

GAZETTE

An award-winning college newspaper, by students for students

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Happy 73rd Birthday, V-State!

By Michael Coleman, Jr. Student Writer

Mississippi Valley State University held its annual Founder's Week convocation, on April 13, at 11 a.m. in the Walter Robert's Auditorium. The 73rd Founder's Day theme was "Grateful, Loyal, True, and Faithful."

The speaker of the hour was Barbara Baymon, a long-time MVSU educator. She is the Coordinator and Instructor of Speech Communication and the Director of Theater. An alumna of MVSU, Baymon is also a former university Queen.

Her speech was encouraging to the audience, elaborating on the true meaning of being grateful, loyal, true, and faithful. She advised the audience to be grateful for the opportunities that the school provides, to be loyal to our school and the principles for which it stands, true to ourselves, and faithful

to our school after we depart.

She spoke to each level of the school. Baymon said to students, "Students, prove the naysayers wrong by graduating. Administration, continue to fight for that 10-15 percent raise for the faculty. That way, we are encouraged to be the first ones here in the morning and the last to leave every evening."

She even went so far as to encourage the alumni to be actively engaged with the school to enhance each person's experience of the school.

Baymon concluded her speech by saying, "I may not be where I want to be and I may not be everything I want to be, but I thank God that I'm not where I was."

Immediately following her speech, the choir sang a gospel piece, "He Is God", which aligned with her remarks regarding her Christianity.



She was receptive and appreciative of the song choice and the praise that followed her speech as evidenced by her movements of praise. Baymon received a standing ovation following her "powerful words" as described by several.

Michael Coleman, Jr. is a graduating senior majoring in Mass Communication with an emphasis in public relations.

'The Divine 29 - Delta Sigma Theta is back on the yard after a 12-year hiatus

By Dominique Cheeks, Student Writer

On Saturday, April 15, Mississippi Valley State University welcomed the new Spring 2023 line of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. back onto the illustrious campus. After being off the 'yard' for twelve years, the Deltas' comeback was something that was believed to never happen again here on campus.

Although the specific events leading up to the removal of the illustrious ladies from the campus is unknown, the events leading up to their return was a long and strenuous journey.

According to MVSU faculty, and member of DST Inc., Lashandar Johnson, one of the key factors that aided in this process was to "constantly communicate with the Regional and National boards the positive effects that the Deltas' coming back would have here at MVSU. The main reason being that having the organization here on campus would aid in boosting the



PHOTO BY LETUNYA EVANS, Communications & Marketing

retention rate here at Valley."

Finally, after several members of the organization from all over the world, and local chapters continued to advocate for the return of the organization, permission was granted to return to having a Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. line on campus.

With their time spent away from campus, according to Johnson, "the ladies took that time to reevaluate and have vowed to never allow anything to jeopardize them from being active on campus again."

When asked how it felt to be a part of the New Era of DSTs here at MVSU, Latavia Williams, Co-Editor and Chief of the Delta Devils' Gazette, the campus newspaper, answered. "It feels amazing to be a part of such an illustrious line of collegiate women that vow to make a difference on not just this campus, but all over the world."

Now, that they are back active on campus, moving forward, the ladies plan to stick to their founding principles which are sisterhood,

scholarship, service, and social action while creating a fun and welcoming environment on campus and also in surrounding communities.

The crowd roared with cheers and applause as they were recently introduced as the "Divine 29" during the Spring 2023 Greek New Member Presentation & Neophyte Celebration.

(See Greek highlights on page 6 From the celebration).

Letter to the Editor



Honors Convocation Concerns
“I appreciate MVSU for having an Honors Convocation to celebrate the achievements of our finest scholars, but with every great event, there is room for improvement. I felt like everyone should’ve received an award. Everyone should’ve walked the stage and took a picture with the president. My parents and sister drove over 45 minutes to watch me be awarded. If you are having a

ceremony to recognize students for their academic achievements, I feel like you should’ve made it worth their while. I attended the ceremony as an Honors Scholar while having a high GPA in the previous two semesters, and I didn’t even receive a certificate for my accomplishment.”

– Jessie Washington, Senior
Mass Communication Major
(Broadcasting)

the delta devils
GAZETTE

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and 2002 FIRST PLACE winner. 2015 THIRD PLACE
winner. 2016 SECOND PLACE winner.

