With the start of a new school year, the Mustangs are marching through to celebrate Homecoming, a week-long festivity with a “Game of Thrones” theme that will bring together students, faculty, family and friends.

“Homecoming is a chance for Stevenson to honor, build and introduce traditions every year,” said John Myers, director of alumni relations. “It offers a time for our students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and friends to gather together as one and celebrate our school as a community.”

These events include lacrosse, volleyball, soccer, golf, cross country, and field hockey games. There are also social events, activities for alumni, and large-scale celebrations planned for the entire Stevenson community.

The Homecoming football game at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25, is a time when alumni, students, friends, faculty/staff can watch the Stevenson football team continue its season vs. Middle Atlantic Conference rival FDU-Florham.

Head coach Ed Hottle said, “Homecoming is crazy hype,” said football middle linebacker Donnell Brown. “It’s a great atmosphere to be involved in, and the Stevenson community makes it that much more enjoyable.”

Students will also get the opportunity to show off their Stevenson pride while competing for the throne of the royal Mr. and Ms. SU.

Once a Mustang, always a Mustang: the Stevenson community always welcomes alumni with open arms. Returning alumni will not only get a chance to view the changes on campus, but they will also have their own special gatherings including a happy hour, mass, and a networking luncheon and reunion tailgate.

New to Stevenson this year is a performance by the Barely Balanced Acrobatic Troupe. The Stevenson community is encouraged to take a walk to the apartment quad to view some shockingly dangerous stunts: juggling knives, the tower of death, and more for some new entertainment.

The Reign of the Mustangs will be celebrated at Stevenson University’s annual bonfire along with food and live performances.

A crab feast will follow the football game and be held in the Owings Mills gymnasium from 4-7 p.m.

“The crab feast is a great opportunity to have all of our groups together in the gym and support the school as a community,” said Myers.

Attendees will be able to enjoy some of Maryland’s favorites including steamed crabs, pit beef, fried chicken, crab dip and more. There will also be casino games, music, and other entertainment available for you.

Because of its popularity, the crab feast has sold out this year.

Homecoming week also incorporates Halloween festivities. Students and guests will get a chance to face their fears as they travel through Haunted Hallways.

“As Stevenson continues to grow and change, so does Homecoming,” said Myers. “Each year, we try to enhance and establish a new tradition that hopefully students will enjoy while they are here and return in five or ten years and some variant of that will be celebrated.”

Color Run takes off next week

by Megan Donohue
Villager staff writer

The Event Planning class (CM 265) will help sponsor a 4K Color Run on Oct. 22 to raise money for the House of Ruth, an advocacy center that assists thousands of battered women and their children in finding safety and security. Faculty member Michelle Damarack is helping the students plan and execute the event.

“Powder to the People,” the 4K Color Run, will be held during Homecoming week Oct. 22 from 4-6 p.m. on the front field at the entrance to the Greenspring campus. Participants will run the course that the cross country team runs, a 2K loop that will be run twice for 2.49 miles.

The color comes from powder that is tossed on to the runners as they make their way through the course. T-shirts will include the run’s logo and sponsors and are available for those who register by Oct. 15.

The event will cost $10 for students and $15 for guests. Tickets can be purchased at The Rock up until the day of the run. A portion of the proceeds will go towards the House of Ruth.

In addition, an after-party in the center of the course will take place at the conclusion of the run. Music, food, games, and activities will enliven the space and celebrate the runners or walkers. Prizes will be awarded for the craziest outfit and most spirited.

“Depending on how successful this event turns out to be, it may turn into an annual event where students may also want to make teams and compete for times in the future,” said Brittany Punte, race operations chair.

Students interested in being a part of the event but who do not want to run can contact Punte for volunteer opportunities through campus email.

“The Color Run is going to be an amazing event that will build community and be fun while helping a great cause,” said Punte, who is both a student in the class and part of the event’s leadership team.
Speed cameras enforce 30 mph speed limit on Garrison Forest Road

by Donnuelle Durham
Village staff writer

Stevenson University students driving back and forth from the Greenspring campus by way of Garrison Forest Road may have noticed the installation of speed cameras — or "automated traffic enforcement devices" — near the school zone around Garrison Forest School at the 300 block of Garrison Forest Road.

The cameras began operational on Sept. 8, and until Oct. 8, drivers exceeding the speed limit by 12 mph or more received warnings rather than citations. After Oct. 8, citations were issued based on the speed of the motorist.

