

Interim President Roy C. Hudson
and the
Faculty and Staff at
Mississippi Valley State University
Request your presence at the
Relocation and Grand Opening
of the

**MVSU CHILD
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

L.S. ROGERS BUILDING

Thursday, February 14, 2008
10 a.m.

Itta Bena, Mississippi

Tour and reception following the ribbon cutting



**MVSU LYCEUM SERIES CONTINUES WITH SOPRANO
ALLANDA SMALL TO PERFORM ON FEB. 18**

The MVSU Lyceum Series will feature soprano Allanda Small on Monday, Feb. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the H.G. Carpenter Auditorium. The guest recital is the third event of the 2007-2008 Lyceum performance series.



A native of Albany, N.Y., Small has performed to wide acclaim in numerous operatic roles, including productions of *Carmen*, *La Traviata*, *Susannah*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, and *The Tenderland*. She has also appeared extensively in recital and in

concert performances with orchestra, as well as performances with the Southern Vocal Arts Society. She toured Spain in 2005 with the Triumph Chorale as a member and featured soloist.

Also appearing with Dr. Small will be pianist and faculty member Dr. Lawrence Goldman. The recital will include a varied program of art songs and selections from opera and oratorio by Mendelssohn, Berlioz, Strauss, Dvorak, John Carter and Verdi.

FESTIVAL, Continued from page 3

ninth through junior college. Younger students with appropriate repertoire may also enter with the permission of the festival director. Students will perform at least two compositions from differing periods. The first prize winner will receive a cash award of \$500, second prize winner will receive \$400, third prize winner will receive \$300 and the fourth prize winner will receive \$200. Honorable Mention awards of \$100 each will also be given at the discretion of the festival judge.

An awards ceremony will be held immediately following the judging. Awards, certificates and the cash prizes

will be given out at that time. In addition to the cash awards, all winners of the Young Artist Competition will be eligible to receive full music scholarships to MVSU.

This year's festival is being co-sponsored by Bank of Commerce, Charles Hall Studio, Cowan Music, Greater Greenwood Foundation for the Arts, Greenwood Junior Auxiliary, Greenwood Matinee Musicale, Greenwood Rotary Club, Hays Piano Tuning, Mrs. Henri E. Lowe, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and Wal-Mart.

CommuniQue'

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**Mississippi Valley State University
CommuniQue'**

A Publication of Mississippi Valley State University For Faculty, Staff, Alumni and Friends

February 8, 2008 Vol. 4 Edition 3



Mississippi Valley State's Devilettes are among more than 600 women's basketball teams uniting for the Women's Basketball Coaches Association's "Think Pink" initiative next week.

The women are asking the entire Delta region to wear pink on Monday, Feb. 11 as part of a global effort to raise breast cancer awareness. The team especially wants all fans attending Monday's game against Alabama A&M University to don their pink shirts, pink shoe strings and caps to aid in the awareness campaign. The women will tip-off at 5:30 p.m., followed by the men at 7:30 p.m. in the R.W. Harrison HPER Complex.

"African American women have a higher breast cancer death rate than women of any other racial or ethnic population," said MVSU assistant athletics director Alyse Wells-Kilbert, who also assists her husband, Nate Kilbert, head coach of the Devilettes.

Wells-Kilbert noted that in 2007, it was estimated that there

would be 178,480 new cases of breast cancer in women and 2,030 new cases of breast cancer in men. Of these, an estimated 40,460 women and 450 men will die from the disease.

"We decided to join the WBCA in showing that the women's basketball community can make a difference in the fight against breast cancer," she said.

Students, faculty and staff are getting involved as the MVSU Athletics Department hosts a "Think Pink" Dress-up Challenge on Monday. The MVSU department represented at the game with the most pink gear will win a continental breakfast provided by the Athletics Department, said Wells-Kilbert. During half-time of the game, each department will be asked to gather on the court to determine the winning department.

For more information, contact Wells-Kilbert at MVSU Athletics, ext. 3548 or ext. 3024.



