Learning Center tutoring goes to the cloud

By Danilee Canaday
Express Staff

Moberly Area Community College has seven separate sites. The Moberly site has a full Learning Center complete with tutors. The Columbia site has a few tutors; the other five sites have little or no free tutoring available. Students at other campuses form study groups, pay tutors, or ask instructors for help. But what if your study partner, tutor, or instructor is not available for questions? The Moberly Learning Center has an answer, and it’s called Elluminate.

Elluminate is a free online tutoring program that students can access from anywhere. Moderators, or tutors, answer questions that students have via webcam, microphone, or chat room.

Director of the Learning Center Cindy Droge said, “It’s been a great way for students to access [tutoring] from other sites or for students at home.”

Elluminate is already established at MACC through several online classes. Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society, has even made use of Elluminate for organization meetings. It’s a prime candidate for providing tutoring to the other MACC sites.

As for the spring 2011 semester, only three of the eight tutors are moderators on Elluminate due to the training needed during the tutors’ scheduled times or by appointment.

Easy access isn’t the only advantage of Elluminate; it’s also easy to use. If web cam isn’t available, students can chat on a chat screen. If a microphone is available, students can talk as they would on a cell phone. Several buttons that are used in Elluminate to help students communicate with the moderators are:

• I’m confused
• I disagree
• I understand
• I got it!
• Raise hand for question
• Lower hand

The bulk of Elluminate’s screen is a white board where moderators can show math work, write text, or draw diagrams. Moderators can also take over a student’s computer screen with permission to help the student to helpful websites, or moderators can see exactly what the student is seeing, such as a Word document.

Elluminate is not only helpful to one student at a time but to multiple students through a feature called break out rooms. Moderators can place one or more students in a breakout room if they are at a different place in the lesson or are on a different subject. Students can also work together, and moderators can grant moderator privileges to a student if the tutor is needed elsewhere.

Elluminate is a virtual classroom where tutors can answer questions the same as an instructor would in class and where students can work together as they would in a study group. Tutors are available by appointment or during their scheduled times.

Tutor Stacey Donald commented on student feedback for Elluminate. “A lot of people are still apprehensive about trying it.”

One thing the Learning Center hopes to do next semester is to encourage students to use Elluminate to hold an Elluminate orientation to teach students how to use it.

Droge hopes to offer more courses for tutoring in the future as the demand calls for it. Students can access Elluminate through the Learning Center homepage by clicking on “Virtual Tutoring”. See if it can help you.
Housing assistance for students

By Samantha Preston
Express Staff

“Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.” That’s the motto of the Northeast Missouri Community Action Agency (NMCAA).

Cindy Higgins, area content manager, along with Mindy Garrett, emergency services coordinator, have worked hard to help low income individuals—some students—make a better life for themselves.

There are several programs that Higgins and Garrett coordinate together. The main one is the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). This program helps students who need assistance, and if students participate in the program, they learn to make a budget and balance an income that they might have, and any other basic needs that they need met.

The NMCAA offers several types of assistance, including gas, electric, rent, and other utilities. Garrett specifically runs the program that helps with water bills and specific utilities.

The downfall is these programs do not pay for college tuition, but they DO help with rent, or utility bills or car payments, making it easy for students to afford college.

When asked how many students they currently had on their program, Higgins said: “It’s difficult to say how many students we have on our program. It’s not required on the application we give them. It doesn’t specify if they are Truman University, Andrew Taylor Still University, or MACC students.”

The applications don’t have any restrictions either. You just have to be in the low income range; for example, a full-time student who meets the guidelines for the program could get assistance.

However, here is a priority list. This list gives preference to disabled—you have to prove you draw disability money or you are a family with small children under the age of five.

“This next fiscal year is not a very good year for us, with all the budget and funding cuts that the state is doing and what Obama is trying to approve,” Garrett and Higgins said. The Crisis programs that are under Garrett’s direction have depleted their funding for the programs.

One program could be useful, the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program (HPRR). If you are sleeping in a car, garage, or on a friend’s couch and they need you to get yourself together and get out, this program assists you in finding a house or apartment and even a job with rent assistance of up to 18 months.

Every bit of their funding approval has to go through the state office of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Obama’s future plans have budget cuts for most of these programs that people need to survive. Sixty-six percent of the crisis programs, Low-Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and CSBG, are either going to be cut completely or liquidated from the agency.

“There is a lot of uncertainty for our jobs and the welfare of our customers,” Garrett and Higgins said.

For customers who need assistance, depending on their needs, the NMCAA are willing to go as high as giving $800 a month in the winter and $300 in the summer months if you have a main heat source. This flow of cash would only be for heating and cooling your homes.

Weatherization is also something that the NMCAA offers for low income housing, whether rented or an owned home.

“We are not a hand out; we are a hand up,” said Higgins.

Pickler’s Famous

By Samantha Preston
Express Staff

Pickler’s Famous is the new business in Kirksville. Part throwback to earlier times and part Disney, it’s a place students can go and hang out, study or have a good time.

Pickler’s Famous is named after Sam Pickler who built the building in 1864. He was a mayor of Kirksville, and he owned the only journal company in town. After Sam built this building, there was a clothing store called Famous in the building.

Todd Kuntz, web integration manager at Truman State University and owner of Pickler’s Famous, wanted to honor Sam Pickler by naming it after him and the first clothing store in the building.

