

Name: Valley State
Birthday: February 19, 1950

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Gentry High Students

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The trio participated in a full day of activities at the University which included a tour, meetings with coaches, professors and administrators.

Each student has a background in sports which led them to choose the Department of Athletics. Involvement in sports has given the students a basic foundation for success in life.

"I play football and you go through ups and downs on the field and you go through adversity in life and it's played a big part in teaching me about life," said Simpson, son of Clinton Simpson and Debbie Donald.

"It's taught me leadership skills and teamwork," said Williams, who is the son of Farienna Williams and Eric Freeman.

Levy, son of Bettie and James Jones, said, "Sports has taught me not to give up in life."

During their day, students acquired important communication skills needed in order to work in a professional environment.

"Students learned that it is always good to keep a line of communication open at all times. There will be good and bad times. In a not so good setting you still have to know how to communicate and maintain respect," said Lechondia Nelson, athletics travel coordinator. "Communication will either make or break a department."

The students conceded that their parents play a major role in helping them to set goals and strive for success.

Simpson loves the atmosphere and team spirit feeling of attending games at MVSU.

Williams has learned early in life that it is always best to have an alternative plan. "I played basketball when I was in junior high and I was injured. That experience showed me that if I was a professional and that same event occurred, I would need other skills as a back-up plan," said Williams.

The students are also interested in exploring other fields such as acting and dental hygiene.

MVSU Music Symposium

Continued from page 1

Silvera is a music video, concert and artist promoter who has also served as a cultural heritage manager.

Haire is interim director of the MVSU Delta Research & Cultural Institute.

The Marsalis name is synonymous with jazz and the Feb. 24 Instruction Training Demonstration should not be missed. The workshop begins at 7 p.m. in the H.G. Carpenter Auditorium.

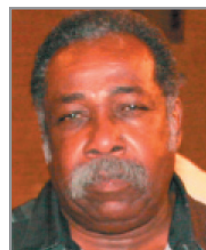
"We are delighted that Branford and Delfeayo Marsalis will visit Mississippi Valley," said Dickerson. "They are bringing family and friends and this is one event that if you have an interest in music, jazz, live performances, or just want to know more about the Marsalis family," you should come," Dickerson said.

Following a 45-minute workshop by Robinson, the Marsalis Brothers will take to the stage for a jazz workshop.

Wednesday's Music Business Panel Discussion begins at 7 p.m. in the H.G. Carpenter auditorium with Haire serving as moderator.

Attendees will hear leading authorities in the music industry talk about career opportunities. The panel includes some impressive individuals – Benjamin Wright, music director for Gladys Knight; David and Lisa Hampton, music producers; Jeff Kirk of Belmont University and a noted music business professional; and Ed Sevier, a music videographer and cultural heritage manager.

For more information, contact the MVSU Office of Public Relations at 662.254.3578.



Robinson

CommuniQue

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Mississippi Valley State University

CommuniQue

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MVSU MUSIC BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULED FEB. 24-25



Delfeayo Marsalis

Branford Marsalis

Branford Marsalis will join his brother, Delfeayo Marsalis for Tuesday's 7 p.m. Instruction Performance; Jessie Robinson, Ed Silvera, Lisa and David Hampton and Benjamin Wright also featured

Jazz standout Branford Marsalis will join his brother, Delfeayo Marsalis for the Mississippi Valley State University Music Business Symposium on Feb. 24 – 25 on the Itta Bena campus.

Sponsored by MVSU's B.B. King Recording Studio, Lyceum Committee and Faculty Development, the two-day event will include a session for high school students, a music workshop/concert featuring the Marsalis Brothers as well as Jessie Robinson, and a panel discussion.

Dr. Alphonso Sanders, chair of the Fine Arts Department, along with Dr.

Paul Schreiber, music professor, and Daryl Dickerson, engineer for Valley's B.B. King Recording Studio, are serving as organizers for the event. High school juniors and seniors are invited to the High School Music Business Seminar on Tuesday, Feb 24 at 9 a.m. in the Business Education Building auditorium.

Ed Silvera will discuss music video, Dr. Marvin Haire will give a Black History Presentation, and MVSU students Jimmie Lee, Jamonte Ford and Willie "Wi-lee" Robinson will give demonstrations in rap, R&B and jazz.

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VALLEY CELEBRATES CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP



MVSU President Dr. Donna Oliver, center, presents the Greenwood-Leflore Chamber of Commerce with a check for membership. Pictured from left are Dallas Reed, Beth Stevens, executive director of the chamber; Dr. Oliver; Bill Crump, president of chamber; Suresh Chawla, vice president of chamber; and Dr. Moses Newsome.

Mississippi Valley State University initiated President Donna H. Oliver's town and gown initiative with members of the Greenwood-Leflore Chamber of Commerce during the MVSU's official chamber institutional membership check exchange on Tuesday.

Dr. Oliver was joined by Chamber President Bill Crump of Viking, Inc., and Chamber Vice President Suresh Chawla of Chawla Enterprises, owner of the Hampton Inn and Holiday Inn Express.