"The cameras were installed in school zones "where traffic data and citizen complaints show that speeding is a problem," according to the Baltimore County Police Department.

According to Baltimore County law, the camera hours of operation on the road are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Cameras will be added and moved along the road based on the decision of the police chief after collision reports, tickets issued, or complaints made by citizens are reviewed. All speed cameras are clearly marked by signage.

The Baltimore County Police Department website notes, "Tickets generated by speed camera violations carry a $40 fine; no license points are assigned because these are civil violations. Vehicle insurance providers are not notified of speed camera citations. You may pay online, in person, or by mail."

Tickets are sent to the permanent address of the licensee and may be contested in court. Even if the owner of the vehicle was not driving at the time the ticket was issued, the registered owner is liable.

According to a Baltimore Sun article, speed cameras net at least $15 million a year, and $11 million from $40 tickets alone.

County speed cameras, which are installed and monitored by Xerox, have been plagued by inaccuracies in calibration and ticketing for over three years.

County speed cameras, which are installed and monitored by Xerox, have been plagued by inaccuracies in calibration and ticketing for over three years.

Stevenson University hopes to make talking about literature more engaging by offering two reading clubs for students and faculty as a result of the "Reading Feels Good" campaign, which promotes the importance of reading.

Both organizations, the SU Student Reading Club and the SU Faculty and Staff Book Club, allow participants to connect with others, discover new interests, and uncover new reads.

Maria Truskey, web outreach librarian, and Amanda Carey, reference assis-
tant, oversee the clubs.

"For students, it is very much a conversation. There is structure [to our meetings] but we also allow students to express themselves," Truskey said. Meetings for students take a casual approach, including conversations by book club.

On Sept. 12, the Student Reading Club met for the first time. Students brought books, short stories, plays, poems, and other articles they were interested in discussing.

"I have made a few friends in the Reading Club, and I was happy to see that there are other students at Stevenson who are bookworms like myself," said English major Marc Kohlman. He added that his interest in reading peaked after joining the second speaker in 2014-15, Gillard is set to bring her unique experiences and perspectives to Stevenson faculty and students.

Gillard was born on Sept. 29, 1961, in Barry, Wales, and then migrated to Adelaide, South Australia, with her family in 1966. She graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Art and Law in 1980, focusing primarily on law, joining a law firm before entering the world of politics.

She was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1998, and then moved onto the Shadow Cabinet in 2001, an alternative cabinet whose members shadow a minister of the government. Six years later, Gillard became the first female Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and also served as the Minister for Education, Social Inclusion and Employment. In 2010, politician and Prime Minister Kevin Rudd lost the support of his party and resigned, making Gillard the 27th prime minister of Australia. After three years in office, she lost the leadership of her party to Rudd and resigned the following day.

Throughout her political career, Gillard faced abuse from fellow political figures who focused on her gender rather than her accomplishments. However, despite the criticism, Gillard persevered and demonstrated the qualities suitable for a strong prime minister.

"Reading Feels Good" campaign inspires creation of reading clubs for students and faculty

by Emma Ragon
Village staff writer

Stevenson University film/video chair stars in local radio program in Baltimore

by Billy Murphy
Village staff writer

With degrees from Harvard, Yale, NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts, the experience of many years of travel, and a diverse career history, Christopher Llewellyn Reed, the chair of the film and video department, is a very educated and intriguing individual.

Reed was born in Stanford, Calif., and has resided in France, Russia, New York City, and Baltimore, among other locations. He holds degrees in Russian language, literature, and film.

Reed is fluent in English, Russian, and French, and claims to have been interested in language since living in France as a child.

During his career, Reed has taught at two preparatory schools, the Long Island Institute of New York, the New York Film Academy, SOCAPA (School for the Creative and Performing Arts), and was an adjunct faculty member at Long Island University.

He began his Stevenson University career as an assistant professor in 2006. In 2010 he was promoted to full professor, and a year later he became the chair of the department of film and video.

He currently co-hosts the program "Reel Talk with Christopher Llewellyn Reed," and appears in an occasional film block on Baltimore’s NPR station, 88.1 FM.

He has contributed to a handful of films in many different ways, including editing, acting, providing cameos, and shooting. He earned the Treasure Coast International Film Festival’s award in best cinematography for the film "Trial by Fire."

