

the delta devils GAZETTE

An award-winning college newspaper, by students for students

OCTOBER 2024 | MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY • ITTA BENA, MISSISSIPPI | Volume 50/ Number 2

MVSU Office of the President crowns new university royalty



MVSU recently saluted its 2024-2025 Royal Kings and Queens Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2024, at 11 a.m. during a crowning ceremony in the Carver A. Randle Auditorium of the Social Science Building. Receiving their royal crowns from MVSU's eight President, Dr. Jerryl Briggs. Crowned by Chief of Staff Auguster Wallace, President Dr. Jerryl Briggs (center) MVSU royalty (L-R) includes: Tenaya Collins (Miss Freshman), Destyni Gipson (Miss Sophomore), Myiesha Smith (Miss Junior), Jade Smith (Miss Senior), Kristina Williams (Miss MVSU), Jon-Michael Frazier (Mister MVSU), Jovani Johnson (Mister Senior), Jabari Johnson (Mister Junior), Henry Espy (Mister Sophomore), and Joshua Gordon (Mister Freshman).

MVSU holds inaugural High School Choral Sing Festival



PHOTO Courtesy of the DDG

By Trenton Williams, Staff Writer

Mississippi Valley State University hosted its first high school choral festival on Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

This event was a highly anticipated event that brought together talented voices from across the state. The inaugural high school sing festival featured a diverse lineup of choirs, combined, showcasing a broad spectrum of musical styles and traditions.

The festival began with a series of workshops early that morning led by esteemed Choral Director Dr. Brandon

Cash and vocal coaches. These sessions provided valuable learning opportunities for the participants, covering topics such as vocal techniques sight reading, etc.

For Dr. Cash, the event was a dream realized. He told the audience that the music department had been attempting to bring this sing fest into reality before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Overall, the festival was a resounding success, fostering a sense of community and artistic excellence among the students who participated.

MVSU President Dr. Jerryl Briggs said, “they sang beautifully with perfection.”

Valley fights Breast Cancer in memory of Aria Rayburn



Walk Coordinator Larry Kinds and students walk to fight breast cancer. PHOTO BY COMMUNICATION/MARKETING - LaTunya Evans

By Hillary Victor, Staff Writer

On a brisk Oct. 16, 2024, over 50 participants, united for a great cause, gathered at Mississippi Valley State University for the annual Breast Cancer Awareness campus walk.

The event kicked off at 11 a.m. with an opening ceremony at the Sutton building, where Walk Coordinator Larry Kinds welcomed attendees and dedicated the walk to the memory of Aria Rayburn,

a former MVSU Volleyball player and courageous breast cancer fighter who lost her battle in May.

The chilly morning air did not deter the walkers from coming together to raise awareness and to honor Rayburn’s legacy.

DDG staff also contributed to this report.

OCTOBER
BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

My Ida B. Wells Society's OSINT Boot Camp visit

By Amber Stewart, Editor-In-Chief

"Nothing matters but the facts. Without them, the science of criminal investigation is nothing more than a guessing game." This famous quote written by Blake Edwards has proven itself to be true!

On October 3-5, the Ida B. Wells Society hosted its OSINT Boot Camp at WSB-TV news station in Atlanta, Ga. Amongst the 10 selected students were yours truly, MVSU's very own Editor-In-Chief, Amber E. Stewart. The boot camp began at 9 a.m., Thursday morning, and it was spearheaded by Kevin Reyes, adjunct instructor at USC Annenberg in Los Angeles, Calif.

Some may wonder, just what is ONSIT? Well, ONSIT is Open-Source Intelligence. What do ONSIT do? "ONSIT gathers information that is accessible through digital means-such as websites, social media, emails, text messages, public records, satellite imagery, and the deep web." ONSIT provided this three-day training to selected students and reporters that provided the trainees with much-needed advanced tools that can help strengthen their reports and investigations.

Each topic that Kevin focused on was explained in great detail, and he also gave each participant the opportunity to see how investigative journalists find their answers and prove them by utilizing open-sources. Some sites are common amongst us, and we utilize them on a day-to-day basis, such as: Google (imagery search), social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.), and Bing, can be utilized in some cases.