Oliver announced during her opening remarks Jan. 5 that the University must incorporate the "public square" approach in order for the University and the communities it serves to be successful.

"Let us become what Chancellor Elaine P. Maimon of the University of Alaska, Anchorage, calls her public university, the 'public square of 21st century America—the meeting ground for higher education and the society it serves,'" said Oliver.

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MVSU FACULTY AND STAFF TOWN HALL MEETING

Tuesday, Feb. 24, 11 a.m.
H.G. Carpenter Auditorium

UNIVERSITY NOTES



Mississippi Valley State University students were provided a tour of the Trustmark-Howard Street location by branch manager, Karla Bowen. Also, a class was provided by Bowen on common banking terms. Students participating in the tour were (from left) Pamela Buck, Janet Stewart, Shanna Horne, Inez Stewart, Shomare' Haire, Kevin Golden, Markiss McBride, Nelson Badelle, Scott Reid, Christopher Davis, Anthony Edwards, Darrell Qualls and Rajan Naraseyappa, coordinator of the MBA program.

Robert Clark Political Leadership Forum Set for Feb. 25



Clark

The Robert Clark Political Leadership Forum will be held Wednesday, Feb. 25 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. in the Social Science Auditorium.

Presented by the Delta Research & Cultural Institute and the Department of Social Science, the forum will address "Revitalizing the Mississippi Delta."

Featured speakers include Howard Boutee, chief executive officer of the Mississippi Action for Community Education (MACE), Mayor Johnny Thomas of Glendora and Letisha Latiker, program officer for the Mississippi Children's Defense Fund.

MVSU graduate students Maxine Bowen, Niqua Graham and Jackie Hawkins are also a part of the program.

During the luncheon, featured keynote speaker will be Dr. Rosetta Jones-Howard of Coahoma Community College.

Spring Fashion Show hosted by MVSU Child Development Center

The Child Development Center at Mississippi Valley State University will host its first Spring Fashion on Thursday, April 9 at 7 p.m. in the H.G. Carpenter Auditorium. The fashion show is open to anyone who would like to participate. Categories for the show include casual, business, church and formal. Admission fee is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students with an ID, \$2 for children ages 5-11 and free for children below the age of 4. For more information, contact Deborah Minor, 662-254-3375 or Carla Williams, 662-254-3016.

MVSU Department of Fine Arts Presents Faculty Art Exhibition Feb. 24-March 25

The Department of Fine Arts at Mississippi Valley State University is presenting its Faculty Art Exhibition in the Johnston Gallery from Feb. 24-March 25. The exhibit consists of printmaking, painting, photography, digital art from computer and ceramic. Included among the MVSU faculty are Craig Clifford, Charles Davis, Frank Hardmon, Ronald Minks and Dorothy Vaughn. Debbie Clifford, faculty member of Mississippi Delta Community College and wife of Craig Clifford, is also showing her works.

The reception will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 25, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday. During holidays and semester breaks, the gallery will be closed.

For more information, please contact Dorothy Vaughn or Ronald Minks, co-directors of Johnston Gallery, at 662-254-3482.

Research Roundtable

MVSU faculty and graduate students interested in research are invited to join a monthly roundtable on the third Tuesday of month.

"Conversations about Research" will be held from 4 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. in the Faculty Development Center Conference Room in the Social Science Building.

Interested persons can present research papers, discuss works in progress, theories, methods and processes, as well as share ideas for publications, said Dr. Chandra Persaud who will facilitate the discussions with Dr. Larry Chappell.

The monthly event is sponsored by the Social Science Department and Faculty Development.

Professor Elizabeth Evans will lead the Feb. 17 discussion on "Mississippi Teacher Qualifications: Relationship to No Child Left Behind."

For more information, contact Dr. Jim Varn at extension 3080. Topics should be sent to Dr. Persaud at persaudmvsu@yahoo.com.

Faculty Development is funded by Title III, U.S. Department of Education

Gentry High Students Shadow Professionals at MVSU



Gentry High School seniors, from left, Cornelius Williams, Travion Simpson, and Dexter Levy explored the possibility of a career in athletic administration. The students visited the Department of Athletics at Mississippi Valley State University. Here they are shown with travel coordinator Lechondia Nelson.

Three Gentry High School seniors with aspirations to work in athletic administration spent a day recently shadowing employees in the MVSU Department of Athletics.

The students are enrolled in a job shadow program developed by the Indianola Career and Technical Center under the direction of Earnestine Epps. The program allows students to observe the overall function of how the department works, engage in question and answer sessions and hands-on training in their prospective field.

Williams and Dexter Levy explored the possibility of a career in athletic administration.

Common expectations among the students for their visit were the ability to view a new and interesting area, networking skills and an experiential learning experience, said Epps.