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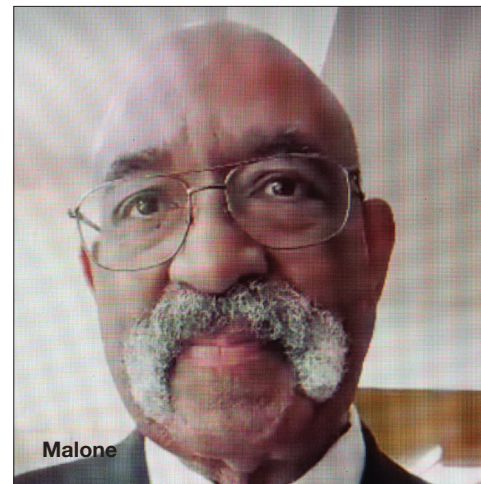
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A Gazette Exclusive –

MVSU’s founder’s grandson reflects on his grandfather’s powerful legacy



White



Malone

DDG Staff Report

Following the crowd-pleasing 73rd Founder’s Day Convocation program, on April 13, the Delta Devils Gazette was granted an opportunity to interview Winthrop Malone, one of the grandsons of MVSU’s first President and Founder, the late Dr. James Herbert White.

Malone shared memories of his grandfather’s legacy as well as what he thought President White would think of the convocation and MVSU if he could see it today.

Read the interview below:

Gazette: ...Tell us [how you’re related] to our great founder, Dr. White.

Malone: Dr. White was my grandfather. My mother and father were Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. Malone who also worked here.

Gazette: Okay.

Malone: ... And my brother was Chip Malone. Chip has since passed a few years ago. The two of us were the two sons of the Malones.

Gazette: Sir, given that this is our 73rd year, reflecting on your grandfather and what he stood for, ... what do you think he would be thinking about what he started today?

Malone: I think if he came back and saw the university, he would be very proud of it. I think specifically, he would be very proud of today’s convocation. Not only the featured speaker but the music. They were both musicians: Momma White and Daddy White, and I know how they would have responded to the music [today]. They would have totally enjoyed it. Momma White sang as an alto, and she would’ve loved that. But I think in general just seeing the progress that Dr. Briggs and the University are making toward excellence for the students is an important step in the right direction. I think he would be proud of him as president and be proud of the faculty and staff.

Gazette: What advice would you give, being a part of your grandfather’s legacy, to the students of Mississippi Valley State today as well as those who may be considering coming here?

Malone: I think it is several things that he held deep in his heart. That if you knew him long enough you would just know what those things were. The first one was He always wanted to make a good presentation. He always wanted to look like he wanted to be. If he wanted to be a professor or an educator he wanted to look that way. He always acted that way. He acted like he wanted to be. That’s the first one.

The second thing is he always accepted

excellence. He didn’t care whether he had two students and one faculty member. That was enough for him to get started. He thrived on excellence.

In everything he did, he never saw this (referring to MVSU’s original grounds) as a cotton patch. Never saw it as a cotton patch. When he first came here, he saw it as the university that it is now, and he envisioned it...

One thing that struck me when we were talking earlier about some of his achievements when he did distance learning. Distance learning wasn’t even thought about anywhere in the state. Nowhere. I can remember as a high school student he got Professors from Mississippi State and maybe Delta State but I know Mississippi State to do distance learning. When broadband was nowhere on the scene. Broadband was nowhere around back then, and he did it basically and made it work.

Gazette: A man before his time, so to speak

Malone: And so professors from other universities were able to teach students here. That was around, I’m talking about, let’s see when I left for college. It was ’69. It was before ’69. It was ’68 ’69 ’72, somewhere like that.

Gazette: Okay.

Malone: So that’s...I mean he had vision. He had vision.

Gazette: Vision, a great visionary.

Malone: The last thing I want to say is he had a sense of humor, not in the sense that he told jokes, or said funny things but he laughed. And he laughed at himself a lot. He would say things that I hear people like the speaker today. He would hear that, and he would just laugh. It would make him happy. He was a happy person.

Gazette: Great!

Malone: But a very serious man.

... I’m just happy to be here on his 120th birthday.

Gazette: Oh wow!

Malone: Today, April 13th is his birthday...He would have been 120 years old.

Following the interview, Malone wanted to emphasize that his grandfather always did something to promote and sell the university. He said President White was always recruiting.

