



MVCconnections



FOCUSING ON THE PEOPLE AND ACTIVITIES
OF MOUNTAIN VIEW COLLEGE

Commencement 2008

MVC Commencement exercises were held May 8 at the Jesse Owens Memorial Center

Mountain View College 2007-2008 graduates received an extended impromptu applause from faculty and staff prior to Commencement exercises on May 8, and the roar of approval only grew louder as they entered the Jesse Owens Memorial Center to a near capacity crowd of family, friends, and well-wishers.

Following introductory comments by Mountain View College President Felix A. Zamora and Dallas County Community College District Board of Trustee Charletta Compton, the Graduation Address was delivered by Texas State Senator Royce West.

Senator West has represented the 23rd Senatorial District for more than 15 years. *Texas Monthly Magazine* recently named Senator West as one of the 25 most powerful people in Texas politics, and throughout his legislative tenure, the magazine named him as one of the "Ten Best Legislators in Texas." The *Associated Press* also named Senator West as one of the "key players of the 2005 Legislature" in its "Movers and Shakers" list. Additionally,



Senator Royce West delivered an inspirational message of hope and optimism to Mountain View College graduates on May 8 at the Jesse Owens Memorial Center.

Senator West has earned a reputation as a tireless advocate for higher education.

Senator West stated that graduates of the Class of 2008 faced a "new world" of challenges and opportunities. Furthermore, he recommended that graduates continually maintain an innovative, open-minded, and optimistic approach to the world around them.

couraged his classmates to accept challenges willingly and to always remain true to their dreams and aspirations.

Rhodes, who was recently named Mountain View College's Outstanding Student for the 2007-2008 Academic Year, also served as Secretary of the Student Government Association, a Student Ambassador, and a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Rhodes received an associate degree in airport management through the Mountain View College Aviation Program.

Longtime faculty member Lew Sayers served as Grand Marshal of the Commencement exercises, while Alex Diaz and Liz Nichols served as Faculty Marshals. Cristina Medina and Eddie Martinez served as Student Marshals, and the Invocation was delivered by faculty member Michelle Williams. Dr. Kizuwanda Grant, Executive Dean, Communications and Teacher Education, delivered the Presentation of the Class of 2007-2008. Executive Deans Michael Gutierrez and Dr. Karen Valencia presented individual graduates.

Graduate Jason Rhodes, who served as Student Speaker for the ceremony, was introduced by Dr. Leonard Garrett, Vice President of Enrollment Services and Student Management. Rhodes echoed Senator West's comments regarding future challenges and reflected upon his own personal journey to the United States as an international student from England. He also en-

High Academic Honors!

Lindsay Barker selected to All Texas Academic Team

Lindsay Barker, a 2008 graduate at Mountain View College, was recently selected to the 2008 All Texas Academic Team for students attending Texas community colleges. The award is presented by the American Association of Community Colleges and the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society.



Mountain View College President Felix A. Zamora officially presents Lindsay Barker with a certificate and medal for her selection to the 2008 All Texas Academic Team.

Requirements for selection to the team include maintaining a grade point average of at least 3.5, while also demonstrating a record of significant community service and involvement in student clubs and organizations at the educational institution in which the student attends.

Barker, who was also nominated for the 2007-2008 Outstanding Student of the Year award at Mountain View College, has donated more than 200 hours of community service during the last academic year.

Additionally, Barker has been the recipient of the Amidon Beauchamp Student Leadership Award, has been named an Honors Scholar, and has been an active member in numerous student clubs and organizations.

Dallas City employees to visit MVC for June conference

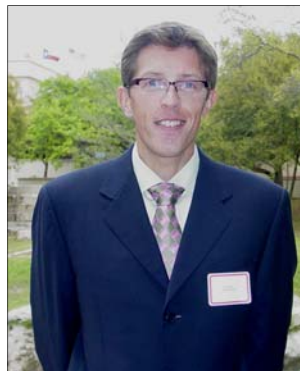
Mountain View College, for the second consecutive year, will host a City of Dallas Safety Conference from June 24-27. Conducted by the City's Human Resource Risk Management and Safety Department, the event will draw more than 1,000 Dallas City employees who will each complete eight hours of safety compliance training.