Kevin also targeted subjects such as geo-locating, website and domain forensics, social media and flight data and chronolocation. With the use of the Internet, Kevin trained us on how to use open-source websites to dig up some of the most hidden information.



Stewart

When gathering information, it is imperative that journalists/reporters are precise and clear and how they can prove it to be true.

One case that we touch based on was the famous case, Hermes v. Rothschild. We had to take the case on as our own and figure out who's who. With the limited information provided, our task was to identify and prove that Mason Rothschild was the person behind the business. With the help of public open records, social media sites, and google, we dug deeper, and with proof of pictures and a family member's social media page, we were able to find and prove that Mason Rothschild was a fake identity and discovered who the actual person was behind the name Mason Rothschild.

Overall, the opportunity exceeded my expectations, and the provided information has me in "Jessica Fletcher" mode. I am grateful for the Ida B. Wells Society, Morehouse College Journalism, Mississippi Valley State University, and adjunct instructor Kevin Reyes for this exciting and lifelong experience!



Highlights of one of the most memorable learning experiences of my life. Courtesy Photos from my new friends.

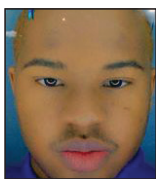


Boot campers displaying one of our MVSU Gazettes that I shared with them.

FOR THE CULTURE ... It's Homecoming!

By Jaheim Wilder, Columnist

Hey cousins!
It's that time of year again! Homecoming! It's that time when the whole campus comes alive and fills with energy. The band is practicing louder than ever, the Greeks are perfecting their moves, and alumni are bringing out their best outfits, ready to show the young folks they've still got it. The air is thick with excitement, and the smell of barbecue fills every corner.



Wilder

Homecoming isn't just about the football game; it's a family reunion. You see old roommates you haven't talked to in ages, but it feels like no time has passed. You run into that professor who used to let you slide on deadlines (sometimes), and they still greet you like you're their favorite student. And don't forget the fashion show happening right on the yard, because everyone brought out their best fits this week.

The pep rally, the parade, and the game are just the beginning. There's an art to homecoming. It's in the way the band gets everyone hyped, how the DJ always drops the perfect song, and how the crowd sings together at the concerts. For a few days, the campus becomes a time machine that blends the past, present, and future into one big celebration.

But remember, it's not just about the fun. Celebrate our legacy, connect with alumni, make new memories, and stay safe out there! We want everyone to enjoy homecoming and come back next year with even more stories to tell.

SONG OF THE MONTH

"Before I Let Go" by Frankie Beverly is this month's song. This song captures the spirit of homecoming. It's a classic that gets everyone on their feet, whether at the tailgate, the pep rally, or the after-party. The moment you hear that first beat, you're ready to dance. Make sure to have it ready on your playlist because homecoming doesn't start without it!

the delta devils GAZETTE

American Scholastic Press Association
1989,1990, 1991, 1997, 2002 and 2024 FIRST PLACE winner.
2015 THIRD PLACE winner. 2016 SECOND PLACE winner.

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The Delta Devils' Gazette welcomes news and editorials from all students. The Delta Devils Gazette is a student publication of Mississippi Valley State University, under the supervision of the Department of Mass Communication. Editorial offices are located in: O.P. Lowe Education Building, Room 141.

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FOR THE LOVE OF VALLEY: HOMECOMING 2024

The Future of Communication and the Arts: Redmond motivates students to take charge

By Jaheim Wilder, Staff Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 26, 2024, the Mississippi Valley State University Mass Communication Department held its first speaker series of the year. The lecture series is an integral component of the department that allows students to be mentored and engage with professionals in their desired field.

This lecture was special in more ways than one. Not only did it feature MVSU’s National Alumni Association President Jerry Redmond, it was held in collaboration with MVSU’s “Perfect Pairing” series, which allows current students to connect alumni with current students to foster mentoring, professional growth, and career preparation.