Pickler’s Famous is home to a variety of tasty treats from ice cream to hotdogs. Think of an oversized ballpark concession stand. Pickler’s sells hotdogs, cupcakes, all sorts of ice cream and handmade sodas and sandwiches. The employees who work in this establishment are called soda jerks simply because they make the sodas from scratch.

Popular in the 1950s, soda jerks were young men or women who had charge over the soda fountain and made all the sodas and drinks in the drugstore. The name came from the jerking motion the person would use with the handle when adding the soda water to the flavoring and ice cream in the sodas.

Pickler’s is not just for students. When asked how many people come into the establishment Kuntz replied, “We have had a variety of people who come into Pickler’s, from families with small children, students and grandparents; we’ve had a total of 600 people in at our grand opening at the end of March.”

There is also a theatre if you are interested in independent films and movies that didn’t get run in the cinema in Kirksville. The movies are usually in the thriller genre and are shown mostly in the evening.

“Since Pickler’s has opened, we’ve had two sell out shows and a total of 15 shows per week,” Kuntz said. “During our grand opening, we offered two shows that were nominated for Academy Awards: Illusion and Gasland.”

When asked how many students come to the movies, Kuntz said, “Not many students have come, but it’s been early in the opening, and we are working to promote our movies more; hopefully, people will start coming.”

The design for Pickler’s came from Ron Rybkowski, theatre professor at Truman State University. “We wanted Pickler’s to be a little of Disney World, the 1800’s era and a little of the modern décor,” Kuntz said.

There is another theatre mainly for stage use. The Community Theatre Group will do its spring showing at Pickler’s Famous. The seating in the stage theatre is from the old Petit 3 Cinema. The stage theatre is open to any public organization.

“All of our spaces that we have available are open for anyone with fundraisers, birthday parties, recitals, public meetings etc.” Kuntz said.
A helpful policy

By Michael Sade
Express Staff

During the beginning of the semester, MACC students in Columbia had trouble finding a computer to access between 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Computers were full, and many of the users were doing work that was not college-related. A student walked into the resource center and realized that the computers were full. Luckily for these students, MACC has a policy. Students can be asked to log off if they are not working on academics.

“It’s good that there is a policy for this because it means that there will be more computers available for students who need them,” said MACC student Rogerick Smith. According to a recent student survey, many of the students who are not working on academics are using e-mail, Facebook, or gaming.

“Students use the computers for academic work. Academics is a priority while other things are secondary,” said Brian Dulany, a security officer at the MACC campus in Columbia.

“It hasn’t been a real problem, but it [the policy] is there when necessary. The policy is crucial and a benefit for MACC students,” Dulany stated.

The policy is posted on all lab computers.

“The policy also teaches time management skills,” said Rogerick Smith. With this policy in place, the students at MACC will be able to get their work done and learn valuable management skills along the way.

The number of computers available differ by campus. Columbia has a resource center with 25 computers; a few don’t work, so computers are sometimes limited. There is no access to a Mac lab. The main campus has a learning center and a newly renovated library with computers at both locations; students have access to more than 70 computers. Macs are available in the Learning Center. The Hannibal site offers students a Resource Center with approximately 16 computers and access to another lab when not it is not in use that has 18 computers.

Most labs have busy times and days. Students know what these are, but having a policy is a help when there is work to be done.

Who's who in Hannibal colleges

By Donald Sullivan
Express Staff

There are different types of colleges. Community colleges, such as MACC, offer certificate and degree programs and are often located in the smaller Missouri communities. Universities offer bachelor and masters programs. Campus life is also different. Students have an option of living on campus while attending school. How do people find these colleges, especially the smaller schools, such as the community colleges?

Advertising is an important and strategic way of getting their name out to the public. MACC benefits from advertising. MACC-Hannibal, for example, is a small commuter school that offers a two-year program. It offers its students morning and evening classes. The school may be small, but it gets its name out.

MACC’s advertising team is headed by Jaime Morgans on the main campus. On the other campuses, the directors provide input in marketing. Wendy Johnson, director of the Hannibal site, takes care of local ads, but before the ads are released, she seeks the dean’s approval on the main campus.

According to Johnson, “There are many different ways we are able to let people know who we are and what we have to offer at MACC at little or no cost.”

MACC-Hannibal has many different ads. Ads are on pizza boxes, in grocery stores, and in high school yearbooks. MACC ads are floating around the community, and they get people’s attention. These ads make MACC visible to the public. People know about the community college in Hannibal.

Hannibal also has a four-year school: Hannibal-LaGrange University (HLGU). This school is a little bigger than MACC. HLGU has residence halls and a few other amenities that MACC-Hannibal doesn’t have.

But both schools advertise. People in the community see the signs and commercials about both MACC and HLGU and know that they can go to college in Hannibal to pursue a degree. Many start at MACC to get their basic general education requirements and then go to HLGU to continue their education. Both colleges do a good job of advertising their school.

For information, individuals may also use their websites: www.hlgu.edu and www.macc.edu.
Students host victimology awareness fair

Students in Lynn VanDolah’s Victimology class study victimization within the American culture. As part of the course work, students construct projects. Students in the spring 2011 class hosted a Victims Awareness Fair on Saturday, April 16. Members of the community, especially parents and children, attended the event. A number of local groups and organizations also participated in the awareness event. Students involved in the Awareness Fair were members of the victimology class.