Among the many safety courses offered will be Accident-Injury Investigation/Reporting/Subrogation, Back Injury Prevention/Lifting, CPR and First Aid, Drug and Alcohol Reasonable Suspicion Training, and many others.

This collaborative effort will be facilitated Michael A. Johnson, Sr., and Artrese Hartman, Coordinators/Contract Training and Contract Training Staff.

Outstanding Students honored on April 25

Mountain View College held its annual Outstanding Student Banquet on April 25 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Duncanville. The well-attended event honored not only Outstanding Student nominees and winners, but also honored a number of other students for outstanding academic achievements.



Jason Rhodes

Honors for the prestigious Outstanding Student of the Year award went to Jason Rhodes. Martha Garcia and Mary Scheerer earned Second and Third place honors, respectively.

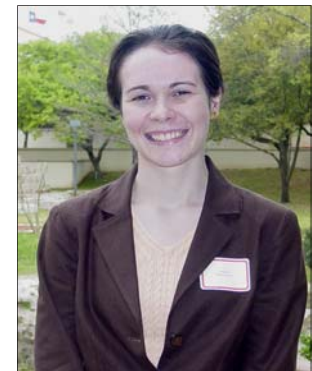
Other nominees for Outstanding Student of the Year



Martha Garcia

included Lindsey Barker, Amanda Guerrero, Celina Ibarra, Ali Khazem, Mayra Martinez, Yolanda Morgan, Tatianna Sneed, and Tray Wegenhof.

Additionally, scholarship



Mary Scherrer

awards were for the following students were announced at the banquet: Evens Pierre, Goldblatt Community Service Award; Lindsay Barker, Aimdon Beauchamp Student Leadership Award; and Sarah Connine, Guy Good-

ing SPAR Director Award.

Other MVC students recognized at the ceremony included all student ambassadors, all club officers, and all Star Award students (outstanding club members).

A Commitment to Core Values

A tribute to people and events which exemplify MVC core values



Featured Core Value for May, 2008 — “ Celebration of Diversity”

Assignment brings students and their families together

Students of the Art Appreciation and History Learning Community class under the combined instruction of Liz Nichols and Cristina Medina were given a specific assignment which produced special results this spring. The assignment was to take multiple photographs of family members using different views and backgrounds. Students quickly discovered that their sense of family depended greatly upon their varying viewpoints and perceptions regarding family, and that those differences were stunningly apparent from their photos.

Another result was a memorable exhibit and reception on April 29 whereby the students and many of their family members discussed their work with others. In addition to the acknowledgement of differences, many of the students and their family members also established commonalities while viewing and discussing the photos.

Instructor Liz Nichols says she too gained valuable insight from having instructed the class.

“My personal experiences with this class were extraordinary,” Nichols said. “The transformation exhibited by the students illustrated the positive effects of including family, cooperative learning, and interdisciplinary interaction into the learning environment. I recommend this experience to other faculty and students because the rewards are truly uplifting.”

This course was supported by the district-wide FIPSE grant entitled, “Family Involvement for Latino Success in College: A Family-Centered and Community-Based Approach to Latino Student Access, Persistence, and Retention.” Mountain View College is the fiscal agent for



Mountain View College student Teresa Jordan, along with her niece, Melony, discuss photos taken as part of the Art Appreciation and History Learning Community class under the combined instruction of Liz Nichols and Cristina Medina.

the grant, and courses receiving funding from the grant are currently being taught at Mountain View, Brookhaven and Richland. The grant actively facilitates courses which involve a student’s family member in the course content in support of district and campus retention and persistence objectives. Opportunities for funding are available for modifying existing courses in all academic disciplines, including developmental and Early College High School courses. Professional Development and community outreach activities linked to engaging students’ families in course content are also eligible to receive funding.

Mountain View College Core Values:

- Dedication to Student Learning
- Teamwork, Collaboration, and Unity
- Celebration of Diversity
- Celebration of Student and Employee Success
- Contributions of all Employees and Students
- Creativity and Innovation
- Cultivation of Colleagues
- Promotion of Opportunities and Goodwill
- Integrity
- Service
- Mutual Support and Respect

Have you witnessed examples of Mountain View College Core Values in action? Would you like to share those experiences with the campus community? Contact: Kelly Kirkpatrick, ext. 8679.