Redmond is a 1994 graduate of MVSU, having completed a Bachelor of Arts in Visual Communication and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. He has committed himself to developing effective campaigns in all



media for a variety of clients such as International Church of God in Christ, Lemoyne-Owen College, Jackson State University, and much more.

Redmond’s lecture focused on the importance of authenticity, passion, and commitment to your craft. Throughout the lecture, he weaved together personal experience and professional knowledge. He was very adamant in reminding the

students that the fields of communication and art were not a monolith. His lecture discussed the multiple career paths of communication and art. He made sure to mention the communication elements in various fields.

Redmond laid out a blueprint for success in finding and maintaining career paths and opportunities. He encouraged students to work with

alumni, check for opportunities, and take advantage of the opportunities provided by the department and university. Mass communication student, Hillary Victor, had this to say about the event: “The Speaker Series featuring Jerry Redmond was an informational event. He discussed the steps he made to be where he is at and emphasized our resources that are surrounding us at Valley.”

FACULTY CORNER

‘Show up and try’ is Holman’s directive to students

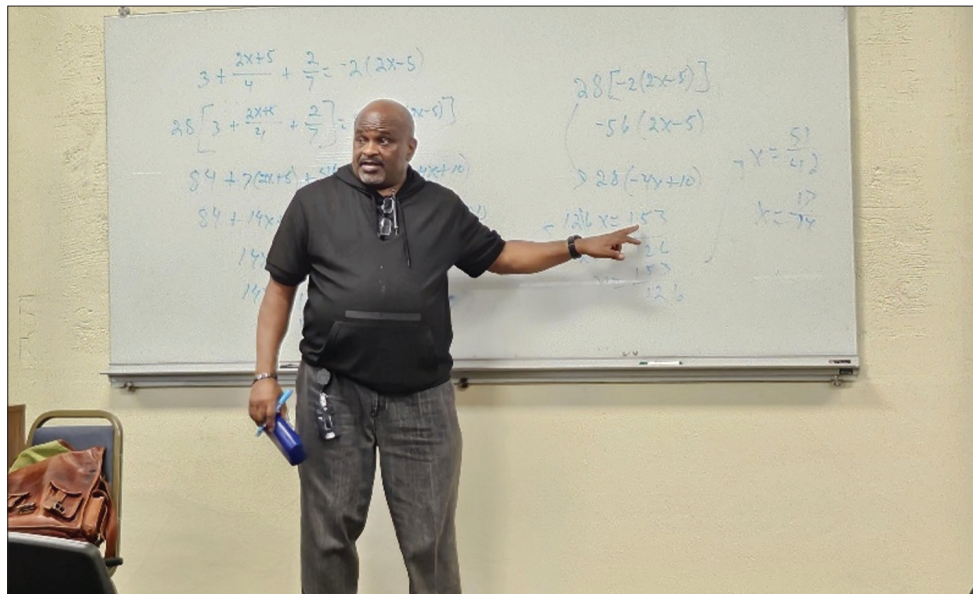
By Amber Stewart, Editor-In-Chief

Beginning the fall semester 2024 at the Valley, students were greeted, welcomed, and recognized by some of MVSU’s finest educators and staff members, who are in their corner.

At the top of some of the students’ list is Edgar Holman. Holman hails from the small town of Marks Miss., which is located about 50 miles from MVSU’s campus. Holman is a graduate of Quitman County High school, which is now known as Madison Palmer High school.

When asked whether he had any achievements or accolades, he would like to share, he jokingly replied, “Well, I have been blessed to have gotten a few here in my lifetime.”

Holman earned and received his Mathematics degree from MVSU. Not stopping there, he continued to further his education by enrolling and receiving his master’s degree in Math Education



and Administration and Supervision at Delta State University.

Those who know Holman, say there are many things to expound upon when speaking of his achievements such as; he was the very first graduate of his high school to serve as its principal.

Furnell McCrey, freshman computer science major, said, “He keeps us attracted to the work. He instructs us on how to become a teacher of mathematics, ourselves. That’s how simple Mr. Holman make difficult problems.”