Mass Communication students Michael Coleman, Jr., Tyonia Blue, Mikayla Etienne, Terry Edwards, and Dominique Cheeks (transcriptionist), and Faculty Advisor Dr. Gail H. Marshall Brown contributed to this report.

Civil Rights Veteran and Freedom Rider culminates Spring Mass Comm Speaker Series

by Travon Killins, Student Writer

Civil rights activists David J. Dennis Sr. was featured on Thursday, April 20, by the Department of Mass Communication in the Business Education Building Auditorium. The public and family members were welcome to attend.

Dennis is best known as a Civil Rights veteran and for being one of the original Freedom Riders who rode from Montgomery, Ala to Jackson, Miss. In 1961.

Speaking of his participation in the Freedom Ride, the story of how he embarked on the ride that put him in jail was quite interesting!

During the presentation, Dennis shared that at age 20, it was a particular woman whom he was attracted to and interested in at the time. He said when he finally got the opportunity to talk to her about his interest, she told him, "Come on the Freedom Ride with me and I'll think



PHOTO CAPTION; David Dennis, Sr. joined by his mentee Albert Sykes (to his right) pause for a photo with students, faculty and visitors from the audience after the presentation. PHOTO BY TIMOTHY ADAMS.

about it."

That happened to be their first date when they participated in the Civil Rights movement, rebelling against segregation on interstate buses and bus terminals. They were arrested

as a result, and from that day on out Dennis rose to fame in the Civil Rights Movement.

Regarding his background, Dennis informed the audience on how he was born on a plantation of a

sharecropper in Omega, Louisiana in 1940. All he knew was a life of segregation. He stated, "I picked cotton at five years old and didn't

See "Davis" Page 8

The Men in Blue are back!



By Nicholas Patrick, Chapter President

On The Mississippi Valley State University family was proud to welcome the return of the Delta Phi Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma. Students, faculty and friends were all shocked and excited to see the men march their way into the arena for the Spring 2023 Neophyte presentation, Saturday, April 15.

The Delta Phi chapter of Phi Beta Sigma celebrates its 55th year of Brotherhood, Scholarship, and Service with its initiation of four new members. According to Brother Lester Smith, co-founder of the Delta Phi chapter, the fraternity decided not to initiate any new members during the outbreak of COVID-19 and has lain inactive from around 2020 to spring 2023.

MVSU extended a warm, loving welcome to the return of the Men of

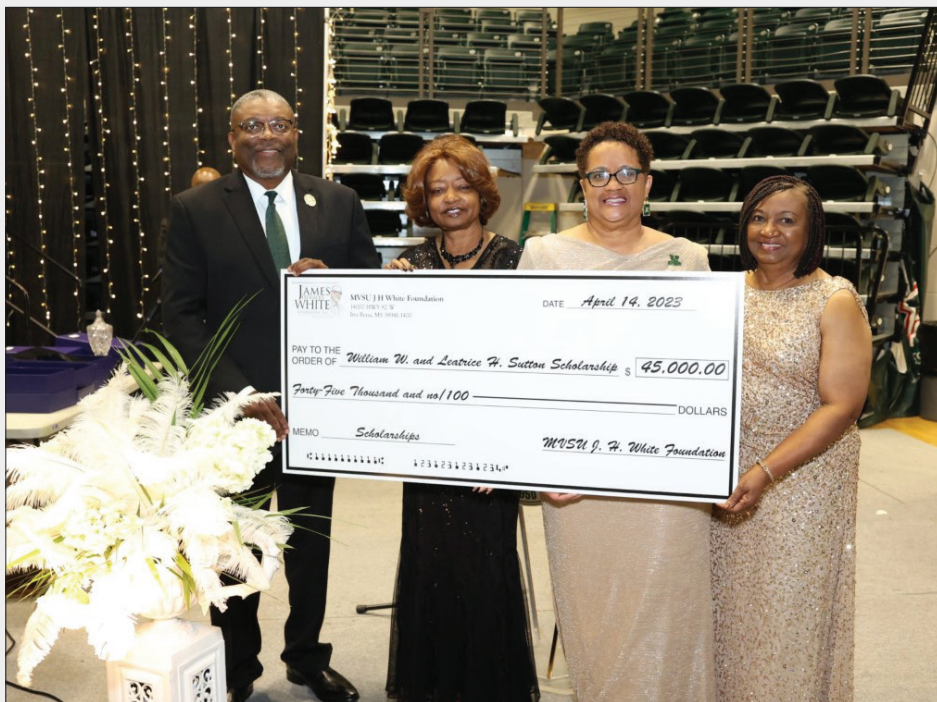
Sigma. Since their reveal, the brothers already have been active on-and-off campus. On April 18, they were among members of various MVSU Greek organizations traveled to Robert L. Merritt Junior High School to engage in its Testing Kick-Off Pep Rally. On the evening of April 21, Delta Phi Chapter fed the students on the campus of MVSU.