Employee of the Month



The Professional Support Staff Association recognized James Epperson in Grounds Maintenance as the April 2008 Employee of the Month. This initiative involves the selection of a different employee each month for service excellence to the campus community.

Department of the Month



The Professional Support Staff Association recognized Grounds Maintenance as the Department of the Month for April 2008. Pictured, from left, are James Epperson, Luis Montero, Jaime Nino, Humberto Espino, Byron Cheek, Ronnie Bank and Devin Portley. This initiative involves the selection of a different department each month for service excellence to the campus community. The association hopes to boost the morale of PSS employees and encourage them to create a positive attitude in the workplace.

MVC welcomes Gophers of 2008!

Mountain View hosts Gopher College Connections to welcome new students

On May 14, Mountain View College hosted more than 50 recent graduates of Grand Prairie High School who will be attending here in the Fall 2008 Semester. The half-day seminar was made possible as part of a pilot program called College Connections, which is conducted through a partnership between Mountain View College, North Lake College and Grand Prairie High School. The May 14 event was dubbed, "Gopher College Connections."

The program provides comprehensive student services at the high school level and is designed to assist students with a seamless transition into college. The May 14 event offered mock registrations, an overview of student programs and services, helpful information regarding financial aid, and much more. The May 14 seminar was led by Mountain View College Student Service Specialist, Hector Villela, and Mountain View College School Alliance Coordinator, Melissa Hurtado.



Students from Grand Prairie High School who have already enrolled for the Fall 2008 semester listen intently as they receive an overview of registration and enrollment processes at a College Connections seminar held May 14.

This Summer at MVC: 2008

* All events are free to the public unless otherwise indicated.

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
MAY			
Friday, May 30	End of May Term		
JUNE			
Monday, June 2	ART: Summer Student Art Exhibit through August 4		Kiva Gallery
Monday, June 9	Summer I Classes Begin Extended registration		
Wednesday, June 11	Census date		
Tuesday, June 17	Registration for continuing students only through Sunday, June 22	Tuesday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	
Wednesday, June 18	Carter Blood Care Blood Drive	8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.	West Entrance
Thursday, June 19	Carter Blood Care Blood Drive OAH Community College Workshop through Saturday, June 21	8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 8 a.m. - TBA	West Entrance
Monday, June 23	Open registration through Sunday, August 24	Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	
Tuesday, June 24	City of Dallas Safety Conference		West Campus
Wednesday, June 25	City of Dallas Safety Conference THEATER: <i>Ice Babies in Oz</i> , by L.E. Cullough	7:30 p.m.	West Campus W38
Thursday, June 26	Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W" City of Dallas Safety Conference THEATER: <i>Ice Babies in Oz</i> , by L.E. Cullough	7:30 p.m.	West Campus Performance Hall
Friday, June 27	City of Dallas Safety Conference THEATER: <i>Ice Babies in Oz</i> , by L.E. Cullough	7:30 p.m.	West Campus Performance Hall
Saturday, June 28	THEATER: <i>Ice Babies in Oz</i> , by L.E. Cullough	7:30 p.m.	Performance Hall
Sunday, June 29	THEATER: <i>Ice Babies in Oz</i> , by L.E. Cullough	2:30 p.m.	Performance Hall
JULY			
Thursday, July 3	End of Summer I		
Friday, July 4	4th of July Holiday, campus closed		
Wednesday, July 9	Summer II classes begin Extended registration		
Friday, July 11	Census date		
Thursday, July 31	Last day to withdraw with a grade of "W" for Summer II		
August			
Thursday, August 7	End of Summer II		
Saturday, August 16	Registration	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	
Monday, August 18	Registration through Friday, August 22		
Saturday, August 23	Registration	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	
Monday, August 25	Fall classes begin Extended Registration through Tuesday, August 26	9 a.m. - 7 p.m.	
Saturday, August 30	Saturday only classes begin		
Sunday, August 31	Sunday only classes begin		