Many students take into consideration

Holman’s famous quote: “All you have to do is come and try.” Several students of his College Algebra class stated that he holds them to be responsible enough to at least show up on time, and put an effort into learning what’s being instructed.

“I cannot possibly help you if I am not afforded the opportunity; therefore, I need your constant presence to help nurture and to facilitate your progress, which will help you achieve your goals at a solid and steady place,” explained Holman in a statement to the Delta Devils’ Gazette.

Multiple students of the MVSU alum’s algebra class say Holman is indeed more than worthy of being highlighted in the campus newspaper. “This is a great learning environment, and we learn lots of great educational things in here that we can take into the real world,” said Freshman Criminal Justice major Sincere Birge.

MVSU celebrates new Student Government Association officers

DDG Staff Report

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2024, the 54th Inauguration of the Mississippi Valley State University Student Government Association (SGA) took place at 6 p.m. in the H.G. Carpenter Building. The event celebrated the newly-elected 2024-2025 officers and their commitment to serving the campus community. Students, faculty, and staff gathered to honor the leaders poised to enhance student life at MVSU.

Officers installed from left to right are SGA Chaplain Jaylon Baker, SGA Vice President Aulora Edwards, SGA President Ja’Mya Peoples, SGA Secretary Artraevian, and SGA Treasurer Cathe-rine Fowler. PHOTO BY Communication/Marketing, LaTunya Evans



For the Love of Valley

Dr. Chrystal Singleton's ongoing love for MVSU

By Starneicia Campbell, Contributing Writer

Dr. Chrystal Singleton is a native of Water Valley, Miss. who moved to Greenwood Mississippi at 5-years old. She is a proud alumnus of Mississippi Valley State University who is a third generation college student, making her a legacy of her parents who both attended MVSU. Dr. Singleton studied Environmental Science and was a part of the MVSU MGMM Band under Director Leonard Trammel, where she played Flute and French Horn. She was also on the bowling team for two years. During her time at MVSU, she joined the Epsilon Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. in the Spring of 2000, where she gained a lifetime of sisterhood and service.

She graduated in Spring 2001 earning her degree in Environmental Science, and later dedicated her career to becoming an educator, speaker, and co-pastor, making a difference in the lives of others.

Dr. Singleton owns her own event space in West Houston, Texas and provides networking opportunities for minorities, fostering a sense of community. She expressed that she is proud to share her journey at Mississippi Valley because it held a special place in her heart from 1996 to 2001. She has gained



Singleton

unforgettable friendships, experiences, and also a family. She met her husband of 23 years on the proud campus of MVSU. They now share three beautiful children and one grandchild together.

"Always look for favor in the least common places; you'll never know what you might find," she said. She further expressed that she learned investing in relationships is one of life's greatest rewards. "You never know what doors will open because of who you know."

Dr. Singleton pointed out that she always show gratitude and love for her alma mater because without MVSU certain doors and opportunities would have not been opened. She states that she is deeply grateful for the "family-friendly atmosphere" at MVSU which made her experience even more enriching. She encourages anyone who is considering MVSU to take a leap. She said it is a place where you can grow academically, forge lifelong connections and create a bright future. "Your Journey at MVSU could be the start of something truly incredible," Dr. Singleton stressed.

Wadley shares her transition from a HBCU to a PWI

by James Snipes, Contributing Writer

Zapouria Wadley, a recent spring 2024 graduate from MVSU, has now ventured into graduate studies, seeking a Master of Science degree in Management and Human Resources from the Haslam College of Business at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Wadley was an outstanding student in the Mass and Speech Communication programs at MVSU as she graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in both majors. A young lady who always stayed busy, Wadley made sure her presence was felt on campus while being involved in the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, several different plays, and called upon to participate during several Mass Communication events.

The hard-working and diligent graduate student took some time to chat with the Delta Devils Gazette (DDG) about her transition to graduate school, and how MVSU prepared her for it. When asked how much of a role Valley has played in ensuring that she succeeds at the next level, she was adamant in saying that "MVSU provided me with the necessary foundation that I needed for the next chapter of my life. As a graduate of the Communications department, I



Wadley

learned how to communicate effectively in any setting that I am in. My communication skills continue to serve me well as I attempt to learn the language of business in my graduate studies."