SESA AWARD – Mississippi Valley State University is the first of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities to complete the Center for Spectator Sports Security Management Program and receive the Sports Event Security Aware Seal of Approval. Congressman Bennie Thompson, center, chair of the U.S. House of Representatives Homeland Security Committee, presents the award to MVSU Interim President Dr. Roy C. Hudson during halftime ceremonies of Saturday's men's basketball game against Jackson State University. Also present for the awarding of the SESA seal of approval are, from left, Dr. Walter Cooper, USM Center for Spectator Sports Security Management; Dr. Cassie Osborne, MVSU interim vice president for academic affairs; Ms. Jerald Woolfolk, interim vice president for Student Affairs; Chuck Prophet, MVSU Leflore County Alumni Association; Dr. Tonjanita Johnson, associate vice president for University Relations; Alyse Wells-Kilbert, assistant Athletics Director; Dr. Moses Newsome, vice president for Research Planning, Community and Economic Development; Congressman Thompson; Debbie Montgomery, MVSU Public Relations Director; Dr. Hudson; Tommy Verdell, MVSU Facilities Management Director; T.W. Cooper, Greenwood-Leflore Emergency Management Agency; Dr. Byron Thompson, deputy director of Mississippi Homeland Security; Dr. Joel Lofton, Mississippi Homeland Security; Andre Curry, vice president of Fiscal Affairs; Donald Ray Sims, interim MVSU Athletics Director; Captain Levi Ford, MVSU University Police; and Dr. Lou Marciani, USM Center for Spectator Sports Security Management.

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MVSU CAREER SERVICES HOSTS YOUTH MOTIVATION CONFERENCE

Exposing as many students as possible to diverse career opportunities is the focus of the upcoming Youth Motivation Task Force (YMTF) Conference at Mississippi Valley State University.

The Career Services Center is sponsoring the conference, "Encouraging & Preparing Leaders for the Future," Feb. 10-12 on the Itta Bena campus.

"Our conference seeks to inspire students to successfully set and achieve their career and life goals," said Tiffany Wallace, director of MVSU Career Services. "We bring seasoned career professionals or YMTF Consultants as we like to call them to provide students with the real world experience about life after graduation," continued Wallace.

Classroom visits by professionals are the heart of the YMTF program and offer opportunities for students to receive mentoring and direction on their personal career goals.

"Consultants can give students a realistic view on how to prepare for, enter, survive and be successful in today's highly competitive work place," explains Wallace.

Students will have an opportunity to network with YMTF Consultants and develop contacts to assist them in achieving their goals after graduation.

More than a dozen participating organizations are expected at the two-day event. Among those scheduled are: AmeriCorps*VISTA, Carson Consulting; Clarksdale Police Department; Coca-Cola; Delta State University; Greenwood Public Schools, Memorial Hospice, Mississippi Department of Health; News Boy Network; RBS Solutions, LLC; U.S. Army National Guard; USDA-ARS-MSA; and West Bolivar Schools.

Monday's events will begin with classroom visits from 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m., followed by a student forum featuring MVSU Alumnus Michael Gee '93 at 10 a.m. in the H.G. Carpenter Auditorium.

Classroom visits will continue from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

On Tuesday, classrooms visits continue from 8 a.m. to 10:40 a.m., followed by mock interviews from 11 a.m. to noon.

For more information about the YMTF or how to participate, contact Tiffany Wallace at ext. 3441 or at careerservices@mvsu.edu



PRUITT AMONG AUTHORS PUBLISHED IN UPCOMING WORK



Dr. Pruitt

Dr. Glenell M. Lee-Pruitt, dean of University College at Mississippi Valley State University, will be among authors whose work will be featured in an upcoming publication by the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW) and Asili Consultants, LLC.

Pruitt wrote, "Spiritual Awakening" which will be among selections published in a book "The Healing Power of the Circle: A Collection of Spiritual Awakenings."

Dr. Pruitt originally wrote this "awakening" for a meeting of the Jackson chapter of the National Association of Social Workers which met in Jackson, in 2004. After hearing this presentation, the now national president of the National Association of Black Social Workers, Dr. Gloria Batiste-Roberts, was in the audience and requested that she be allowed to use the "awakening" as she traveled around the country.

Dr. Batiste-Roberts recently contacted Dr. Pruitt to request that she agree to have her writing published in the inaugural publication of the spiritual awakening book.

Prior to her appointment as dean, Pruitt was director of the MVSU Community Service/Service Learning program and teaching social work classes.

Leflore's Jerry Baker is Featured Artist at MVSU's Johnson Gallery

The MVSU Department of Fine Arts at Mississippi Valley State University is presenting an art exhibition by Jerry Baker in the Johnston Gallery.

Baker, an art instructor at Leflore County High School, will be honored with a reception on Feb. 13 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the gallery located in the Walter Sillers Fine Arts Center. Baker's exhibit will run from Feb. 5 to March 7. For more information, please contact Dorothy Vaughn or Ronald Minks, gallery co-directors, at 662-254-3482.

In other gallery news, MVSU alumni are encouraged to participate in the Homecoming 2008 Alumni Art Exhibit held in October. Interested alumni of all art mediums should contact Vaughn or Minks.

MDEZA Hosts Self Empowerment Seminar on Feb. 21

The Mid Delta Empowerment Zone Alliance, Inc. will host "Exploring Self Empowerment Seminar" on Thursday, Feb. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Business Education Building auditorium at Mississippi Valley State University. The cost for non-profit agencies is \$50 and \$100 for profit agencies.

