Canvas....
Painting a future for MACC's learning management systems

By David DeOrellis
Greyhound Express Staff

MACC has a new deal in place with a new learning management system called Canvas. It is set to replace the old system Tri-State Online. The learning management system is what runs MACC’s online courses for their students.

Amy Johns, director of Instructional Technology at MACC, describes her favorite element of Canvas.

“Canvas empowers students and allows them to decide how and when they are notified of course events.”

Canvas will be put into use starting the Fall 2015 semester. The switch is two years in the making. MACC began searching for a new learning management system to replace Tri-State Online; Tri-State’s contract with MACC runs out in December 2016. MACC is really interested in a more modern learning system that works with students’ modern, fast-paced lifestyles. Canvas seems to fit the bill.

MACC is not the first college in the area to make the switch; the University of Missouri and Stephen’s College have signed with Canvas, according to Johns.

Canvas brings portability and modernizes MACC’s learning-management system. Now twitter and text-messaging updates for grades are an option. Canvas offers mobile applications for Android and IOS devices. Compared to Tri-State Online, Canvas is much more mobile ready and capable. Also, Canvas’ course home is more interactive and customizable to fit each student’s needs, according to Johns.

Johns stated that MACC has had trouble integrating classes between Tri-State and Canvas. Fall 2015 is the trial run, so many students have already begun using Canvas. Students who changed passwords for Tri-State will need to use the original password given to them their first year for MACC Online. This password is fully integrated with Webmail (formerly Houndmail), MACC Online, and Canvas.

Canvas is definitely in as the new learning system, and students can expect Tri-State to be completely phased out by Spring 2016.

When logging into Canvas, students will see the home screen. Students can access assignments, grades, student email, and notes from instructors from this page.

"If you put your mind to it you can accomplish anything."
- Marty Mcfly
Johnston receives leadership award

By Kohlie E. Stock
Express Staff

Eric Johnston was presented The Outstanding Student Leadership Award by the Missouri Community College Association in September 2015. This MCCA award is presented annually to a student nominated by the college they attend. Requirements include maintaining a 2.5 GPA or above and to display exceptional leadership qualities through campus involvement during the previous academic year.

“I am super motivated. I am doing what I want to do,” said Johnston.

Johnston is a psychology major who dreams of becoming a mental health therapist and owning his own practice one day. He plans to graduate from MACC this December and transfer to either Columbia College or the University of Missouri. Until then, he stays involved on campus working as a LARC tutor, Student Government representative, and Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Tau Chapter president.

“What makes it work for me at school here is I schedule everything; I put everything in my calendar. I try not to ever push anything off. I try to get as much as I can done throughout a day. I make friends with all of my professors, I talk to all of them, ask questions as much as I can. I don’t know, I just do not put anything off. I do everything that I need to do so I can stay as close to 100% in every class that I can.”

Leaving a legacy: a little about Stan Isle...

By Kohlie E. Stock
Express Staff

When you enter Room No. 246 on the main campus of Moberly Area Community College, you realize that this is no ordinary classroom. The past editions of the The Greyhound Express scattered around and black and white photos covering the back wall are a clue. Yet, if you look closer, you will notice a reoccurring theme within the room. It is a theme revolving around one man, John Stanley “Stan” Isle.

Sports journalist and Moberly native, Stan Isle, loved journalism from a very early age. In grade school he began publishing a newspaper for his local neighborhood, operating out of the basement of his home. This love for writing continued to grow taking Isle into his years in college where worked as the editor-in-chief of Moberly Mirror for Moberly Junior College.

After graduation and serving in the Air Force, he returned to Moberly and worked at the Moberly Monitor Index as a sports editor. This position at the Monitor allowed his dream career to flourish bringing other opportunities for work, such as employment at a tribune in Wisconsin.

However, it was The Sporting News, a sports magazine based in St. Louis, that made a statewide name for Isle. He spent 25 years writing a weekly column for The Sporting News and eventually rose to accept the role of senior editor for the magazine.

From a local boy with a passion for the news to a prominent voice in the world of sports, Stan Isle left more than a mark on his hometown and MACC. He left a legacy.

Each day journalism students and visitors of the Stan Isle Journalism Room are reminded of his love for writing, his dedication, and his great success in the field of journalism.