Wadley's ability to utilize the resources to the best of her ability allowed for an easier transition in schooling and is why she believes that everyone can succeed anywhere if a person is resourceful enough.

The cost of living is significantly higher in Knoxville, and Wadley exclaimed that was the biggest difference from the HBCU lifestyle to the PWI lifestyle. She claimed that "I truly miss the inexpensive cost of residing in the Mississippi Delta".

It is evident how much Wadley preaches being patient, at one point saying that "success is not something that happens overnight. It is something that one has to work toward each day." Going from a HBCU to a PWI is a difficult adjustment to make for anyone but Wadley keeps it a priority to stay patient, focused, and driven

Coleman's passion-driven love for education and service

By Micheal Coleman, Contributing Writer

Dr. Likisha Coleman is described as a remarkable leader and an influential figure in the Leflore County community. With a passion for education that has driven her throughout her life, Dr. Coleman has dedicated herself to shaping the lives of students and educators alike, leaving a lasting impact on the community she serves.

Her educational journey began at Mississippi Valley State University, where she earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in Elementary Education. Her time at MVSU laid a strong foundation for her passion for learning and teaching, and it was there that she developed her commitment to fostering academic excellence in young minds. Mississippi Valley State University instilled in her a deep love for her community and education, motivating her to strive for greater heights in her career.

Dr. Coleman's desire to further expand her knowledge and leadership skills led her to Delta State University, where she obtained an Education Specialist degree. This advanced training equipped her with the tools to become an even more effective leader in the education sector, allowing her to take on greater responsibilities within her district and mentor other educators in their professional growth.

Her pursuit of academic excellence culminated at Walden University,



Coleman

where she earned her Doctor of Education degree. "I dedicated my dissertation to my mother, Willie L. Riley and my son, Michael Coleman, Jr. Both have unconditionally loved and

supported me in unimaginable ways," said Coleman.

Dr. Coleman's doctoral work reflects her commitment to implementing innovative strategies that benefit students and educators alike, making her an invaluable asset to the Greenwood-Leflore Consolidated School District.

As Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Coleman plays a pivotal role in the district's administration, overseeing academic programs, supporting educators, and ensuring the success of students across all grade levels. Her leadership is marked by a deep understanding of the challenges that students face, as well as a clear vision for creating equitable and effective educational opportunities.

Dr. Likisha Coleman is not only a pillar in the educational community but also a symbol of what can be achieved through dedication, hard work, and a passion for service. She continues to inspire others by her example, making an indelible mark on the lives of those around her. Her work stands as a beacon of hope and progress for the Greenwood-Leflore community and beyond.



STAR STUDENT OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER 2024



Name: **Tania Interiano**
Classification: **Sophomore**
Major: **Criminal Justice**
Hometown: **Greenwood**

FALL 2024 VALLEY PLAYERS' PERFORMANCE

Performance Dates: **November 12 @ 6:30 pm & November 14 @ 11 a.m.**

Performance Location: **Business Auditorium**
ADMISSION: **FREE**

Students travel internationally without leaving class

By Dr. Lokesh Shivakumaraiah

The World is changing at a rapid pace in terms of technological advances, population and diversity, and geopolitical landscapes that challenge the US leadership, world order and vision. The Office of International Programs is collaborating with faculty across campus to train MVSU students, the next generation leaders for work and life in the global world, to be innovative problem solvers with strong work ethics, effective communication skills and to demonstrate leadership with conviction, social courage and intercultural sensitivity so they can excel anywhere in the world.

Internationalizing existing curriculum provides a structured and safe environment for exposure to global perspectives, cross-cultural communication, clarifying stereotypes, gaining foreign language proficiency, and develop emotional and cultural intelligence among students. Speech/Mass Communication Instructor Shannon Bowden is one of the MVSU faculty working closely with OIP to internationalize her class. In a recent class exercise in her Fundamentals of Public Speaking course, Bowden, Ms. Bowden required her students to present about a country for their informative speech. Later in the semester, students will present about the benefits of studying

abroad for their persuasive speech.