Kickin' in Kirksville

The door swings open and a warm breeze hits your face. The distinct smell of summer reaches your nose, and your skin feels the sun beating down on it. When you close your eyes, you can see the light pink shade of the back of your eyelids, and you know it’s finally here. Not only is it summer, it is summer in Kirksville.

It’s not only the weather that changes in Kirksville; there is a noticeable difference for residents when these warm months arrive. As Truman classes end, many students leave the area.

“It’s more peaceful, it’s quiet, there’s less traffic and I sleep a lot better,” sophomore Tabitha Campbell said.

With much of the population scattered throughout Missouri, Kirksville’s roads are a little emptier, and its nights are a little quieter. This is something many residents cherish.

“I really like that when I go to the movies on the weekends, it is not packed,” sophomore Nicki Adams said.

There are many things Kirksville has to offer for the people who inhabit it. One of the popular activities for summertime fun takes place at the Aquatic Center. With a slide and two diving boards, people of all different ages find the pool a fun and relaxing way to spend time, and only for $3.50 a visit. There are also small pools at local parks where many bring young ones to swim for no charge.

By Katie Brewer
Express Staff

Thousand Hills State Park does not only cater to those who own boats, but also to those who want to spend the day out on the water. Peddle boats and kayaks are available to rent, and the beach is open for swimmers.

You do not have to get wet to have fun; there are many stores and restaurants around the downtown square. Summer is a great opportunity to get outside, walk around and enjoy local businesses.

“I spend a lot of my summer walking around the square. I like going to places like the Mocha Hut, Blink of an Eye and Hidden Treasures. It’s a nice healthy way to spend time. It’s a nice break from the school year,” sophomore Alaine Fowler said.

When the last bubble on the last test is filled in, and the doors to MACC are pushed open for the last time (for a little while at least), students can rest assured that there are plenty of activities that will substitute homework. Though the streets may seem a little bare and the movie theater quieter, there is still plenty to do in Kirksville.
More Morels Please

By Samantha Preston
Express Staff

Picture this: it’s a hot humid day, not a cloud in the sky, and the warm grass is still wet from the morning dew. Hundreds of May apples are at your feet ready to welcome you to the woods. This is the kind of weather and atmosphere for fantastic mushroom hunting.

The perfect time to start thinking about going to look for mushrooms is usually the months of April and May according to Marsha Jones, conservation agent, and the Missouri Conservation Department website. There aren’t definite areas or temperatures to find mushrooms although they are more likely to be in their prime state in April and May.

The characteristics that keep morel mushrooms available to hunters vary considerably. You could not find any in one spot, have a hard rain, and the same spot would be crawling with morel mushrooms the next morning. The day that follows a nice warm rain would be the best day to start hunting mushrooms. Some of the best places are right under your nose.

Britten Hicks, MACC student said, “The best places, though creepy, are old abandoned graveyards.”

When hunting mushrooms, it is easy to get frustrated; some people find just a few, but others find the perfect spot where they find gallon buckets or Walmart sacks full of mushrooms. It just depends on the time of day and if it’s in the perfect setting. The best temperature is usually above 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

Finding the perfect hunting spot could also prove to be difficult because a lot of mushroom hunters get in fights over the spot. Some people keep their spot a secret and go when no one is looking or at times when businesses are at work.

When asked if there are people fighting for his spot, Hicks replied, “Yes, if you can include family, but it’s not a secret to keep from them.”

According to the Missouri Conservation Department, there are several other areas good for morel mushrooms—rotted trees where the bark is beginning to slide off the trunk is a prime example, yet others could be found after a forest fire when the soil is saturated with nutrients for the morels to grow. A burned forest in Austria, reported 44,000 pounds of morels in one setting.

When morel hunting, there is no plan for grabbing these mushrooms up; it just takes a lot of patience and calm wandering around in the woods or around dead and rotten trees. When you find one, don’t rush over to it, you might ruin your chance of finding a lot more where you found the first one. They tend to grow singly instead of bunches. So be careful!

Strummin’ the strings

By Stephanie Linhart
Express Staff

Life on stage, many fans chanting your name below you, feeling the heat from the stage lights, the booming of the drums behind you. To many people such a life is hard to bare, but not for former MACC student Andrew Linhart.

Since age 14, starting out in his local church in Kirksville, Andrew’s musical knowledge of the electric bass has increased every year. “Not only was the bass the first instrument of many I learned to play, but it was the instrument that intrigued me the most.” Andrew stated.

In October 2010, Andrew joined and became part of the band “An Endless Chapter;” this new band was rising to the top at a rapid rate. By the first month, they made and sold their first C.D., titled An Endless Chapter, in honor of the band.

There are many reasons why people become part of a band. Some believe it is their birthright.

“Linhart’s part in the band is significant by keeping the band in tempo and harmonized,” says Caitlin Kinman, lead singer of the band.

According to Andrew, “I have quite a few reasons why I’m part of a band. First, I enjoy being on stage and entertaining the fans that come and hear us play. Also, I have made it a hobby that I can share with friends.”

Most bands first try to win the hearts of the people in the sponsored record companies. But the band “An Endless Chapter” goes to many places to catch people’s attention.

“We as a band have gone to bars, music venues in mid Missouri, as well as north Missouri, along with Omaha and Lincoln NE to entertain our supporting fans,”Andrew said.

