



November 17, 2017

What a beautiful day in Modesto! The colorful falling leaves, fresh scent from the rain, and sunshine make it hard to stay indoors.

Last Thursday, I received a confidential draft of our external evaluation report. After a weekend of reading, note making, and review, James and I had opportunity to discuss errors of fact during a phone conference with our team chair, Dr. Adrian. The 73 page report had only two errors and reflects great care taken to ensure the accuracy of the team's evaluation. The recommendations and commendations shared at the exit debrief remain in the draft report. The next step is final editing by the team chair and submittal to ACCJC. The Commission meets January 10-12, 2018, and MJC will be included in the institution action agenda. I will be granted five minutes to present an oral update to the Commission upon formal written request. Following the Commission meeting, we will receive an action letter from ACCJC and the final, public external evaluation team report.

It has been a busy season of accreditation. Since our comprehensive visit, our athletic programs had an external evaluation by the conference program review team and the statewide ag program review body completed their site visit today. MJC has been well examined over the last several weeks! In each case, we received wonderful recognition of our strengths and were provided recommendations for improvement. These types of external evaluation reviews require incredible amounts of preparation, logistics, and hospitality. Thank you all for the extra efforts to ensure smooth and productive visits by our evaluators.

**State Champion Women's Golf** Head Coach Milan Mitroni and Coach Dana Arnold Ebster led the MJC women golfers to their first ever CCCAA Women's Golf state title. Congratulations to the Pirates on this historic achievement! The Pirates will be featured on Good Day Sacramento (CW 31) on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> during the 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 A.M. segments.

**BIG 8 Scholar Athlete** Congratulations to Modesto Junior College golfer Nick Sharp for his selection as the BIG 8 Male Scholar-Athlete of the year. Nick was a two-time BIG 8 All-Conference selection and he finished in the Elite 8 last spring. Nick graduated in April with a 4.0 G.P.A. and an Associate of Arts in Business. Coach Ron Gross noted that "Nick is a terrific young man and epitome of what 'student athlete' truly means."

**Alumnus of the Year** MJC Professor of health education, Dr. Dave Shrock was recently named the United States Sports Academy's 2017 Alumnus of the Year. Dr. Shrock has served in numerous leadership roles for USA Track & Field (USATF) and has coached track and field at various levels for more than four decades, including 20 years at MJC. Professor Shrock earned his Ed.D. in sports management from United States Sports Academy in 2009.

**Post-season Football** The MJC Pirate football team hosts Diablo Valley College tomorrow at 3:00 P.M. in the Gridiron Classic Bowl. Go Pirates!

***Champions keep playing  
until they get it right.***

Billie Jean King

Warm regards,

***Jill Stearns, Ph.D.***

*President*



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