than just a game. His playing days may be over, but Gilliam still wants basketball to be in his life. He is majoring in Physical Education at UCM and is on to his next dream to become a college basketball coach.

Gilliam’s advice for kids pursing a dream to play a sport in college: “Always stick to your dreams no matter where you go to high school or anything. Putting in hard work will pay off in the end.”

Nimble the Cat
Part III: The Clang

By Kalyn Surls
Express Staff

Nimble was laying lazily on the front porch swing, his tail curling and uncurling in time to his breathing. The day was calm. The neighbor’s barking dog was at the vet and traffic was light, so the black-and-white cat was able to get a little rest. Right when Nimble was about to drift off into a deep slumber, he heard something that made his ears perk up—a sharp clang from across the street.

He yawned and stretched before jumping down from the swing to investigate. He strode across the street leisurely until he had to scramble to avoid a honking car. On the other side, he licked his paw as he relaxed and listened for the source of the clang.

The cat heard the sound again along with a thud and shatter. He headed in that direction. It led him to the side of a house where an open trash can stood. A piece of a rotten potato lay in the lid beside the trashcan, and Nimble slowly reached out his head to sniff it.

Nimble stiffened as the trashcan wobbled and became unbalanced, starting to tip over. Unfortunately, Nimble was right beneath where the can dumped its garbage, dumping a scrappy orange cat with it. The orange cat yowled and darted off as Nimble pulled himself out of the trash.

Shaking off a banana peel and a fast food wrapper, Nimble raced back home, leaving pieces of scraps behind him in his wake. That was too much excitement for one day. After begging his way back inside his home, he leaped into his human’s lap, only to be tossed back outside a moment later by the man. “Nimble, you stink!”
Athletes celebrate a successful year

Student athletes are recognized and two new Hall of Famers are inducted at 2014 Sports banquet.

By Cody Cooley
Express Staff

The Greyhounds celebrated its sports success this year with their annual sports banquet on April 12. The Greyhounds, Lady Greyhounds, Greyhound Cheerleaders, and two Hall of Famers were honored this night.

The spotlight of the night belonged to the two Hall of Famers Gwen Muex Riddle and Jeff Strong.

“I really enjoyed it. I had a wonderful career here, and it pushed me to the next level,” said Riddle of her time at MACC. Riddle played ball for the Lady Greyhounds from 1983 to 1985. Her team went 32-4 during her freshman year and 27-1 during her sophomore year. She scored 1,001 career points at MACC, was on the All Region team twice, and was a NJCAA All American and All Star her sophomore year.

Jeff Strong also had a good career as a member of the Greyhounds. “I will never forget this day, I am truly appreciative, thank you,” said Strong on being inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Strong played basketball for the Greyhounds from 1982 to 1983. He averaged 18.4 points a game as a Greyhound and eventually went on to play for the Milwaukee Bucks.

Before the Hall of Famers were announced, the cheerleading coach recognized the 2013-14 cheerleaders and presented each with a bouquet of flowers. This year’s MACC cheer squad received a bid to go to nationals when they attended Junior College (JUCO) camp in the summer and reached the semifinals.

Coach Chad Killinger presented awards to the Lady Greyhounds. Alexis Newbolt averaged 18.3 points per game, 4 rebounds a game, and 3 steals a game. She received the Most Valuable Player award and the 3-point Field Goal award. Alexis Robinson received three awards: the Defensive Player of the Year Award, the Rebounding Award, and the Triple Threat Award that was awarded for her academic, athletics, and citizenship. The Sacrifice Award went to Durwinika Brooks. Kendra Gladbach was awarded both the Hustle Award and the Most Improved Award.

The Lady Greyhounds went 21-7 this year and finished 2nd in the Region. They were ranked in the Top 25 nationally in eight different statistical categories and earned their 800th win overall this year. Two players made the All-Region XVI First Team: Alexis Newbolt and Alexis Robinson. Newbolt made Honorable Mention All American.

Players Alira Mihocic and Newbolt will be moving on. Mihocic will attend Coast Carolina University and Newbolt will attend Indiana State University.

Greyhounds coach Pat Smith introduced the team and gave rewards. B.J. McLaughlin received the Most Improved Player award and the John Harold & Bernice Hutsell Memorial Award. Jaysean Paige was awarded the Shooting Award for best field goal percentage. Evan Singletary received two awards: Best Assist Player with 5.3 assists per game and only 1.6 turnovers a game and the Sophomore Award for leadership.

Jermaine Morgan, who received the Defensive Player of the Year, averaged 1.7 blocks a game. Romond Jenkins averaged 10.8 rebounds a game which won him Rebounder of the Year. Aaron Barrett received the Academic Award for having a 4.0 GPA.

“I am very honored to have received the academic award from the Greyhounds. It means a lot to me because all of us players went through things during the season that were tough, and it feels good to have accomplished this,” said Barrett about receiving his reward.

The Greyhounds finished the season 23-9 and went undefeated at home. Paige and Singletary were named 1st Team All Region. Malcolm Hamilton made 2nd Team, and Jermaine Morgan made honorable mention.

Greyhounds who will be moving on this year include McLaughlin, who plans to attend Missouri S&T, Paige who plans to attend Southern Mississippi, and Singletary who will attend Battlemore Maryland. Barrett will attend Northwest Missouri State. Both Morgan and Jenkins remain undecided.

The Greyhounds and Lady Greyhounds achieved great success this year.

The Hounds

By Kayla Drenenstedt
Express Staff

The Moberly Greyhounds Men’s Basketball team achieved success this past season. They compiled a 23-9 record against a competitive schedule and won 7-3 in the Region 16 competition.

The Hounds beat West Plains in the semi-finals by 77-69 through teamwork and a rigorous practice schedule. Coach Patrick Smith says players practice Monday-Saturday during the season and conditioning begins the second week of fall semester.

“MACC is a great place to coach and play at,” Smith said. “We look forward to continuing the program’s success and continuously representing the college and community in a very positive manner.”

The Hounds have enjoyed good standing as runner-ups in the region the last two seasons. Their goal for next season is to win the regional title and play in the National Tournament in Hutchison, Kansas. Smith said that five players have been signed for next semester so far. The team receives funding through the college and Booster Club and offers 12 scholarships to players on the men’s and women’s teams. Greyhound fans can show support by cheering the team on at games, both at home and on location. The team schedule is posted on moberlygreyhounds.com, where fans can also watch a live-stream of each game on their computers or mobile devices.

Graduating Greyhounds continue to succeed at basketball after leaving MACC. This year, players have signed with Washington State University, University of Southern Mississippi, and University of Albany—all NCAA Division 1 programs. Last year, players went on to U. of Washington, Central Michigan, Central Missouri, and Southwestern Oklahoma.

Coach Smith is proud to watch his players meet their goals and go on to do bigger things. “The process is very important to me”, he said. “Winning and losing is important; however, the development of our players as people, students, and then as players will always be the most important.”