According to Kinman, “I believe every person and every part is a major part for the band; we couldn’t play our songs without him. He also does a lot of behind the scenes, stuff that he doesn’t get the credit for. Andrew wants to go far and pushes himself and all of us, and I think we as a band will go far. We work very hard and put everything into it and I think that will carry us far in this industry. I don’t know how famous we will be, we can all wish and dream to be but it all comes down to how hard you work and how many shows you play. I believe we are on the right track to go far, and I can’t wait to see where the future takes us.”

Kinman agreed with Andrew when he said, “If given the chance to be famous, I would give it my all and show the world what “An Endless Chapter” is made of.”

Andrew supports and enjoys his band and continues to dream of fame. As of right now, he is just strummin’ the strings.
Cliff hanger...
By Vince Smith
Express Editor

The grills were fired by 12:30, Sgt. Keith Swank and his crew had taken over the lot with their t-shirt cannons and gaming consoles, and theatre class members in costume were prancing out of the basement to entertain. On April 26, the annual spring fling festival on the main campus had begun, but there was something missing.

The parking lot reserved for the National Guard was empty. There was no climbing wall or other game that had often been provided by the National Guard.

Sgt. Keith Swank has been representing the National Guard at MACC events for several years. Traditionally, he brings a rock climbing wall for students to climb and repel to the spring fling and fall festival. The rock wall gives the spring fling a whole new edge of excitement. Unfortunately, all the adrenaline junkies were left hanging for the first time as the wall is getting repaired.

The gamers were in luck, however, as Swank had a few gaming systems for students to battle it out. Specialist Christopher Lee Murray and Sgt. Swank set up the white National Guard tent with Xbox 360 games and a black tent for Play Station 3 games. Although the games provided an enjoyable time, nothing can beat watching your friends scrambling up the side of that wall.

According to Swank the wall should be repaired in time for the fall picnic, and students can give it another go.

The two-man team still brought the heat. Each was armed with CO2 powered t-shirt cannons; they launched approximately 200 National Guard shirts.

According to Recruiter Sgt. Keith Swank, the Guard comes to the activity to provide students with entertainment as well as information on the benefits of joining the Guard.

“We want to help people better themselves,” says Swank. Swank is a veteran in the armed forces and has been a recruiter for the Moberly National Guard for several years.

Sgt. Swank states that “a lot of people we recruit are students who are looking for a way to pay for college. Anyone interested can contact me (or your local recruiter) and find out all of our offerings for college payment.”

Spring Fling 2011
By Paul Muehring
Hannibal Spring Fling

Spring Fling 2011 activities enlightened and raised awareness for Hannibal students. Spring Fling was an opportunity for several representatives to reach out to the students. College representatives provided application information to encourage students to apply to their universities. These representatives included Culver-Stockton University, Hannibal LaGrange University, University of Missouri, and Quincy University. Each provided pamphlets and applications for those interested. The Mizzou representative was lucky enough to also judge the limbo games.

Another part of the Spring Fling was dedicated to a speech given by two individuals from a sexual abuse group. The speech gave information and interesting facts about sexual abuse and the people who choose to rape. Group representatives handed out small pins to help spread awareness of sexual abuse. Karen Seward, MACC instructor, also spoke to students and gave details and facts on sexual abuse that students might be able to use.

The Spring Fling was also about having fun. The Fling always gets one’s heart beat going, especially when it is held outside in beautiful weather. This year the Hannibal MACC campus had a Hawaiian theme to celebrate spring. Hawaiian necklaces, “beach” music (such as the Beach Boys), bowls of delicious candy and food, and Hawaiian-type decorations covered the campus. Students grabbed freshly grilled hot dogs, some chips, and ice-cold sodas and relaxed in the sun as they talked to fellow students and instructors.

Students tried their luck with a drawing to win a $5 gift card for Dairy Queen, and they tried their flexibility skills with a challenging game of limbo to win a $10 gift card for the theater.

Overall, the 2010-2011 Spring Fling at Hannibal MACC was a great success. Many people showed up to relax, eat, and enjoy a little time off from their hectic school schedule and studying. The representatives gave the Fling a perfect balance of awareness and information.

Marshaye Devereaux, elected during spring fling, is our new MACC Student Government president.

Dakota Reeves, Trey Chisholm, Kevin Stander, Ashle Procter, Emily Janes, and Dona Han endure the cold during Spring Fling.

Scenes from Alice in Wonderland during the opening performance on April 29
All eyes on the King of Hearts

By Zach Kroening
Express Staff

Kelson Rosbach, 20, is everything but new to being in the spotlight. His interest in the spotlight started in middle school with drama classes.

“I just fell in love with it,” Rosbach says.

Kelson Rosbach was born in a tiny town in upstate New York, but his family moved to Columbia, Missouri at a young age of 5.

“I was a huge nerd in high school; I did all the academic stuff. I was in FBLA, Math relays, Quiz bowls. I did play baseball as a kid though. I wasn’t any good, but I played it almost ever summer for five years, I think,” he explains.

While attending Hallsville High school, just north of Columbia, Rosbach played prominent roles in many plays including Oklahoma, Robin Hood, West Side Story, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Beauty and the Beast, and The Princess Bride.

Kelson Rosbach is a talented singer, he also leads the bass section of the MACC Singers led by Director Karen Werner.

“Kelson is working very hard in the area of musical theatre. He has been auditioning, and each time he auditions he gains more confidence. I’ve seen such an improvement in his singing talents. His great talent and leadership are really shining through in the MACC Singers.”

Rosbach plans to further his career in singing and acting on Broadway after he graduates with an Associates degree in Music Theater.