Reed has a love of travel, and has worked as an international travel director for Yale alumni educational tours to places including Alaska, Russia, the South Pacific, and many areas of Europe.

Reed acknowledges the diversity among the faculty in Stevenson’s film and video program, and says, "We just try to create some sort of film culture here that combines the love of cinema with the production of cinema.”
Theatre program to present production of “Greater Tuna”

by William Campbell
Villager staff writer

For those wanting to immerse themselves in the world of theater, look no further because the Stevenson University theatre program will perform “Greater Tuna” this fall from Oct 16 through 25. It is the first play of six for the year and a lighter follow-up to last year’s production of the well-known and popular “Sweeney Todd.”

“Greater Tuna” is a highly acclaimed play, originally directed by Ed Howard and performed by Joe Sears and Jason Williams, that spoofs life in the southern United States, more specifically in the state of Texas. In terms of subject matter and tone, the play is a huge change from “Sweeney Todd,” program coordinator and theatre professor Chris Roberts’ last directing choice.

“Coming off ‘Sweeney Todd’ last year, I thought we needed a really funny comedy,” said Roberts. “I also like the fact that it’s tongue-in-cheek about how prejudiced America can be.” To go along with the lighter mood, the play will be performed in the Studio Theatre, a more informal setting than the main stage. There will be some audience interaction, so those who love feeling as if they are a part of the play will enjoy this setting.

Although “Greater Tuna” has many roles, there are only two actors in the entire play. The actors have to be so distinct, since you know it’s the same person,” said Roberts. “So they have to change more than just their costume; they need to change their body, they need to change their speech patterns, everything.”

Roberts added, “Every day in rehearsal, this is their training, with me directing them, as I tell them, ‘You look just like the other person’ or ‘You sound just like the other person.’ So they have to come up with ways to change that, and, to me, the best test is performance.”

Roberts is enthusiastic about the lead (and only) actress in the play. She is an African-American playing various wildly prejudiced white characters, which brings a whole new perspective to casting and places a new spin on the play. The director also noted the actress’ ability to hint at innuendo and deliver lines that “no other actor could get away with.”

The humor in the play is, in fact, full of innuendo. Since the characters are so hilariously unaware of their ignorance and, at times, their racism, the audience may appreciate the dialogue as one of the most endearing things about the play. “No one will be insulted, though,” said Roberts. “If they’re coming to the play, they’re going to think it’s funny.”

“Greater Tuna” will run from Oct. 16-18 and Oct. 23-25. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $6 for seniors and $5 for students. Tickets can be pre-ordered by calling the box office.

Pronunciator language learning software free for students

by Shannon Clarke
Villager staff writer

Stevenson University now offers a new program for its students to learn different languages: the Pronunciator. According to its website, Pronunciator includes around 90 languages and “each language course has a minimum of 1,500 phrases to learn.” Students can utilize the program in order to understand Afrikaans, four different dialects of Chinese, French, Spanish and even Swahili, among many others. The possibilities of learning a new language is at the fingertips of students.

Using artificial intelligence, the program is a speaking and listening opportunity. Pronunciator gives different phrases for the student to learn and speak into the program. It then compares what they have said to what it should sound like and then gives a grade. There are flashcards, quizzes and many other different forms of help and study.

For the more visual learner, each word or phrase is accompanied by a small photo. People aren’t tied down to the normal headphone microphones; they can roam around the room if they prefer to move while learning, as long as the microphone on their device picks up their voice.

French students at Stevenson have been using Pronunciator and giving feedback to their professor, Dr. Anne Kerns, who has taught French at Stevenson University since 2003 and lived in France one year and Côte d’Ivoire for two years, teaching at the National University in the capital, Abidjan.

“For Pronunciator is more university appropriate,” she said. “It has more advanced content, almost endless.”

Other programs the university has tried were more focused on teaching the language enough for users to get around a country as a tourist. Pronunciator isn’t just for computer use; a student can take it on the go. There is a free app for iPhones, iPads, and Android devices that goes right to the site and allows access anywhere. The app is just as easy as the program on a full website.

Every feature is free and can be accessed through the Stevenson Library database by searching for “Pronunciator.”

“Light Up the Sky” coming to Inscape

by Alex Schoen
Villager staff writer

Stevenson University will present the play “Light Up the Sky,” directed by Linda Chambers, performed on the main stage in the Inscape Theatre from Nov. 13-16 and Nov. 19-22. Written by Moss Hart, the play is a witty comedy, which the theatre department expects everyone to enjoy.