New members recently shared with the Gazette their experiences during the Neophyte presentation and their thoughts about joining Phi Beta Sigma:

"The intake process for the Delta Phi Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. was a challenging yet knowledgeable process. This Chapter has taught me multiple lessons on the history of Phi Beta

See "Blue" Page 4

MVSU Awards Gala



The James Herbert White Foundation, Inc. Awards Gala was held Friday, April 14, 2023, as part of Founder's Week celebrations at Mississippi Valley State University.

From left, MVSU president Dr. Jerryl Briggs Sr., Jean Cadney, chairman of the foundation's board of directors, Allison Sutton and Dr. Joyce McNair pose with a donation from the J.H. White Foundation in the amount of \$45,000 to the William W. and Leatrice H. Sutton Scholarship. McNair is the niece of William W. Sutton, and Allison Sutton is Sutton's daughter. William W. Sutton was the fourth president of MVSU. He was also given the Chairman's Award by Cadney in recognition of his service as the fourth president of the university.

Valley hosts Spring Career Fair

By Zamar Wilson, Student Writer

The day had finally come when students who attended Mississippi Valley State University's 2023 Career Fair and Graduate School Expo came into what they know as the "New Gym" to find the stepping stool or the foundation to their career path.

Within this career day, there were many different organizations, departments, schools, and others. There was even a police department participating from the West Coast. Some of the organizations also had alternative plans for careers such as The Memphis Grizzlies all the way to a mass communications internship at Jackson State University.

According to Director of Career Services Essie Bryant, there were nearly 70 participating organizations, graduate schools, school districts, and businesses. "From our vendors' evaluations, wow, we received all great comments," she said. "Some of the comments included were 'Best Career Fair I've Attended,' 'Great setup,' and 'The students were so professional.' The vendors were really pleased."

Becca Tillman, a staff recruiter with Youth Villages (a national non-profit with locations in nine Mississippi cities, was among the participants "We are here interested in talking to any students who are interested in working



with youth and families...especially with kids," Tillman told the Delta Devils Gazette. She said they were looking for social work, psychology, and counseling majors.

Having the President of the University, Dr. Jerryl Briggs, in attendance only furthered students' intrigue. Some students were inspired by his presence. Student Averri Sanders stated, "I didn't know what to expect coming to the event, but seeing Dr. Briggs there, going to different tables has given me a lot of alternative options to become the successful young woman I plan to be."

Bryant said the career expo also featured a training segment upstairs

on mock interviews and professional headshot photos.

The Career Day was a huge success based on interviewing a number of students that attended. Most came with the intention of finding something in their career path, and while they did, they ultimately found something else of interest in another line of work. This only furthered their own legacy and success as a student at Mississippi Valley State University.

Zamar Wilson is a Mass Communications major with a concentration in public relations. Gazette Faculty Advisor Gail H. Marshall Brown also contributed to this

Blue

continued from page 3

Sigma and how to carry myself as a Man of Sigma. Being part of the return of Delta Phi made my process more special as wanting to make the Brothers over me proud of representing their Chapter in a good way, including their notoriety."

- Duane Byrd, II.

"The return of Delta Phi is something to behold. I can tell that Delta Phi coming back is bringing more color to the campus and gives everyone something to be hyped about."

- Jordan Minniefield

"The return of Delta Phi has been an excellent experience. Being a part of an organization that stands for black excellence has been an experience like no other. It has encouraged me to push further in my own personal adventures to reach the peak of my abilities."