“After I graduate, I plan to continue my education in theater at a four-year university after which I’ll be shooting for Broadway. If that doesn’t work out, I’d like to teach theater,” Rosbach says.

Many people are unaware that Stephens College isn’t just a women’s college. Their theater department is one of the few departments that allow men to be admitted into the program.

“Stephens theater program is really good. I’ve seen productions they’ve done, and they’re just really good, so Stephens is what I’m hoping for,” stated Rosbach.

Kelson Rosbach has performed four plays for the MACC drama department. His role as King of Hearts should come with ease.

The MACC spring play is based on two of Lewis Carrol’s books. The first act is based on Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland followed by the sequel, Through the Looking-Glass, as Act two.

Alice and Wonderland will be performed April 29, 30, and May 1. All performances will be in the afternoon and will be performed on the outdoor stage at the agora.
In front of the bars

By Katie Brewer
Express Staff

Flipping burgers, sacking groceries and, if you live in Kirksville, reading surveys are all too familiar to the typical college student trying to make a dollar.

Cody Goodwin is an exception.

“I love it. I look forward to going to work every day,” is something you might not usually hear from a 19-year-old student, but those are the words Cody said when discussing his job.

Most people would not dream of going to jail on a regular basis, but Cody is not “most people.” Cody is a jailer at the Adair County Jail, and he says that it definitely puts a perspective on how to talk with inmates and people who have been arrested.

From patting down new inmates to serving food, Cody does everything you would think a jailer does. He has been employed there since August 2010 and he still enjoys his job.

“My favorite part is that you have supervisors, but most of the time, you are with other correctional officers. You really have to trust yourself to call the shots,” Cody said.

While he says he loves this job, he also says it is demanding at times. He says his weekend is “completely shot” and that he often works over nights.

This work may seem like a long shot for most students. Young adults are used to having a slim picking of ways to make money. However, Cody says that this is one that is available for anyone of age.

“Anyone can apply. They do a background check, and they do a psych evaluation. Pretty much anyone can be hired, but if you have a background in military, medicine, law enforcement, etc, that might help you out.”

It might not be suitable for everyone. Goodwin says there is a lot of learning on the job and it takes a while to get used to. There are also more dangerous parts to the job; Cody has interacted with combative inmates on occasion.

This is only the start for Cody. He says he is looking into going into law enforcement, and this was a great place to begin. He will continue to show up in his uniform every day, and hopefully it is not one MACC students will ever see him in.

Interesting talent

By Donald Sullivan
Express Staff

People have many different types of talents. Some have the ability to do art, sing, write, or play an instrument. It’s what people take an interest in and what makes them feel good about themselves. Some are naturals; others need to practice to get better. Bobbie Altiser has an interesting talent that he has practiced since he was a kid. This activity can be very dangerous, but he loves it.

Bobbie Altiser is a 20-year-old student who works two jobs and takes college classes. Altiser moved to Hannibal from Unionville, Missouri when he was in middle school and graduated from Hannibal High School in 2009. He enrolled in online courses at MACC in the fall 2010.

Altiser enjoys a sport in his free time. He is a street biker, or BMX. His passion with street bikes began when he was 11 and just after he moved to Hannibal.

Altiser is sponsored by several companies, including Tree and Raw Indulgence. Tree and Raw Indulgence are online companies. Tree is a clothing and bike parts company. Raw is a healthy organic candy bar company. Altiser got sponsored by these companies after touring with BMX professionals and entering bike tournaments.

Altiser’s motto is, “Do what you like, and like what you did.” He likes to spend more time on his bike than anything else, whether it’s at the skate park, parking lots or at the bike shop. There, you can see Altiser doing some of his flips off of ramps and steps.

Altiser has been riding bikes for almost nine years. He doesn’t plan to take classes after this semester. Instead, he wants to travel the world, enter tournaments, and continue his biking skills. Biking is very important to him, and he wants to make this into a career. Altiser is very good at what he does and loves it. In the near future, he plans to go back to school. For now, he just wants to see what happens with his biking experience.

To see Bobbie Altiser in action:
treebycycleco.com
rawindulgence.com
"If picasso can, so can you"

By Samantha Preston
Express Staff

Holland Wheeler, second-year MACC student, is a talent waiting to take wing. She draws, paints, sculpts, and even dips into modeling for fun.

When asked who inspired her the most, Wheeler said, “Watching my dad always fascinated me, him drawing from scratch and making something beautiful.” Her father Steve Wheeler has been her motivator from the time she was 5 years old.

“Doing whatever God inspires me to do will help me make my art into a career,” Wheeler said. Wheeler also gets her ideas from Leonardo Da Vinci and Michelangelo.

“Da Vinci drew stuff that people had to pick apart to understand,” Wheeler said. Davinci and Michelangelo have always inspired Holland because of the way they used their art to explain the simplicity of scenery.

Have any ideas about buying her work? Just check Facebook; she’s posted some of her work online. When asked if she’s sold any, Wheeler said, “I’ve mainly given art to colleges and friends and family.”

Wheeler says she is mainly accomplished in her self-generated portraits. She gets an idea in her head and puts it on canvas: from peacocks to human to trees. According to Wheeler, she uses her talent for pure enjoyment.

Art class was a big struggle for Wheeler. “I didn’t want to get out of my box, but Ms. Herron, art instructor at MACC, made me see outside. The cool thing was--she liked my own style of doing projects.”

Holland Wheeler has always dabbled in art, but at 17, she realized her potential gift, embraced it and made it a reality.