Bowden is excited to collaborate with the Office of International Programs to internationalize her public speaking course.. She said “The collaboration with the OIP was very much needed to energize me and the students. I am proud of the students, and their presentations were informative, educational and enjoyable to watch. I can’t wait to see their persuasive speech presentations!”

Brendon Magee, a sophomore majoring in Biology chose Greece for his informative speech presentation. He said: “Researching Greece was a amazing experience that taught me that even though we are American we are influenced by a lot of other countries being a young nation. Presenting for people that actually knew about the country prior to

me was an unique experience because on one hand your nervous that they won’t agree on what you are saying about their home or find flaws in your work but on the other hand it’s satisfying when they seem impressed on the information your giving everyone and proud of you for doing your research.”

Tania Interiano, a Sophomore majoring in Criminal Justice presented about Mexico. She said that “In researching about Mexico, I discovered fascinating facts about their food, celebrations, and music. When it came time to present, I found myself excited to share about my mother’s culture and to broaden everyone’s knowledge about a place where most of my family resides in.”

Laila Stapleton, a sophomore Biology major featured Jamaica in her presentation. She said: “The events that occurred during Jamaica’s history surprised me as I started my research for information about their culture. It was interesting to learn about the start of African culture and the way by which



Stapleton

they became independent. Even though I was nervous about giving the speech, I think it was good because my peers and I learned something new.”

Executive Director of International Programs Dr. Lokesh Shivakumaraiah said: “We welcome collaborations with faculty to internationalize curriculum. It was great to see students from the Speech course talk about other countries. Students were excited and curious to learn about other countries. I hope this generates more interest among their peers to explore study abroad and foreign language programs.”

The Office of International Programs welcomes faculty’s creative ideas to internationalize curriculum and research. Faculty can reach out to international@mvsu.edu or 662-254-3092/3094 to collaborate with OIP.

Ukashu represents at 2024 Health Policy Immersion Program



By Dr. Lokesh Shivakumaraiah

Emeline Ukashu, MVSU Rural Public Policy Graduate Student from Tanzania attended the Washinton Center’s 2024 Health Policy Immersion Program.

The future of healthcare design and delivery is shaped by policies at the federal, state and local level. Exploring how policies are crafted and implemented to guide health access and reimbursement, health equity and more is an important component of any career in the health field. Washington Center’s 2024 Health Policy Immersion Program is designed for learners with diverse backgrounds including nursing, pre-med, social work, and health care administration.

It provides a career advantage to all those who seek to bridge health insights with effective policy implementation.

Ukashu was excited to participate in the Health Policy Program. She said: “The Washington Center’s Health Policy Immersion Program provided an immersive experience to build the skills and networks critical for my professional growth. During the program held in Washington, D.C., I engaged with representatives across the many ways in which health policies and actions are designed, implemented and evaluated. Speakers and site visits represented CMS, HHS, U.S. Congress, SAMHSA, National Women’s Law Center and more.”

Live and work in Japan: Information Session on October 30, 2024

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REGISTER NOW

<http://bit.ly/2024ValleyJETInfoSession>

By Dr. Lokesh Shivakumaraiah

The Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program offers recent graduates and young professionals the opportunity to live and work in Japan as Assistant Language Teachers, Coordinators for International Relations, and Sports Exchange Advisors. It is the only Japanese government-sponsored exchange program.

The Office of International Programs is hosting a JET Information Session and Application Workshop on October

30, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. in the Business Education Building, Room 101. Tye Ebel, the JET Program Coordinator at the Consulate General of Japan in Nashville, will speak about the JET program and application process.

Please register for the JET Information Session at <https://bit.ly/2024ValleyJETInfoSession> to learn more about the opportunity to work in Japan, details of the program, how and when to apply, and ways to make your application stronger.