The play was chosen in part because it fills up the stage and has a large cast of characters. Chambers directed this play 20 years ago and suggested it as a choice to Chris Roberts, the program coordinator of the theatre department.

“We thought it would suit the people, not just the majors but the others who auditioned,” said Chambers, who is excited about the cast.
She explained that Moss Hart, the play’s author, wrote this piece about his experience on Broadway. The drama focuses on the opening night for a play that becomes chaotic and convoluted.

“We don’t want to give too much of the play away, but it has a lot of twists and turns,” said Chambers. The play, told in three acts which are set in the 1940s, takes place in a hotel suite, and the set was designed by Lori Rubling, professor of art.

All the actors have moments that keynote their character and performances, and the play as a whole gives the audience an inside look at putting on a theatrical presentation. It also shows the audience how people behave in certain situations. “It shows the way people change when the circumstances change,” said Chambers.

The costumes define the time period, the 1940’s, and most of the people in the play are wealthy upper-class sophisticates with elegant taste.

Wil Crowther, costume shop craftsman at Center Stage, has designed the costumes. The scenery of the play does not make a symbolic statement; it is more realistic, representing real events that happened in the writer’s life.
Practicing mindfulness

As the weather turns cooler and the leaves change color, it is becoming all too real that midterms are approaching.

Not only does this week mark the halfway point in the semester, but it also means that stress is at an all-time high. Classes are well underway, projects have begun and midterm tests are here.

Now, for most of us, stress is not just knocking, but it’s pounding at our door. It’s as if there are simply not enough hours in the day to complete all of our assignments, get an adequate amount of sleep and have a social life; it’s as if life is giving us an ultimatum and we can choose only one of the above. But it doesn’t have to be like this.

Too often, we get wrapped up in the chaos that college has brought us, so much so that we don’t allow ourselves to enjoy what we are doing. By simply going through the motions, we become robotic with our routine and can easily lose our way.

Luckily, this unhealthy rut can be changed. Sometimes, we all need to take a moment to relax and breathe. But how can we do this with the jam-packed mental calendars that we create? It’s not easy, but there is a solution. And this solution is a meditation technique called “mindfulness.”

I learned about mindfulness in one of the classes that I took for my psychology minor, and it was probably one of the biggest takeaways not only from class, but also from my college career. Each day, our professor started class off with a mindfulness exercise.

To practice mindfulness, begin by focusing strictly on breathing. Thoughts will enter your mind, and you should recognize these thoughts, but let them fly by as if you are watching them on a movie screen. Notice the sensory aspects of the environment, but let them also fly by. This moment is unique, and this moment is an opportunity to relax.

Try it. Try, isn’t it? Mindfulness is not easy, but the benefits are plentiful. According to helpguide.org, a non-profit health resource that collaborates with Harvard Medical School, the origin of mindfulness lies in Buddhist roots and cannot only improve well being, but also both physical and mental health.

As with anything, practice makes perfect. Mindfulness can be a frustrating task; it’s hard to not focus on anything when one is bombarded everywhere with stress. So, the best time to practice mindfulness is during times when stress is relatively low.

That way, you can work up to using it during future stressful situations.

“Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, and today is a gift; that’s why they call it the present,” Eleanor Roosevelt said.

Today will never be able to be rewritten, so enjoy it while it lasts. Take time. Sit down. Relax. Try mindfulness. And start living in the moment.

New SU swim team to benefit university

by Alison Smith
Villager staff writer

Stevenson does not have a swimming pool, so starting a swim team is very unusual for a college like ours. Though it does not seem to make sense immediately, there are actually a lot of benefits to this new addition.

There are over 20 competitive swim clubs in the Baltimore area alone, and it makes sense for Stevenson to join the fold in order to tap into a large pool of possible local recruits.

Stevenson’s team practices at McDonogh High School, four miles away from the Owings Mills campus. The team officially started in September under the direction of head coach John Stuhltrager, who came to Stevenson from Albright College.

The team includes nine swimmers, eight women and one man for the first year, with plans to expand very quickly. Stuhltrager hopes to triple the size of the team in just one year, and in five years to have a team of 60 swimmers.