- Pierre Chatelain

"The return of Delta Phi has been a very important event in my life. I am the first person in my family to join a D9 Greek organization, so this was a very big deal to me. The intake process taught me that I should also reach for my goals and that the sky is the limit. I'm very pleased to be a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Probate was a very fun experience. The show was the best to me because it was so creative and brought things to the floor that the other fraternities didn't have. I will continue to live up to the expectations that our founders have set. I will also continue to live up to the motto, 'Culture for service and service for humanity.'"

- Jaylon Baker

As Chapter President, at first, I was nervous about the return of Delta Phi because I did not know what to expect. Among the many men who expressed their interest in Phi Beta Sigma's great brotherhood, the four chosen men proved that they were both qualified and worthy of standing among the Men of Sigma. They have more than what it takes to bring Delta Phi back to life, and I'm proud to call these men my brothers. I'm eager to see what they have in store for the future. They hit the ground running, and I hope others will also get involved and change the culture of Greek life at MVSU and other colleges across the country.

The Chapter has received numerous congratulatory comments on its return.

FACULTY CORNER — The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities presented ADA training to MVSU Faculty

DDG Staff Report

The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) provides services that give students with disabilities an equal opportunity to achieve their educational and career goals at MVSU.

On April 25, the SSD Office provided faculty with information regarding accommodations that are needed to ensure students have an enjoyable experience as they can fully participate in all services and programs having equal access. "This training was developed to orient, refresh, and engage faculty in best practices, and common challenges with student accommodations," said Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Coordinator Kathy Brownlow who conducted the faculty development training.

The training was held in the Social Science Building, Room 3. Brownlow was assisted by her social work interns Zaria Nixon and Kenisha Cogdell.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a comprehensive, civil rights law for people with disabilities. It mandates that you shall not discriminate in employment practices, or in the delivery of goods, services, activities, or benefits based on their disability. Title II refers to state and local government agencies of the Americans with Disabilities Act such as Program Access: Higher Education programs must be accessible to and useable by people with disabilities,



including online learning programs. Colleges and Universities are responsible for providing reasonable accommodations and certifying that all programs, activities, and services are accessible for individuals with disabilities.

However, the University has the right to request and receive current documentation for disability accommodation. The university also has the right to deny a request for accommodations when an accommodation would alter the fundamental context of the program and/or pose an undue burden.

Brownlow thanked the faculty for attending. "I am extremely glad I attended the training," said Dr. Gail H. Marshall Brown, Visiting Assistant Professor of Mass Communication. "As a new faculty member, the training was an eye-opening and learning experience."

Coordinator Brownlow also said she is most thankful for her interns assisting her. The interns said their field learning experience has been "fantastic!"

"It has given us the opportunity to explore, discuss, and apply concepts important to building equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities," said Nixon. Cogdell concurred that "the skills we learned have well equipped us for a professional career in the field of Social Work as we both have a job in this field already lined up after graduation on May 6, 2023."

For more information about ADA or a question on how to proceed in an ADA situation, contact Brownlow at (662) 254-3443.

Note: Interns Zaria Nixon and Kenisha Cogdell contributed to the writing of this report.

The Valley celebrates International Week 2023



Parade of Flags: MVSU students, faculty and community came together in celebrating world culture.



Fashion Fiesta - Global Runway organized as part of the 2023 International Week showcased clothes from around the world.

By International Programs

The Office of International Programs (OIP) organized International Week on April 10-14.

OIP engaged MVSU students, faculty and local community to hold events to celebrate international culture, art, food, clothes, poetry and music. The week long events featured country fair, international fashion show, parade of flags, country presentations, World Poetry, movies, Japanese Calligraphy, Henna tattoos and Russian doll painting. Several attendees of the cultural celebration commented on how much they enjoyed it and on the educational value of the event.

Assistant Professor, Department of Education Dr. Jeanne DuBard said, "Learning about cultures that differ from my own is enlightening and exciting. I enjoy being a part of a cultural awareness movement on campus. Students in my class that attend international presentations are embracing each other's differences and are engaged in discussions about food, music, climate, landscapes, and many other aspects of various countries."

Criminal justice major, Talullah Nemet-Sargent, a sophomore, said, "International Week was a great way for students to interact with one another whilst embracing other cultures.

"We were able to have fun whilst still learning about other cultures we are not so familiar with. Being able to celebrate love and cultures with my friends as well as others who share the same passion as me was amazing. It was a beautiful week of events. I loved how everything was so interactive."