“If Picasso can throw paint on paper and make millions, anyone can do art!” Wheeler said.

The Greyhound Cheerleaders wrap up a great season

By Sarah Smith
Express Staff

The Greyhound cheerleaders are a big deal at all of the games, cheering and performing stunts. They get the crowd pumped and the team ready for victory. After a great season, they have begun plans for next year.

This year’s squad consists of Jessica Berchman, Marsha Butner, Jazzy Brown, Lekel Lyons, Lindsay Dickerson, Keke Cedillo, Brandy Hines, Courtney Hendren, Devin Belle, Kaley Shelby, Angela Ostermann and Audrey Cantu. Head Coach Becky Smith and Assistant Coach Kat Ostermann took charge of the squad this season.

The cheerleaders participate in local parades and fundraisers. The 50/50 raffle and cheer clinics help the squad pay for necessities like cheer camp and travel expenses. As the coaches pointed out, squad members are from different towns, so cheer camp helps bring the squad together so they can learn new stunts. Clearly, all of the hard work and dedication the cheerleaders put into this season paid off because the feedback from the audience was positive.

“Some people were saying that this is the best squad they’ve seen at MACC,” Coach Smith reflected.

“We try to be as entertaining as possible while staying safe,” said Coach Ostermann. Ostermann stated that the squad members represented themselves well on and off the court.

In preparation for next season, the Greyhound cheerleaders are looking at a new fundraising option: college prep for high school juniors and seniors. The cheerleaders would coach high school students interested in cheering in college. This idea is still in development. Another goal is to recruit more squad members.

“I hope to see a large turn out at try outs,” Coach Smith said. The squad is hoping to recruit more male members. With more male and female members, the cheerleaders could perform a wider variety of stunts.

The top eight people who try out will earn scholarships. The squad also hopes to see a larger fan turn out at the games next season.

“I keep believing that MACC will appreciate us more and more,” said Coach Smith. All of the preparation the Greyhound cheerleaders have put into next season is sure to help them be even more successful.

A meeting with poets

By Danilee Canaday
Express Staff

Spring Fling took place on Wednesday, April 27 this year. Besides National Guard booths, good food, and Alice in Wonderland cast appearances, Professor Mike Barrett’s poetry class performed their works in the Art Gallery.

For the 15th straight year, the students read the poems they wrote throughout the semester to an audience of about thirty people. Every year, Professor Barrett picks the theme for the reading. This year’s theme, "Assignment" means a secret appointment with someone. The theme tied directly into the poems about politics, religion, and romance.

The poets were Josh Admire, Michele Gehring, Abbie Grizzle, Torrey Guerra, Whitney Hartzell, Lonnie Kessler, Kenneth (Vince) Smith, and Hayley Vomund. The performances were grouped according to theme, but the poets read solo.

A few sets were group ensembles, such as Genophonics, Knock, Knock, and The Places We Go. In this last piece, Vince Smith accompanied on banjo.

Student and poet, Michele Gehring, stated, “We did a lot of rehearsals. It’s been a lot of fun. I loved that we could perform. We get to see them live. I’m happy to be part of it.”
Can you survive an apocalypse?

By Paul Muehring
Express Staff

A comical way to survive a zombie apocalypse...useless one might say? Maybe not. Since there are literally thousands of different situations or places one might be when an apocalypse happens (mall, home, school, airport), we will focus on the main objectives.

First is to find a stable environment free of the walking dead where you can stay safe. For example, in a mall, you might want to look for a “Maintenance Only” or “Employees Only” sign. These areas should mostly be clear of people/zombies. You might also find some survivors gathered there.

If you are at home when the apocalypse happens, you’ll need to board up the house and block entrances with whatever you can use, such as couches, chairs, bookshelves. If at school, one might want to stay in the teacher’s lounge, and close yourself in for the time being, but let survivors in when they find you. And as for the airport, I would recommend staying on a plane and closing the plane’s doors, so the zombies can’t get in.

The next step on the pathway to survival is finding weapons and supplies. If you’re at the mall, you’re likely to find everything you need for survival. The problem is getting the supplies without getting bitten by a zombie. You’ll need to have a fantastic weapon if you want to survive. If you’re in the “Maintenance Only” room(s), look around for a security guard; he or she usually has mace or even a handgun. You can also use whatever you find as a weapon, whether it be a chair, cash register, or a pretzel. After getting a weapon, you can make your way through the mall and find lots of weapons to use.

If you’re at home, you will have it easy, unless you were lazy and didn’t go to the grocery store. Other than that, you should have some kind of knife or gun or even slingshot that you can use to destroy zombies. At school, the cafeteria is the main source of “yummy” food. Some likely weapons to use at school are sharp scissors, a heavy, useless hard-back book, maybe a desk, or maybe even a dodge ball or baseball bat from the gym. As for other supplies, you could break into the nurse’s office and gather some medical supplies. And finally, at an airport, each plane should be equipped with proper medical and food supplies. If not, gather some weapons from the plane like a rolling cart, a suitcase, or several bags of peanuts, and make your way into the building to look for other proper supplies to use.

After gathering enough supplies and weapons to survive, you’ll need to find survivors. The mall should be full of survivors, whether they’re hidden in the bathroom, located in random stores, or in the maintenance room. You will need to take medical supplies and lots of weapons if you’re going to go on a search for survivors.