The addition of a swim team addresses the need to continue building an athletic department that has 23 NCAA teams, with the football and ice hockey teams most recently. The swim team will benefit not just the athletic department, but the institution, students, faculty, and staff, according to the new coach.

Stuhltrager said, “The Stevenson community will benefit from us adding a swim team because swimmers are good kids with good grades.” Currently 15 colleges in Maryland have swim teams, and this team will allow Stevenson to recruit more students each year who will come to the university specifically to swim.

Swimmers Adrianna and Elizabeth Kamosa (pictured above with Stuhltrager) with are sophomore transfer students who believe that swimmers are more organized with good time management skills. Juggling early morning or evening workouts at another facility teaches them how to avoid falling into the procrastination trap.

The next step for the swim team to grow at Stevenson is to build a pool on campus. “There is talk about building a substantial pool, hopefully within the next three to five years,” said Stuhltrager. “An important piece to this whole puzzle is a new pool,” he added.

Stevenson is on track to build a stronger school, and starting a swim team is just one step of many. Though some of these additions could be expensive and the money could be spent elsewhere, they are necessary for attracting a larger variety of students on campus Stevenson through a greater variety of intercollegiate sports.
Bonefish Grille offers delicious appetizers, appealing entrees, and classy service

by Kylie Handler
Villager staff writer

The Bonefish Grille in Owings Mills has not only excellent food, but also tops its competition in service.

The Bonefish Grille first opened in Jan. 15, 2000, in St. Petersburg, Florida. The passion that drove the founders to start a chain of restaurants was to create a unique dining experience for people who were not used to eating fish regularly. The success of their first restaurant launched a chain of restaurants ranging across 37 different states. Each location hand selects and cuts fresh fish every morning.

The food here is not cheap, but it is delicious. One entree that particularly stands out is the crab cake. At first glance, they look smaller than the usual crab cakes you may see at other restaurants, but that is because they are full with more crab meat than breading. The Old Bay spicing is perfectly sprinkled over top the crab cakes, creating a perfect mixture that arouses your taste buds. Whether ordering these as a meal or simply sharing them as an appetizer, they’re sure to amaze.

Although the restaurant is known for its fish, one other menu item to consider is a burger. Bonefish has managed to take the typical restaurant burger up and transform it into something new. The first bite was juicy and cheesy, which initially draws the customer in. Keep on eating and you will soon see that this Angus Burger is high-quality meat, with melted cheese that makes it creamy and flavorful. This dish can be found under the “Hand Helds” portion of the menu.

If desserts is what you are searching for, I recommend the Macadamia Nut Brownie. With an amazing aftertaste that will keep customers craving more, this item is sure to satisfy all fans of the dessert menu. Here’s a tip: wait until the ice cream melts on top of the brownie - the concoction tastes heavenly. The first look at the plate is very appealing and it becomes clear that this dessert is going to please.

Because the building is shared with Outback Steakhouse, some of the interior passageways are slightly awkward, but the quality of service makes up for it. Our waitress always asked if there was any way she could help us in a pleasant and respectful way. Those who do not like waiting, however, may choose to dine elsewhere, though this does not deter from the overall experience that Bonefish provides its guest. It's worth it.
Travel back in time
Visit the Maryland Renaissance Festival in Annapolis, Md., for a day of fun in medieval England. Step back in time with the royal Tudor family and dress up in period garb to meet the vendors and entertainers throughout the site. Come in costume and play the part.

Attend OctoBearfest at the zoo
Travel to the Baltimore Zoo for OctoBearfest on Oct. 18. Over 30 varieties of fall-flavored brews will be available from various vendors. Tickets are available at www.marylandzoo.org and include all-day admission to the zoo as well as live musical performances. This event is only for those who are 21 and older.

Get lost in a corn maze
Conveniently located near the Greenspring campus, Rodgers Farm offers an elaborate corn maze that covers miles of land. Stop at each hole-punching station throughout the maze to ensure you are on the right track. When you're done, meet some farm animals or pick your own pumpkin.

Support breast cancer awareness
Join hundreds in the Race for the Cure on Oct. 26. This 22nd annual 5K in Hunt Valley, Md., has raised millions of dollars for the Susan G. Komen Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to finding a cure for breast cancer. Register online at www.komenmd.org.