There were those who were new to the annual celebration. Juliette Chárriez Rivera, a sophomore biology major, shared: "The International Week events were a new and enjoyable experience. It was different compared to the other ones I have experienced here. Very colorful and fun to learn about other cultures around the world."

Freshman biology major, Jarian Phillips, said, "I liked that they had us to join to bring different country flags together." Phillips is referring to the Parade of Flags activity in which both students, faculty and staff participated. (See highlights of the parade and other

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"I thought I knew what places some of the flags came from, but I was wrong. I learned the correct places as a result of the walk," Phillips added.

For future collaboration and co-hosting international themed events, please contact the Office of International Programs at international@mvsu.edu or 662-254-3094.

MVSU students wins 2023 StudyMississippi International Students of the Year Awards

By International Programs

MVSU students win state-wide 2023 StudyMississippi International Student of the Years award in both the Undergraduate and Graduate category.

These awards recognize the exceptional personal contributions of international students to student life and community outreach in the state of Mississippi.

It honors international students who have excelled in campus involvement, service to the university, and have impacted their peers, the broader campus and local community. The award competition was open for all StudyMississippi member institutions across Mississippi.

2023 StudyMississippi International Student of the Year - Undergraduate Category

- Ms. Uchechi Nworah, (not pictured)
- Senior and Double Major in Biology



Saxena

and Chemistry

- Home Country: Nigeria

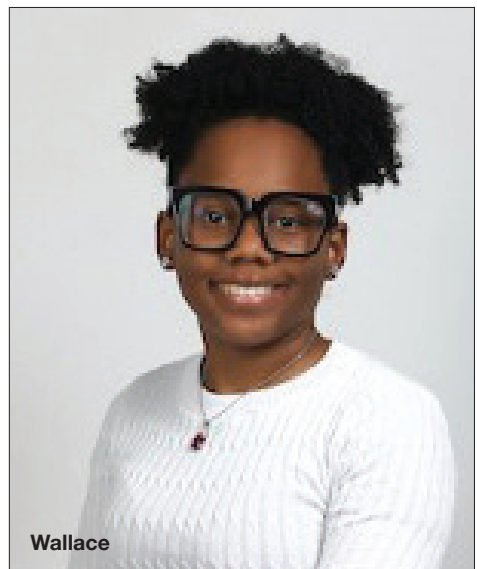
2023 StudyMississippi International Student of the Year - Graduate Category

- Ms. Aaradhana Saxena
- Program: Master of Social Work
- Home Country: India

Heidi Hankins and Jasmine Wallace pursue Study Abroad!



Hankins



Wallace

By International Programs

Jasmine Wallace and Heidi Hankins pursued Study Abroad opportunities in South Africa and Italy.

MVSU students interested in studying and interning abroad can contact the Office of International Programs at study-abroad@mvsu.edu for more information on Study Abroad Scholarships. These scholarships enable students of limited financial means to study or intern abroad, providing them with skills critical to the US national security and economic prosperity.

Heidi Hankins, a senior sociology major from Charleston, Miss., at Mississippi Valley State University, has been awarded the Gilman Scholarship and is studying abroad in Florence, Italy, this Spring 2023 semester.

"Receiving Gilman Scholarship means I get to join a league of prominent students who have been chosen to reshape the world by offering their underrepresented perspectives on a global scale," said Hankins. This opportunity proved that showcasing my authenticity and everything I'm proud of, like being an ambitious young woman, a Mississippi

native, and choosing to be educated at a historically black university, is a narrative worth sharing," she added.

Jasmine Wallace, Bioinformatics Graduate Program student was one of ten American students selected to participate in the Invasion and evolution—Evolutionary, phylogenetic, and genomic mechanisms and consequences of plant-fungal invasions in invasion biology international graduate course, which was held in Pretoria, South Africa, from October 30, 2022, through November 19, 2022.

"I was convinced of how it would be an amazing opportunity. I thought about it and realized the worst response I could get is "no," so I decided to apply. A week later, I received an email that I was accepted," said Wallace.

Wallace explained her happiness for taking a chance on the program because she was able to expand her knowledge on fungi and met amazing people in the process. "I learned how important fungi was for the tree roots by transporting nutrients from the roots to the tree. Some people were more familiar with fungi because that was their study path," said Wallace.