MVSU participates in Congressman Thompson’s annual career and college fair



By Jaheim Wilder, Staff Writer/Columnist

Mississippi Valley State University participated in Congressman Bennie Thompson’s annual College and Career Fair on Oct. 4, 2024, at the Washington County Convention Center in Greenville, Miss. The event is recognized for offering students opportunities to explore educational and career pathways. MVSU

representatives shared information about programs, admissions, and student services, while current students discussed their success stories. The fair also offered valuable networking opportunities with employers, supporting student growth. MVSU extends its gratitude to Congressman Thompson for his ongoing commitment to education and youth development in the Mississippi Delta.

MVSU professors present ‘interesting’ research at Advancing Mississippi Conference

DDG Staff Report

JACKSON, Miss. — Three professors from Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) pre-sented their research paper at the 9th Annual Advancing Mississippi Conference on Sept. 27 at the Research and Education Center. Conference attendees were welcome by Commissioner of Higher Education Al Rankins.

The Advancing Mississippi Conference is a unique opportunity to contribute to a brighter future for Mississippi’s citizens, according to Coordinator and Senior Economist Dr. Sondra Collins of the University Research Center at the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL).

The professors’ paper titled, “Post-Secondary Education in Prisons in Mississippi: Prospects and Challenges”, focuses on the importance of post-secondary education for incarcerated individuals in the state.

This research is based on data collected from MVSU’s Prison Educational Partnership Program (PEPP), which has offered courses for three bachelor’s degree programs at two correctional facilities in the Mississippi Delta since 2020.

The abstract of the study highlights that post-secondary education in prisons



Elechi



Cobbs



Green

aims to improve the skills and employability of justice-impacted individuals, ultimately reducing recidivism rates in Mississippi. It discusses the benefits and drawbacks of providing educational opportunities in correctional facilities and evaluates the transformative impact such programs can have on individuals, families, and communities. The research argues for state investment in education, training, and reentry programs for incarcerated individuals.

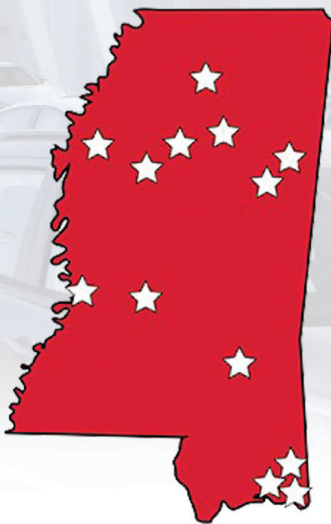
The paper was presented by:

- **Rochelle McGee-Cobbs**, Coordinator of the Prison Education Partnership Program (PEPP) and Associate Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice
- **O. Oko Elechi**, Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice
- **Kathryn Green**, Professor in the Department of Social Science

“Their presentation was wonderful and quite educational,” said Associate Professor/Acting Chair Dr. Theresa Dumas of MVSU’s Education Department. Dumas and other MVSU attendees were pleased to hear how eager to learn the PEPP students are and how beneficial the program is to Valley.

Micheal Joe Cannon and Tony Ellis
pictured being awarded the
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MVSU Delta Devils set to host Bethune-Cookman in Homecoming SWAC showdown

By Shomari Hunt, Sports Writer

Two winless teams will battle for their first victory of the season as Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) hosts Bethune-Cookman on Saturday, Oct. 19, at Rice-Totten Stadium in a Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) showdown during MVSU’s annual homecoming game.

Both MVSU (0-6, 0-3 SWAC) and Bethune-Cookman (0-6, 0-3 SWAC) are looking to end their respective skids and salvage some momentum for the rest of the season. For the Delta Devils, the focus is on putting together a complete game after a series of close but disappointing results.

The Delta Devils will be led by dual-threat quarterback Ty’Jarian Williams, who has shown his ability to make plays both on the ground and through



the air. Williams has been a consistent force for MVSU, but the team will need to rally after losing top wide receiver Kerrick Ross to an injury in their earlier game. Ross, who caught a 20-yard touchdown pass earlier in the season, has been one of the team’s most reliable offensive weapons.

Bethune-Cookman is in a comparable situation, with their offense struggling to find consistency. Both teams will be looking for a breakthrough to salvage momentum for the rest of the season.