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PEOPLE TO KNOW

ARCHIE TUCKER, II



Position/Title: Annual Fund Officer

Responsible for: Managing all aspects of the University's annual fund initiative, i.e. direct mail, phone center, class agent program; oversee Jessie Ball DuPont grant budget; supervise phone center staff and class agent volunteers

Hometown: Leland

Hobbies: Spending time with family, attending sporting events and listening to music

Philosophy on Life: "I will not lose."

-Unknown

Quote to Remember: Even in defeat, there is a valuable lesson learned.

-Shawn C. Carter

Valley Membership *Continued from page 1*

Oliver told faculty and staff that "community engagement must remain a strong and essential part of the MVSU mission. We must create more partnerships within our communities for a university is a public square when it is integrated and interdependent with the community."

"A university has much to learn, as well as much to teach, according to Dr. Maimon. The Valley is no different. In 21st century America, we, as a university, have opportunities to learn from diverse communities, if we are willing to listen and engage in real dialogue," Oliver said.

MVSU's first female president said the University and the surrounding communities must encourage people to spend time together—town and gown—otherwise academic life devolves into nothing more than a lecture, a walk from class to class, a retreat into the dorm or the car.

"When a university functions as a public square it gives priority to applying expertise in research, scholarship, and creative activity to finding solutions to real-world problems. A winning team in the academy is one that treasures intellectual inquiry and debate. Let us choose to build a community where ideas and freedom of expression are respected and appreciated. The Valley must be a place for meaningful inquiry and civil debate," Oliver stated.

EVENT CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 21 – Softball hosts Southeastern University, 2/4 p.m.
- 22 – Softball hosts Lyons College, Noon/2 p.m.
- 24 – Faculty & Staff Town Hall Meeting, 11 a.m., H.G. Carpenter Auditorium.
- 24 – MVSU Music Industry Symposium for High School Students, 9 a.m., Business Education Building.
- 24 – Music Industry Symposium "Instruction Training Demonstration," 7 p.m., H.G. Carpenter Auditorium.
- 25 – Faculty Art Exhibit reception, 2-4 p.m., Johnston Gallery, Fine Arts

- Building.
- 25 – Robert Clark Political Leadership Forum, 9:30 a.m., Social Science Auditorium.
- 25 – Music Industry Symposium "Music Business Panel Discussion," 7 p.m., H.G. Carpenter Auditorium.
- 26 – Male Initiative Celebrating Black History, 3 p.m., College of Education Building foyer.
- 27 – Spring High School Day, 8 a.m., registration; activities begin at 9:30 a.m., R.W. Harrison HPER Complex.
- 28 – Women's/Men's basketball hosts Jackson State, 5:30/7:30 p.m., Harrison

- HPER
- 28 – Baseball hosts Alabama A&M, 1/4 p.m.
- MARCH**
- 1 – Baseball hosts Alabama A&M, 1 p.m.
- 2 – Women's/Men's basketball hosts Grambling State, 5:30/7:30 p.m., Harrison HPER
- 5 – Women's/Men's basketball hosts Arkansas-Pine Bluff, 5:30/7:30 p.m., Harrison HPER
- 10 – Walgreens Information Session Business Education Building

- 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- 11 – Walgreens Interviews Business Education Building
- 16-20 – Spring Break
- 15-18 – TMC Member Universities Institute & Exhibition (MUPIE)—New Orleans, LA
- 25-27 – Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP) Conference Business Education Building
- 26 – Honors Convocation, H.G. Carpenter Auditorium, 10:00 a.m.
- 27 – MVSU Women In Science and Technology Conference (WIST), Social Science Auditorium

- APRIL**
- 9-10 – MVSU 28th Social Work Conference
- 9 – MVSU Child Development Center Spring Fashion Show, 7 p.m., H.G. Carpenter Auditorium.
- 10-13 – Easter Break Holiday, No Classes
- 12 – Fifteenth Annual MVSU Piano Festival, 8 a.m., Walter Sillers Fine Arts Center
- 13 – MVSU International Week Film Night
- 14 – MVSU International Week Outdoor Luncheon
- 15 – MVSU International Week

- Convocation and Parade of 192 Flags
- 16 – MVSU International Week Banquet/Talent Revue, call 662-254-3092.
- 20 – Founder's Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. H.M. Ivy Cafeteria, Dining Hall IV, \$10
- 21 – Alumni Forum, 10 a.m. Business Education Building Auditorium
- 21 – MVSU Research Roundtable, 4 p.m. – 5:15 p.m., Faculty Development Center conference room, Social Science Building.
- 22 – MVSU Symphonic-Wind Band Spring Concert, 7:30 Carpenter

- 22 – Administrative Professional Day, 11 a.m., Rec Center; \$10
- 23 – Founder's Day Convocation, 10 a.m., Carpenter
- 24 – Ninth Annual J.H. White Preeminence Awards and Scholarship Gala; Silent Auction, 5:30 p.m., Gala, 7 p.m., \$75, Harrison HPER
- 25 – Valley Fest, Noon – 4 p.m.
- MAY**
- 9 – MVSU Commencement