Greek **NEOPHYTE** Celebration

PHOTO MONTAGE HIGHLIGHTS



University hosts Student Athletic Banquet

By T.J. Goodwin, Sports Editor

Mississippi Valley State University's student athletic banquet took place on April 12 in the HYPER Complex.

Awards were given to special student athletes based on their successes in the classroom and on the field. The banquet was constructed in a manner that honored the accomplishments.

Welcome/opening remarks were given by: Dr. Abigail Newsome, President Dr. Jerryl Briggs and Athletic Director Hakim McClellan, respectively. AD McClellan mentioned: "model is to elevate V-State in every facet".

The night was star-studded as athletes accepted many awards during the event including, specific sports most valuable players, academic achievements, overall men and women most valuable players, valley pride, and overall athletic director award. Ronnie Thomas, brought home the most awards with three.

When asked about his Canadian football league contract he recently signed, he gave all credit to God and hard work, stating he wants to be remembered here at valley for who he is as an athlete and as a person.

The Delta Devils enjoyed fellow athletes' company over a nice dinner and praise sending encouragement to the next class of future star student athletes.

Co-Editor-in-Chief also contributed to this report. See other MVP Honorees on page 8



Overall Athletic director award, Football MVP (defensive & overall): Ronnie Thomas



Women's overall/ Soccer MVP: Rahael Aka-Ety



Men's overall/ Basketball MVP: Terry Collins

April madness in intramural basketball



By: Gabrielle Jones-Hall, Co-editor-in-chief

Since intramural sports at Valley has not been around for the past several years, the department made its comeback last fall with opportunities for non-official student-athletes to play flag-football and/or basketball.

Coming off the month of March, which is known in the basketball world as March madness, April 4's semi-finals and championship game for participating intramural basketball teams were held in the HYPER complex.

The final four teams competed in the semi-finals. As they competed in their chance to enter the championship bracket, merely two teams advanced.

Each game played was divided into two, 10-minute halves. During intermission, which was after the semi-finals but before the championship, a 3-point contest was held. These individuals were students who contacted Coach Lee upon request on flyers distributed mainly in-residence halls.

Congratulations to ... for making the most 3-pointers out of ... contestants and team AMC for carrying through the come-back season of the intramural sport and winning the championship!

As director of the program, Coach plans to continue the momentum of the program.

Delta Devils host Annual Spring Game event

By Trampas Goodwin, Sports Editor



Thursday April 15, the Delta Devils football team, under new head coach Kevin Wade, took the field for their annual spring game at Rice Totten Stadium.

Filled with enthusiasm and energy, the event hosted over 100 recruits looking to join the Delta Devils football program.

The team showed flashes of new speed and toughness under new offensive and defensive play callers. Offense was able to have success early



in the scrimmage with defense turning up the intensity later on.

The Delta Devils will continue building on a successful spring practice to prepare for an exciting 2024 season.

Davis *continued from page 3*

know anything about basic utilities till I was nine years old.”

During his years in the moment, Dennis served as a field secretary for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in Louisiana and Mississippi (1961-65). He said, “I was 22 years old when I came to Mississippi, and the black communities at MVSU were built like real black families in unity”.

In addition, Dennis talked about how at one point on MVSU campus lawyers stayed with lawyers and doctors stayed with doctors. The unity within the black community back then was far greater than it is today.

Dennis and his son David Dennis, Jr. wrote and published a book titled, *The Movement Made Us*.

In the book, Dennis and his son inform us that “The twentieth century saw the rise in mass incarceration, imprisoning Black parents and separating them from families and, all the while white Americans was callously crafting Moynihan Reports and narratives that broken Black homes were a function of some innate characteristic of Blackness that made us incapable of maintaining familial traits”.

Unity within the Black Communities is the best solution to what black’s face in America. “I enjoyed his presentation a lot, especially how organized he was with his speech and starting off with a video of his son,” said student Raheal Akaety. “What stood out to me was when he said, ‘the intention of moving men from homes had a direct impact to how things changed now.’”

A Red Carpet Affair: Band Banquet 2023



Melton Harvey, Director of University Bands, was the Master of Ceremony for the event.



The MVSU Marching Band's Drumline.



President Jerryl Briggs was there to give a few kind words to the students.

Other MVP Sports Honorees



The 71st Commencement

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 | 8AM

RICE-TOTTEN STADIUM
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
ITTA BENA, MISSISSIPPI