In a battle of winless teams, Mississippi Valley State is poised to

secure its first victory of the season over Bethune-Cookman. Led by quarterback Williams, MVSU has shown flashes of offensive potential, and with their backs against the wall, the Delta Devils are likely to come out strong at home. The loss of wide receiver Ross to injury may slow their passing attack, but Williams’ ability to move the ball on the ground could open opportunities against Bethune-Cookman’s vulnerable defense.

On the defensive side, MVSU has shown resilience, and if they can pressure Bethune-Cookman’s offense



and limit mistakes, the Delta Devils should be able to control the tempo and secure a 24-17 win. Playing on their new turf and in front of their home crowd could provide the extra boost they need to end their six-game losing streak and send the fans onto the yard to celebrate a homecoming victory.

Hernandez signs NIL deal with Jefferson Sports Enterprise Inc.



By Raheal Aka-ety, Sports Writer

ITTA BENA, Miss.— Mississippi Valley State University soccer star Genesis Hernandez has taken a major step in her athletic career by signing a Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) management deal with Jefferson Sports Enterprise Inc. (JSE). Hernandez, a standout midfielder and First Team All-SouthWestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) selection, is the latest athlete to join the JSE Sports family.

In an interview following the announcement, Hernandez shared her thoughts on this new chapter in her career.

“When I first learned about the opportunity for this NIL deal, I was thrilled,” said Hernandez. “It felt like a validation of the hard work I’ve put into both my sport and academics. It’s incredible to see how college athletics

is evolving to support athletes.”

She also highlighted how the deal has motivated her both on and off the field. “The NIL deal has had a significant impact on my experience as a student-athlete,” she said. “On the field, it has motivated me to perform at my best, knowing I have the support of a brand. Off the field, it has opened doors for networking and has given me the chance to build my personal brand.”

When asked what advice she would give to other student-athletes seeking similar opportunities, Hernandez emphasized the importance of authenticity and perseverance. “My advice to other student-athletes looking to secure NIL deals is to stay authentic and proactive. Marc E. Jefferson, from JSE, took an interest in me after seeing my dedication on the field. He reached out and encouraged me to embrace this opportunity.”



9TH SWEAT EQUITY INVESTMENT
IN THE COTTON KINGDOM SYMPOSIUM
PRESENTS...

UP FROM THE COTTON PATCH REVISITED

A COMMUNITY DISCUSSION ABOUT
COTTON, SHARECROPPING, AND MVSU


THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024 @ 12:00 NOON
CARVER RANDLE AUDITORIUM, SOCIAL SCIENCE BUILDING

FREE
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

APPROX

This symposium aims to spotlight the profound stories, rhythms, and experiences that have shaped the region and influenced the world. We are seeking narratives that illuminate the lives and contributions of those who have labored in the cotton fields, and cultural significance of cotton throughout the American South and the world. Selected narratives, poems, and images will be featured in the upcoming *Up From A Cotton Patch ...*. Revisited book, to be published by University Press of Mississippi.

Special Invitation to Storytellers, Educators/Students, Musicians, Handbone Performers, Diddle-bow Performers, Artifact Collectors, Former Cotton Planters, Choppers, and Pickers whose labor contributed to the growth of MVSU, and America!



Keynote
Dr. Roy
Hudson

Barbara Baymon, Dept of Mass Communications
Master of Ceremony

Dr Jerryl Briggs, Sr, Welcome Address
Senator David Jordan, Presenter
Mrs. Thelma Collins, Presenter
Indiana Norfleet, Performance
You the MVSU & Delta Community
Brown Bag
... and so much more!

Let's Celebrate as we Elevate!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:
There will also be a sneak preview of
**THE MARLIN ASHFORD
MEMORABILIA COLLECTION**
in the J.H. White Library—Opening
Reception Friday, October 25, 2024 @ 12:00 Noon

For more information contact:
Up From A Cotton Patch, Editorial Board
cottonpatchrevisited@mvsu.edu
ATTN: Cynthia Honare-Collins
Or, C.Sade Turnipseed @ 662.347.8198

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