Topics for discussion will be the Money Smart by FDIC, predatory lending and exploring entrepreneurship. Certificates will be given.

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MDEZA, *Continued from page 2*

For more information, contact Theresa Dent, Director of Community/Housing Development, at (662) 254-9957, ext 12.

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FEBRUARY

- 9 – Women's/Men's basketball hosts Alabama State, 5:30/7:30 p.m., Harrison HPER.
 - Softball vs. Norfolk State, Historical Black College Tourney, 2 p.m., Marietta, Ga.
 - Softball vs. Hampton, Historical Black College Tourney, 4 p.m., Marietta, Ga.
- 10 – Softball vs. NC A&T, Historical Black College Tourney, 1 p.m., Marietta, Ga.
 - Softball vs. S.C. State, Historical Black College Tourney, 5 p.m., Marietta, Ga.
- 11 – **THINK PINK!** Women's/Men's basketball hosts Alabama A&M, 5:30/7:30 p.m., Harrison HPER.
- 13 – MVSU Fine Arts Department hosts reception for artist Jerry Baker, 3-5 p.m., Johnston Gallery, Walter Sillers Fine Arts Center.
 - Softball vs. MSU, 3 p.m., Starkville.
- 15 – Softball vs. Alcorn, Southeastern La. Tourney, 3 p.m., Hammond, La.
 - Softball vs. Southeastern La., Southeastern La. Tourney, 5:30 p.m., Hammond, La.
- 16 – Women's/Men's basketball at Alcorn State, 7:30 p.m., Lorman.
 - Softball vs. Southern, Southeastern La. Tourney, 10 p.m., Hammond, La.
 - Softball vs. Grambling, Southeastern La. Tourney, 3 p.m., Hammond, La.
- 17 – Softball vs. St. Louis, Southeastern La. Tourney, 12:30 p.m., Hammond, La.
- 18 – MVSU Lyceum Series, Soprano Allanda Small, 7:30 p.m., H.G. Carpenter auditorium.
 - Women's/Men's basketball at Southern University, 7:30 p.m., Baton Rouge.
- 19 – Softball hosts University Arkansas Monticello, 3 p.m., Itta Bena.
- 22 – Softball vs. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, ULL Tourney, 5 p.m., Lafayette.
- 23 – Women's/Men's basketball hosts Texas Southern, 7:30 p.m., Harrison HPER.
 - Softball vs. Southern Mississippi at ULL Tourney, 11 a.m., Lafayette.
 - Softball vs. ULL at ULL Tourney, 1:30 p.m., Lafayette.
- 24 – Softball vs. Southern Mississippi at ULL Tourney, 1 p.m., Lafayette.
- 25 – Women's/Men's basketball hosts Prairie View A&M, 5:30/7:30 p.m., Harrison HPER.
- 26 – Black History Convocation, 10 a.m., Carpenter Auditorium.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Founder's Week: April 20-26. Founder's Breakfast, April 21; Founder's Convocation, April 24; Gala and Preeminence Awards, April 25; Valley Fest, April 26.

Thirteenth Annual MVSU Piano Festival Scheduled for April 12

ITTA BENA – The Department of Fine Arts at Mississippi Valley State University will present its 13th Annual MVSU Piano Festival on April 12, on the Valley campus in Itta Bena.

"The festival is once again being held for the purpose of bringing an increased awareness to the Mississippi Delta and surrounding areas of the value and importance of piano study throughout childhood and beyond," said Dr. Lawrence Goldman, MVSU professor of music and festival director.

In keeping with its stated goal, the festival will include events for both elementary and advanced piano students. At 9 a.m., a non-competitive festival event will be held for piano students ranging from kindergarten through junior high school. Older beginners may also participate. Students will perform selections from the classical piano repertoire and will be rated and given written evaluations.

Following this event, an honors ceremony will be held, including special recognition of students who received Superior ratings for their performances. Parents, friends and fellow students will be invited to attend this event at approximately 10:30 a.m.

At 11 a.m., members of the MVSU music faculty will hold an open audition for piano students who would like to be considered for music scholarships for the 2008-2009 academic year. Students who are awarded full scholarships will receive tuition, fees and room and board at Mississippi Valley State University.

The next event to be held will be a Young Artist Competition, beginning at 1 p.m., for students who are enrolled in grades

Continued on page 4

PeOple To KnOw



Derrick Bell

Position: Project Manager, Facilities Management

Responsibilities: Construction Administration for IHL, Bureau of Buildings, and MVSU projects.

Hometown: Delta City

Hobbies: Drawing, reading and grilling

Philosophy on Life: To live so that GOD be glorified.

Quote to Remember: "Less is More"

- Mies van der Rohe