Watch the lantern parade at Patterson Park
Come out to Patterson Park on Oct. 25 at 3:30 p.m. to watch as over a dozen floats, marching bands, and hundreds of lanterns make their annual debut during the 15th Great Halloween Lantern Parade. This is a free community event. For more information, visit www.creativealliance.org/events.

Get roasted
Indulge in a Halloween tradition by toasting pumpkin seeds in the oven. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit, spread out the seeds on a flat pan, and roast for about 25 minutes. A simple way to make pumpkin seeds a little more unique to Maryland is by sprinkling Old Bay seasoning on them to give them extra flavor.

Explore Rock State Park
Enjoy the turning of the leaves and a nature hike at Rock State Park, only about an hour away from Stevenson. The brown and orange leaves along with the scenic waterfall will catch anyone’s attention. Located at 3318 Rocks Chrome Hill Road in Jarrettsville, Md.

Go on a hayride
Starting in October, Huber’s Family Produce Farm at 11898 Philadelphia Road in Kingsville, Md., offers haunted hayrides on Friday and Saturday evenings between 7-11 p.m. Tickets are $15 for adults (13+) and $8 for children. Get there early to enjoy fresh pastries and cider at the snack stand.

Sign up for FreeFall Baltimore
Baltimore City collaborates with organizations to offer free events during the month of October. These include limited to admission to museums, concerts, and plays. However, because these events are free, only a small number of tickets are available. Sign up in advance to secure your spot at www.freefallbaltimore.org.
get out and celebrate the autumn season

Celebrate pumpkins galore
In Upper Marlboro, Md., enjoy dozens of carved pumpkins on display at the Great Jack O’Lantern Campfire. Sit around the campfire and listen to haunted Halloween tales while indulging in popcorn, marshmallows and hot cider.

Shop for fresh produce
Locally owned in the quaint town of Frederick, Md., Summers Farm has much to offer. The homegrown produce market and fall festivities are open on Fridays from 1-5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. -7 p.m. There are attractions including a rope maze, hayride, and pumpkin patch for everyone to experience.

Try BALTOberfest
Come to Baltimore and participate in its version of Oktoberfest in the heart of the city. Celebrate at the Fifth Regiment Armory and vote for your favorite beer of the afternoon. Help Black Horizon Brewing decide which beer will be distributed in its taproom for those 21 and older.

Run away
The Baltimore Running Festival is approaching on October 18, and registration is filling up fast. Help raise the goal of $25,000 by joining the race today in Baltimore, sponsored by Under Armour. Participate in events including a marathon, a half-marathon, team relay, or a 5K.

Get folksy
Help keep the tradition alive for the Baltimore Folk Fest from October 17-18, and enjoy inspired artists coming together. Delight in live entertainment, local food, and some folk lineage. For more information, email info@baltimorefolkfest.com.

Come to Fells Point Tour for foodies
Do you like crab cakes, hamburgers, latkes and more? Join the Fells Point Food Tour Wednesdays-Sundays in Fells Point, Md., between 3 and 6:30 p.m. Sample any of the dishes and socialize with friends and locals.

Enjoy the Baltimore market
Every Sunday until December 21, come out to the 37th season of the Baltimore Farmer’s Market and Bazaar. Enjoy one of Maryland’s largest producer-only markets located at the end of the Jones Falls Expressway at Holliday and Saratoga Streets in Baltimore, Md.

Feel the fall
Just a few miles away in Harford County, enjoy a corn maze and a petting zoo at the local 100-acre Applewood Farm. Pick pumpkins, participate in reindeer antler toss, and enjoy hayrides. It is located at 4435 Prospect Road, Whiteford, Md.

Attractions compiled by Sarah Kerr and Bradley Crumbacker
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The transition into college can be a big step for most high school graduates. Last year Stevenson introduced a new program within the first-year residence halls to help ease this transition for students.

Faculty in the Halls began with the purpose of bridging the gap between academics and residence. When the program was first being introduced, Claire Moore, vice president for student affairs, and Jeff Kelly, associate vice president and dean of students, wanted a program that incorporated faculty mentors.

“Research shows that students are more successful [when connected] with the faculty outside of the classroom,” said Michael Evans, resident director. Faculty in the Halls assigned two faculty advisors to each first-year residence hall as a point of contact for students. This year’s mentors, Leanne Bell McManus, Art Fifer, Romas Laskauskas, Laurel Moody, Chris Noya, and Chip Rouse, serve as advisors. Faculty mentors created office hours during the week and began getting more involved in the residence halls and in the events held by the residence life staff.