At home, you can easily run to your neighbor’s house to see if anyone is alive. Do this for each house, but be ready to attack if any of them are zombies. Make sure the zombies don’t follow you back to your safe-house when you leave. The same applies for school: take lots of weapons and supplies and don’t be followed. At the airport, there may be lots of survivors on the plane; however, if the plane is empty, look for survivors in the building. Take your weapons and venture to find some survivors to help fight the apocalypse.

And finally, after gathering some possible survivors, create a long-term plan of what to do next. No matter where you are, you can come up with similar objectives. Find a car and travel to a safer place, like an armory or police station, wait until help comes, or look for even more survivors so you can establish a zombie-fighting army. Whatever you do and wherever you go, be careful not to get bitten.

The red pill or the blue pill?

By Vince Smith
Express Editor

Blades fly and brains are fried in the retro-action thriller Limitless. Bradley Cooper asserts another charismatic performance of Eddie Morra, a struggling writer plagued with relationship problems and writer's block. Based on a novel by Alan Glynn (Dark Fields), this movie is a psycho-fantasy high-speed joy ride, straight to the top of my favorite movie list.

The strung out, motivation-fried Eddie is feeling hopeless about the nearing due date of his first book contract when he coincidently meets up with his ex-brother-in-law. After embarrassingly explaining the situation with his book deal, his brother-in-law lets him in on a life changing addiction that will carry Eddie into a new life of success and commitment. After the first instant effects of the smart drug that his brother-in-law gave him, he returns to his trashed apartment and immediately takes action to clean the whole apartment before finishing most of his novel.

A very unsettling look at the demand of this pill leaves him with a massive batch of it, and things just seem to keep pulling forward for Eddie. When a fifty-foot plunge off of a cliff into the ocean jolts Eddie into an idea, the doors are open and his options are only limited by his knowledge. The effects of the drug make anything he has ever read, seen, felt, or experience organized into his conscious mind and at his disposal.

Eddie, after he took the drug, or the “Enhanced Eddie,” narrated. Eddie was already smart to begin with but lacked motivation to move forward with life. After taking the drug, Enhanced Eddie was alert, quick to observe crucial and minor details, and moved forward in every possible way he could. The camera effects made the world around him slow down, and sound dropped out, leaving only a heartbeat of a euphoric experience. His ex-wife, whom he reunites with briefly, serves as a good rising action protagonist for the movie. She ends up having to take the pill to escape a shady character who is chasing her for the drug.

The movie was well directed by Niel Berg. The video and sound effects were effective in creating the experience in the viewer, especially right after he ingests the drug. The ceiling turns to numbers to express the information and insight that poured from him. The slowing of the camera, sounds and parts that sped up were crucial to the effect. Parts that were supposed to fade in and out were fuzzy images and sounds, with subtle and rushing effects to snap you out of it. Parts where the camera moved fast down the sidewalk symbolized the overall moral behind the drug: move forward no matter how fast you go.
**Puppy love**

By Stephanie Linhart  
**Express Staff**

When a person is tired of being alone in the house, does he or she not realize that having company does not always mean living with another person? An average person, when looking for somebody to have around the house, looks for someone they can get along with, have fun with, hang out with on a non-eventful day, and someone who will have all the time in the world for that other person.

When looking for such a friend, look no further than down by your feet. Pets are known to be very good company, but above all the domestic animals in our world no pets are as great as dogs. Amber Mansour, MACC-KV student and dog owner, has owned Molly, her pure bred brindle Chihuahua, for 12 years.

When Mansour was asked how she felt when Molly came into her life she answered, “When I saw Molly being brought through the door, my eyes lit up with surprise. She was the cutest and smallest puppy I have ever seen, and in that moment all that mattered in the world was holding that little puppy.”

Mansour knew what she was looking for in an animal companion.

“An animal to keep me company and keep me happy. Also, I wanted to have an animal that would give me those cute, happy moments that every pet owner dreams of having with their pet.

“Molly is the kind of dog that loves to sit on your lap and absorb the attention. Also, watching Molly grow up, learn new tricks, and all the smart things she does, like jumping on the sink when she is thirsty, makes me feel like a good pet owner and that Molly was the dog for me.”

Mansour said if she found out that a person was thinking about having a dog for a pet, she would say to them: “I would recommend a dog for a pet. They are good companions, and they are funny as well as smart. They are pets a person can truly rely on.”

So, if you’re in need of animal company, there are many places to go to find that special love and bonding that Mansour and her dog Molly have. Many animals are waiting for a person to just open his arms with sincerity and acceptance, because like people, animals need love too. Most communities have a local Humane Society. Others also have privately owned no-kill rescue shelters where students can find dogs for a small fee.

**Dracula Who?**

By Sara Hadfield  
**Express Staff**

What do Edward, Bill, Angel and Damon all have in common? They are all part of the latest trend of the “new” vampire. Forget the pasty white creature in the black cape that sleeps in coffins and bring in the sparkly and artificial blood. Twilight is the leader of the pack (no pun intended) starting a whole new trend of this “hot” vampire that all the girls like, with the brooding vampires who wants the one normal human girl. Since the release of the hugely popular Twilight Saga movie and book series about the love between a vampire and human, the demand for vampires and the supernatural has spread like wildfire.

Several new TV and movie series are coming out and new classic vampire characters being created: Edward in the Twilight Saga, Damon in Vampire Diaries, Angel in the older but “fanboy” classic Buffy the Vampire Slayer, and Vampire Bill in True Blood. True Blood is based on the very popular Sookie Stackhouse series by Charlaine Harris. All these new vampire characters prove that even if they disappear for a few years, they come back with a vengeance.