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In Your Back Yard, Rocky Hallow

By David DeOrnellis
Greyhound Express Staff

Rocky Hallow was established as an official Missouri Department of Conservation Natural Area in 1973. The L-A-D Foundation’s efforts are to preserve Rocky Hallow and Native American history. L-A-D is a private organization; their main effort is to preserve natural areas in Missouri.

The park is dedicated to Charles Callison; a plaque is placed in his honor at the start of the hiking trail. He grew up in Holliday as a boy and spent most of his time in the woods of Rocky Hallow and gave it the name.

For hiking or hunting buffs, Rocky Hallow fits the bill. Beautiful hiking trails into the depths of the woods down into serene creek beds are some of the most beautiful trails in the area. Towering caves and a majestic waterfall are visible from the trails. Hunters enjoy both deer and turkey hunting seasons at Rocky Hallow. Only non-permanent stands are allowed so that people don’t harm the trees or bother wildlife.

However you spend your time at Rocky Hallow, it won’t be a disappointment. The history, wildlife, and overall beauty is something to inspire the explorer in all of us at historic Rocky Hallow natural area right in Holliday, Missouri.

Located near the small town of Holliday, Missouri is a piece of American history. At 191 acres, Rocky Hallow natural area flows from clover fields down into luscious sandstone creek beds. Ferns dating back to prehistoric times, deer, turkey, and bobcats are just some of the residents of its forest.

The most notable feature of Rock Hallow is its Native American petroglyphs. Several cave drawings have been moved to local museums to avoid destruction from nature and vandals. Some petroglyphs are still visible. However, the pieces in better shape have been moved to local museums. Men fishing, deer, and sunrises are just some of the breathtaking carvings in the caves that tower the creek beds.

Large caves more than twenty feet tall tower over the majestic creeks in Rocky Hallow.

Photos by David DeOrnellis

"Make like a tree and get outta here!" —Biff Tannen
Warm Springs Ranch: where it all begins

By Kohlie E. Stock
Express Staff

“Where you are right now is the breeding room. This is where all of the magic happens.”

Hearing these words from the tour guide is anything but awkward. Instead, it is a moment of awe. Every horse starring in Budweiser Super Bowl ads and present on opening day of the Cardinals at Busch Stadium are all naturally conceived in this one room. Located in the heart of mid-Missouri is Warm Springs Ranch, the official home of the Budweiser Clydesdales.

Before the blessed breeding room, Budweiser purchased all of their horses from registered breeders. It was a little over 3 decades ago that Anheuser Busch chose to save money, make use of their over 900 acre property in California, and begin breeding their own Clydesdales. New pens and shelters were built, and the first Budweiser Clydesdale breeding farm was born.

Over 7 years ago, Anheuser Busch sold the California facility and broke ground for a new start on a 340 acre farm in Cooper County, Missouri. Warm Springs Ranch opened in 2008 and in full operation when it welcomed the first foal born on location, appropriately named, Cooper.

Ranch Supervisor, John Soto, is beginning his 36th year of overseeing operations at Warm Springs. He began his career with Budweiser in California when he was 21. Caring for 90 plus horses and hosting facility tours is not an easy task. Soto, the staff, and tour guides are always busy.

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“We do not have too many typical days. We know first thing in the morning we have tours at ten and two. So, we have to have the barn ready for tours, which means getting horses fed, getting them out of the barn, getting the barns clean, all of the stalls clean, the barn hosed down, all just cleaned up and ready for the tour. We start at six, and usually by nine o’ clock, we are ready for the tours to come in.”

Tours close at the end of October but begin again in March. The tour off season is still an exciting time at the ranch. Babies start coming in the middle of January through March. This will be the busiest time of year for John Soto and his crew. They must continue ranch maintenance, prep for tours, breed mares back, and be ready to welcome a new baby Clydesdale into the world at any moment.

Clydesdales carry their baby for 11 months, but the delivery is a very fast process. Placed in each mare is a birthing monitor that will notify Soto through an alarm on his phone when the mare is beginning to go into labor. Every time he hears his phone go off, he drops whatever he is doing and begins an “I’m rolling” rush to the barn.

“My most stressful time is as I am driving down the driveway because you do not know what you are going to find when you get to the barn: whether only the head is coming out, or nothing, or if it is breech. You always reach up and feel for both front legs and the head. When you feel that, you kind of take a sigh of relief. Then you tell yourself, ‘Okay. We can just get this baby out.’ That is the most stressful part,” said Soto.