This year they are trying to expand the services and events offered to students. “We have done ice cream socials, birthday celebrations, and we are going to have a football tailgate as well as an early Thanksgiving dinner. All of this is to engage our students, so they don’t view us just as their professors,” said Laskauskas, assistant professor of business. “We want to hear what the students have to offer. We want to chat with them about how their Stevenson experience is going.”

Western Run senior resident assistant Chris Ambrose agrees that the program is moving in a strong direction. “The students know who the faculty mentors are. Western Run’s mentors even challenged the residents to the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. It’s good to see that the programs have been well attended and students are utilizing their mentors.”

The program has already grown substantially even in its second year. In the future there are hopes for including the sophomore buildings as well. “We are looking to expand the program in the next few years and probably get more faculty on board,” said Evans. “We want to make sure we are connecting students to faculty members that can help them with the new transition issues that they are going to face.”
WANT TO EARN EXTRA CODE GREEN POINTS?

Refer a friend to one of Stevenson University’s Open House events and/or a daily visit, and gain 3 Code Green points if they show up.

Have your friend(s) sign up for an upcoming SU Open House or daily visit using the Stevenson.edu website. In the section “How did you hear about our Open House?” or “How did you hear about our daily visits?” Select “Current Student,” and have them enter your first & last name.

It’s that simple.

If you have any questions, please contact Zakia Wright via email zwright@stevenson.edu, or by phone at ext. 4400
by Anthony Bunn
Villager staff writer

The women’s volleyball team has been on fire ever since their 3-1 loss to Susquehanna University on August 30.

Although a 3-1 loss to Eastern University on Oct. 4 put a halt to their 13-game winning streak, the Mustangs immediately rebounded for a three-set victory against Wilkes College in the Oct. 4 MAC crossover meet. That win was the 11th straight-set victory for the Mustangs in 2014.

These lengthy winning streaks have become routine under head coach Dave Trumbo. Stevenson’s women’s volleyball team has increased the school’s consecutive wins record every year since 2011. The record currently sits at 23 straight games, set in 2013.

Trumbo credits his success to the winning mindset that he instills in his players: “You get what you expect,” said Trumbo.

With tremendous facilities, top-notch recruits, an established coaching staff, and a winning attitude, this program expects nothing short of greatness.

Trumbo is also a strong advocate of positive reinforcement, strong relationships, and having fun, which translates onto the court.

Sophomore outside hitter Kristen Brooks is a firm believer in Trumbo’s mindset for the game.

“Working towards our goals and supporting one another is a huge point our coaches instill in all of us,” said Brooks.

by Chloae Redmond
Villager staff writer

“Five...six...seven...eight...”

This is the count the Emeralds’ director, Alex Katzoff, gives to the dancers. Existing for only two years, the Emeralds have spent countless hours to create a performance for Stevenson’s 2014 Homecoming.

The 29 dance line members in green, black and white leotard, shiny and step across the gym floor as they practice for upcoming performances. They share the gym with the Color Guard, and both groups practice their football field placements for the Homecoming game on Oct. 25.

Both groups will showcase their talent in front of a stadium full of their peers, faculty, friends, and family.

At a practice, the dance line came to a sudden pause. The Emeralds stood with their hands placed on their hips patiently wait for the eight-beat count off, which wouly on Oct. 4 put a halt to their 13-game winning streak, the Mustangs immediately rebounded for a three-set victory against Wilkes College in the Oct. 4 MAC crossover meet. That win was the 11th straight-set victory for the Mustangs in 2014.

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Emeralds prepare for 2014 Homecoming

Stevenson University already has one dance team, so why have a second? According to senior captain Nel Spedden, a number of larger universities have both marchers and dancers.

“Our dance team that we already had and our marching band didn’t work together,” said Spedden. “Our band is developing; we just started four years ago. It’s a work in progress, but we want to make our band as good as larger universities. We are a little behind, but every year we get better.”

The Emeralds believe that Homecoming brings a high wave of school spirit even though our school is on a smaller scale. Homecoming week is very exciting for everybody because all the events and activities throughout the week lead up to the big day.

“Come and see us, ‘cause we’re flawless,” said Spedden jokingly. “People should be excited to see us, though this is only our second year. And I think this being our second year, we are really good. We are better than we were last year.”