Local Columbia author Jennifer Delucy, who wrote the Light Series, which is full of supernatural creatures and vampires, says:

“Vampires are one of those subjects that only go out of style for a short time before coming back, because a classic is a classic...what’s old will be new again,” referring to why vampires are suddenly such a big craze again.

Delucy also says, “I think that it’s not exactly so much the topic of vampires themselves that people are so intrigued by as much as paranormal/supernatural love. Most of us are kind of disillusioned by modern day, impersonal, dispassionate romance and want to read something that makes us think outside the box and feel something deeply.”

Even in the time of Ann Rice and her Interview with the Vampire book series and Buffy the Vampire Slayer, such an iconic show, vampires were not as popular as they have been in the last few years.

Delucy also likes this idea of this new and improved vampire: “The “new vampire” is a key idea for me, because, though my vampires are, as a rule, malicious and frightening, there’s more of a spiritually based explanation for their existence, and almost everyone is redeemable.”

As a reader of “vampire” fiction and the supernatural, I think readers like this “new” vampire and these more modern day stories because we can relate to these normal characters in a way, and we like the fact that these “new vampires” are more human and relatable than they used to be.

If you love the new trendy vampire with Twilight or the more classic vampire with the racy and dark True Blood, it seems as though the latest vampire trend is here to stay; they are immortal after all.

**Pursuing a career in teaching**

By Josh Garner  
**Express Staff**

Shelby Funkenbusch, 19 years old, spent her childhood and teenage years going to school in Palmyra, Missouri. In high school, Funkenbusch participated in plays, was involved in school functions, and had plenty of school spirit. After graduating in 2010, she decided to use her A+ that she earned to attend MACC.

Funkenbusch, a freshman at Moberly Area Community College, plans to get her AAT before transferring to Mizzou. Funkenbusch will pursue her goal to be a teacher. She wants to become a teacher because she loves little kids. She wants to make a difference in the kids’ lives and help them learn.

“My whole family is teachers. My mom, brother, sister-in-law, and two of my aunts teach. Two of my cousins deal with pre-school developmental programs,” Funkenbusch stated.

Funkenbusch is currently taking general education classes and a few educational courses. This semester, she is enrolled in Human Lifespan, Comp 1, Algebra, and Geography.

Funkenbusch will take the summer off and then continue her studies at MACC for one more year before transferring. She is making sure she gets what she can with the A+ program.

Besides taking classes to become a teacher, she has a job at the local Ben Franklin in Palmyra. She works in the fabric department. This consists of cutting fabric for customers, folding fabric, and rearranging fabric on the shelves.

Funkenbusch says, “It is a great way to learn basic measurements, and it keeps me fluent with the basic math I don’t get to do anymore.”

This is a great help since she is hoping to be teaching a second grade class. Funkenbusch helped and tutored with a second grade class when she was in high school as part of the A+ program. That is how she decided the second grade was what she wanted to teach.

Funkenbusch believes the first year of college at MACC hasn’t been much different than high school, but that there may be differences at a bigger school or university.

Even though she is excited about pursuing her career as a second grade teacher, she is looking forward to her summer break. In between her first and second year at MACC, Funkenbusch plans to go on her annual summer vacation with her family.
Managing school and a career path

By Donald Sullivan
Express Staff

Jacob Walton, MACC student and a student of basketball, has loved the sport since a young age. Besides playing the game, he also plays another role in the world of basketball. Walton is a team manager for the MACC Greyhounds. He has managed the team for the past two seasons (2009-2011). Walton keeps game stats, videotapes and edits games, participates in practice drills, and assists coaches with other tasks.

Walton has learned a lot from Coach Jay Spoonhour and the other assistant coaches. According to Walton, “I have had an amazing two years working for Jay Spoonhour.”

Walton enjoyed spending time with the team. He learned from them, and they made him feel like he was part of the team.

Walton has learned a lot over the years. He stated that he appreciated Moberly’s fans, the players, and the coaches for giving him the chance to experience basketball at this level. He hopes to take his experience in basketball into the next chapter of his life.

After MACC, Walton plans to go further in coaching. He hopes to go to Missouri State University in Springfield Mo. He has had an opportunity to speak with the new head coach, Paul Lusk. Walton plans to be a basketball manager for the Missouri State Bears.

Walton, who has always loved this sport, grew up watching his father, Steve Walton, coach basketball. He knew that he also wanted to coach. Walton has coached alongside his father for almost seven years. Today, Walton is a head coach with his father for the Mid Missouri Shooters, a 5th-8th grade girls basketball team.

Walton is learning on a daily basis. He still learns from his father, and his father has learned from him. Jacob Walton’s experiences will challenge him to be a better coach in the future.

Lady Greyhound Awards

Second Team
All-Region XVI
Lauren Mckinnis
Becca schemmer

Best Offensive Player
Lauren Mckinnis

Best Defensive Player
Mykel Boyd

Most Improved Player
Ruta Lizdenyte

Unsung Hero Award
Ashley Stevenson

Team Spirit Award
Tahsha Mitchell
Jelena Elez

Greyhound Awards

First Team
All-Region XVI
Daylen Robinson

Coach’s Award
Ronnie Boggs

Unsung Hero
Derrick Dilworth

Hutsell Award
Jon Gilliam