Soto shares a story of a slight imperfect timing of his 24/7 on call job. While going out to eat with his wife, Ali, at a local restaurant, his alarm went off. This occurred the instant their meal had arrived. With a quick apology to Ali, he rolled out. Forty foals are born...
During the foaling season; the timing is not always convenient, but Soto still says it is his favorite responsibility.

The most recent addition to the Clydesdale family is Moose, a celebrated celebrity in the Kansas City area. This little Clyde made the headlines for the roots of his royal name inspired by Mike Moustakas, third baseman for the Kansas City Royals.

It is not just the Clydesdales that are important to Warm Springs but also the people who visit the ranch. Their goal is to make everyone feel like family and completely welcomed on the facility. The ranch is not camera shy; guests on tours take as many photos as they desire.

At the end of each tour, it is tradition to offer those 21 and older to stick around for a free Budweiser. Staff member, Natalie Bertling, said she likes the people because everyone is happy when they come here.

Soto adds, “I just hope they (visitors) have a good time. We enjoy doing what we are doing, and the people like to see the Clydesdales babies. At the end of the day, by the time they look at what we have to show them, visitors will see the gildings, the full-sized horses, the stallions, and the mares and the babies. They will take pictures and learn all about the behind-the-scenes of what we do. We want them to walk away with a smile and say that they really enjoyed the tour. If they enjoyed the tour, then we did our job.”

Guests do not see the inside of a Budweiser Clydesdale’s life after their time at Warm Springs. Those chosen must eventually say goodbye to the ranch and move to California for training. However, what the guests at Warm Springs will eventually see is the transition from a cute baby to a bold creature in a handmade harness leading a red wagon. Being a part of the iconic hitch team and making debuts in festivals, high profile parades, and opening days is the ultimate goal for every Clydesdale.

From the breeding room to the world beyond the white panel fence, Warm Springs is only a small but crucial part of a Clydesdale’s journey. These bay beauties are born to be legends and represent Budweiser, a world class beer. Warm Springs is where it all begins.
Teaching assistants take learning beyond the textbooks

What is a TA (teaching assistant) or a lab assistant? What do they do?

Often a student can become a lab assistant in a classroom setting if he/she majors in the particular field. For example, one who majors in chemistry or minors in engineering may get a job in a chemistry lab.

MACC students can benefit by being a lab assistant or teaching assistant. MACC provides a $500 scholarship a semester to those who are chosen as an assistant. In total, the assistant needs 40 hours of work with a professor. Not all professors need an assistant. It depends on the number and type of classes the instructor has during the semester.

It is hard to find advertisements about open positions because professors often ask one of their students if he or she would like the position.

Dr. Dan Meininger has worked at MACC for 16 years. He wants his assistant to be one of his students. It takes him some time to get to know his students and propose this deal. He prefers to have students who are majoring in a related field.

When it’s chemistry “… it seems they are eager to do stuff; they seem fairly conservative. That is philosophically subjective,” he stated.

Meininger needs a lab assistant only in the Spring because he usually has more lab setups during the spring semester. His lab assistants are working hard, and they succeed in most cases.

Responsibilities of lab assistants include: preparing instructions and materials used during lab experiments and demonstrations, organizing lab equipment, and sometimes setting up sample preparation.

Shemshat Durdyeyeva, chemistry lab assistant for Spring 2015, said, “I practiced lab safety, explored chemicals and how to store them properly. Little projects such as fixing scale machines and labeling chemicals gave me valuable experience.”

“Last spring, my lab assistant, Shemshat Durdyeyeva helped take apart the gas chromatograph,” said Dr. Meininger.

A gas chromatograph (GC) is an analytical instrument that measures the content of various components in a sample.

“This experience helped me to retain information better; I could practice what I learned during the lectures,” added Durdyeyeva.

Dr. Meininger advises his students to continue as lab assistants where they are planning to continue their education. When he was a student at the University of Cincinnati, he worked as a TA. The salary wasn’t too much, but the school paid thousands of dollars for tuition for teaching assistants every year.

Durdyeyeva said, “This job convinced me that I enjoy working at the lab and want to become a chemical engineer. I learned and gained hands-on experience that I won’t be able to get from textbooks.”
Back to the Future

Student Profiles

In *Back to the Future, Part II*, the Chicago Cubs won the 2015 World Series. The Cubs were set to make this prediction come true until the final games against the NY Mets in the MLDS championship. What do you predict to be new in 2045?