The band dance team will perform at Mustang Stadium on Homecoming on Oct. 25 during halftime.
Men's soccer recently concluded the first half of their season with a 2-1 win over Wilkes University on Sept. 27 and a double overtime 1-1 tie against Arcadia University on Oct. 4. Senior midfielder Dino Gilmanov scored a goal in the first half of the Wilkes game to tie it. With a cross from senior midfielder Jon Grant, junior forward Calvin Granger scored the game-winning goal to secure the win in the Mustangs' last non-conference game of the season.

Against Arcadia, junior forward Landon Easler scored the Mustangs' lone goal in the Commonwealth Conference opener for both teams. The Knights took the lead early in the game, but Easler's shot in the first period, 33 minutes in, leveled the score.

The team will begin the second half of their season with a 9-3-1 record. Of those 13 games, the team competed in two overtime matches and two double-overtime matches, coming out on top almost every time.

Freshman midfielder Cameron Wilson attributed the overtime wins to “staying calm and getting the job done.” Cameron has contributed two game-winning goals so far this season. Wilson credited freshman defense Jacob Russ as a powerhouse in the back and freshman Tom Taylor as a strong forward, who in the second game of the season scored his first-ever university goal.

Head coach John Plevyak credited his assistant coaches: “With so many players in our system (61), it would be impossible to be successful without the wisdom, passion, and effort our assistant coaches contribute to our daily sessions.”

Dustin Sparks just began his third year as an assistant coach, Thomas Kane has entered his seventh, and goalkeeper coach Mike Radcliffe is in his sixth year. This year's team is thankful for the dedicated coaching staff behind them and excited for the rest of the season.

Sparks associated the Mustangs’ success to “a good core leadership of upperclassmen.” The players have “great chemistry which is hard to manufacture,” according to Kane.

The second half of the season is all Commonwealth Conference games leading up to the conference tournament.

“The non-conference games have given us a chance to look at our personnel, to find out where the pieces of the puzzle fit in,” said Sparks.

The players and coaches both feel the team is well-prepared for the upcoming conference games.

Throughout the remainder of the season, the Mustangs are looking to make a push toward the conference tournament. Wilson, Sparks, and Kane all have one goal in common: make it to the Commonwealth Conference championship.

The team’s next game is Oct. 14 against conference rival Messiah College at Mustang Stadium.

Cross country team prepares for university’s first home meet

It may have taken four years, but senior education major TJ Janasek is finally able to prepare for his first cross country home meet. For the next few weeks, Janasek will be working hard to beat his past times and mentor the younger members of his team.

Five other schools will compete on the Greenspring campus on Oct. 21 to help make Stevenson history. This new development is the first major change for Stevenson’s cross country team, but is not expected to be the last.

Over the summer, David Berdan, the 2013 Baltimore Marathon winner, was hired as a full-time coach in an effort to revitalize the team. This is his first time as a collegiate head coach, having previously coached at Garrison Forest School.

His goals for this season range from individual to team success. However, one major objective is to gain recognition for the team as a whole across Stevenson’s campus.

Berdan says he hopes that the team “will win a conference in the next three to four years.” This will be achieved through stronger recruitment efforts and a more intense physical training schedule.

“It’s all about getting the right kids here, learning about their background, and having them agree to our goals,” Berdan said.

Strengthening team culture is also one of the many steps that cross country must take to improve their skills and gain recognition.

Although members of the team may compete in different events, their individual scores are tallied into the team’s overall score. If someone is having an off day, the whole team suffers.

“A lot of us have similar paces that we need to hit,” said Janasek. “We push each other. If someone isn’t running as fast as they are supposed to, then we motivate them.”

Whether on or off the course, the Mustangs make their team a priority. “We do homework and eat at Rockland together,” said Janasek.

On Sept. 27, the team competed in the Don Cathcart Invitational at Winter Place Park in Salisbury, Maryland.

The men placed 17th out of the 20 teams competing, and freshman Sam Edmondson ran a personal best 8K time of 28:46.

The women were paced by freshman Brittany Appleby with a personal best 6K time of 25:15 and junior Lanie Swanhart who ran the course in 25:18. The women came in 13th out of the 15 teams competing.

Looking ahead, it is safe to say that the cross country team will continue to moving forward in hopes of becoming one of Stevenson’s stronger sports. New coaches, tactics, and better recruitment will help them accomplish their goals as individuals and as a team.