Abbey Price
Moberly MO
Sophomore
"I predict there will be personalized robots by our side 24/7. Mine will brush my hair and teleport me anywhere in the world."

Romekia Wallace
St. Louis MO
Freshman
"I think there will be flying cars and solar powered engines."

Megan Keim
Moberly MO
Sophomore
"There will be robots to do everything for us and a machine that makes it rain food."

Nia Flowers
Oswego, IL
Freshman
"In 2045 I think the world will create robots to keep society running smoothly."

"Roads? Where we're going, we don't need roads."  - Dr. Emmett Brown

The 2015 Madrigal Dinners
Mertonsire and the Pirate’s Tale

Nov. 19, 20, 21
Doors to Reception Hall (MACC Art Gallery) will open at 6 p.m.

Tickets for MACC students are $18.50
Price includes a complete meal, singing, dancing, and all the Merriment a Kingdom Can Offer.

Tickets must be purchased by Nov. 16 at the Cashier’s Office.
October 21 marked the first night that the Moberly Greyhounds had the opportunity to play at home this season, a scrimmage vs. the Columbia College Cougars. The night ended in an 80-68 loss to a very tough Columbia College team. While there were stretches of very good play, Coach Pat Smith notes that it was the bad stretches that was the ultimate factor.

“At times we played pretty well; we had a bad stretch in the first half, we had a bad stretch in the second half and those two stretches kind of doomed us,” Smith said. Smith notes that one area the team needs to improve is on defense.

“Always start on the defensive end. We’ve got to get better defensively; we made too many transition mistakes against Columbia College,” Smith said.

Rashad Lindsey, who was playing in his first scrimmage after nursing an injury all preseason, led the team in scoring with 15 points. Three other Greyhounds scored in double figures: Markell Bradshaw scored 14, Daniel Dzierzawski had 12, and Chris Clark put in 10.

The first set of action in the regular season will start on November 5 as the Greyhounds play a stretch of three games in three days. First game is against Planet Academy with the last two against Cloud Co. and Kennedy King.

Lady Greyhounds gain experience at jamborees

Express Staff

The Lady Greyhounds competed in several preseason jamborees and one scrimmage to get a taste of college basketball. Thirteen of the 14 Lady Greyhounds are Freshmen: Autumn Joes, Indianapolis, IN; Anjanea Simms, St. Louis; Ashley Irving, Hopkins, SC; Karyssa Giboney, Harrisburg, MO; Alisha Vinson, Concord, NC; Nia Flowers, Oswego, IL; Angelice Kenney, Dayton, OH; Da’Tasia Almon, Chicago; Danisha Maggette, Chicago; Tinon Hunter, Gary, IN; Romeka Wallace, St. Louis; Jarriel Lark, Smyrna, GA; and Makala Colbert, Marshall, MO. The only Sophomore, returning from last year, is Daria Ivonova, from Kurst, Russia.

The Lady Greyhounds competed in the ICC Jamboree in Peoria IL. and then traveled to Belleville IL for SWIC Jamboree.

At the Shalin Hoops jamboree in Overland Park, KS, the Lady Greyhounds continued their preparation for the 15-16 season. The first home game was a scrimmage vs. Stephens College on Oct 26.

The first regular season opener was the State Fair Classic on Oct. 30 and 31. At the State Fair Classic, the Lady Greyhounds lost in the opening match on Friday to Carl Albert State College, a Div 1 school from Poteau, OK, 66-53.

On Saturday, Oct. 31, the Lady Hounds treated Kirkwood Community College to a loss 51-44. During the preseason, Kirkwood was ranked among the top 10 in NJCAA Div. II. Kirkwood attempted a comeback in the second half with an early run to make the score 32-27. The Lady Greyhounds sunk a few key shots and managed a 6 point lead into the fourth. Defense laggard for both teams in the fourth, but a 3-pt shot by Danisha Maggette late in the quarter allowed the Lady Greyhounds a large enough edge to slow the pace and play out the final minutes.

Upcoming games will be at home. The Lady Greyhounds will compete in their own Classic on Nov. 6 and 7. The Lady Greyhounds will take on Vincennes on Friday at 5 p.m. and Marshalltown on Saturday at 5 p.m.

Greyhounds scrimmage Columbia College

By Austin Ward
Express Staff

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