The MSJC football team finished spring workouts and the players are back at it this summer preparing for the 2014 season.

The Eagles will have to replace a large amount of talent that has moved on to the four-year level especially on the defensive side of the ball. Dejon Brown (W. Kentucky), Jason Dixon (Eastern New Mexico), Roosevelt Pearson (Texas State), Leroy Holt (Bethune-Cookman), Brett Layton (University of Ohio), John McGinnis (Dickinson State), Jacob Osborne (Dixie State), and Jake McCraw (Missouri Valley) have all signed scholarships to play next season. Three players from last season’s offensive unit have also signed scholarships for next season. Michael Harrison will attend Georgia State, Tim Berzzesi will go to McKendree University, and Kelvin Shelton has signed at Alabama-Birmingham. Up to six more 2013 Eagles are expected to sign scholarships this summer. The 2014 season will get underway on Sept. 6 when MSJC travels to Lancaster to play Antelope Valley in the season opener. The Lady Eagles' first home game of 2014 will be on Sept. 13 at Carl Quandt Stadium, kicking off at 1 p.m. The 2014 season will get underway on Sept. 6 when MSJC travels to Lancaster to play Antelope Valley in the season opener. The Eagles’ first home game of 2014 will be on Sept. 13 at Carl Quandt Stadium, kicking off at 1 p.m.

Check out MSJC Lady Eagles get Home of Their Own

It was a diamond in the rough. Now, an empty field on the Menifee Valley Campus has been transformed into a new softball diamond for the Lady Eagles softball team. The Lady Eagles will also benefit from having a real home field advantage. Statistics show that teams and individual athletes perform better when they are on their home fields. In his book “Curve Ball,” Jim Albert notes that 52 percent of the professional baseball games were won by the home team. We are happy to give our team that advantage. It also gives the Lady Eagles a field that meets standard NCAA dimensions.

The new softball diamond will be located near the soccer field on the Menifee campus just east of the new Humanities and Social Sciences building. The construction began in April and sod was laid by mid-May. The Lady Eagles will get their first practice on their new field in July 2014. Come cheer on the Lady Eagles when they play their first home game in February 2015. Check www.msjc.edu/athletics for the schedule.

Nonprofit ORG

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Three Mt. San Jacinto College students recently learned that they received the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. This marks the second consecutive year that three MSJC students received the award.

Irvin Calderon, Aaron Hansen and Christopher Blake Leeper got the news in April 2014 from MSJC Instructors and Honors Enrichment coordinators Erik Ozolins and Christina Yamanaka that they were awarded the scholarship. The MSJC students were selected from a pool of more than 3,700 applicants nationwide.

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“This is an amazing accomplishment for the students and a rare distinction for any community college to have three students two years in a row to receive this honor,” said MSJC Superintendent/President Dr. Roger Schultz. “Irvin, Aaron and Christopher are so deserving of this award and they were guided by an amazing pair of faculty members who support our students in the Honors Program. Erik Ozolins and Christina Yamanaka continue to help Mt. San Jacinto College students succeed and reach new academic heights.”

“3 MSJC Students Earn Prestigious National Scholarship...AGAIN

This year’s award-winning trio follows in the footsteps of Amy Bartel, Shayla Esarey and Samuel Fall, honors students at MSJC who received the scholarship in 2013. All three transferred to UC Berkeley.

This year, only 85 students across the nation received the award. All three MSJC students are first-generation college students. They will each receive up to $30,000 a year for up to three years as needed to earn a bachelor’s degree. The scholarship is intended to cover a significant share of the student's educational expenses, including tuition, living expenses and books.

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Students Silvia Sanchez (left) Sayed Thurab (right)

Two MSJC students selected to work on Hubble Scope Project

Students Silvia Sanchez, 21, of Lake Elsinore and Sayed Thurab, 30, of Murrieta were chosen by Hubble Scope Team Members from UC Riverside to work on the Hubble Scope Project. The students will work with instructors, scientists, and students from Riverside Community College District’s Moreno Valley College, UC Riverside and MSJC.

The students, who started the project in mid-April, will work with a program called Python that is an interface between the user and the Hubble Scope Pictures. They will learn to analyze and summarize data used to describe the galaxies. The project will conclude in July 2015 and the results will be summarized and published in The Astronomic Journal.

“This is an amazing opportunity for Silvia and Sayed to build relationships with UCR and it will help them stand out when applying to four-year institutions. This project is multi-disciplinary and will provide them great exposure and experience in the field of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (S.T.E.M.) research,” said Dr. Crystal Anthony, S.T.E.M. Instructional Support Activities Coordinator at MSJC.

Dr. Anthony credited Dr. Tofigh Heidarzadeh, astronomy instructor at MSJC, for helping the students get into the project. She said the two students will attend Dr. Heidarzadeh’s astronomy class at MSJC as part of this project.

The research team from the UCR College of Natural & Agricultural Sciences –Physics and Astronomy Department received the grant from NASA to provide community college students the opportunity to contribute to the project, Anthony said. According to the grant information, the intent is to help students, especially minorities from underserved institutions, transition into S.T.E.M. programs at the University of California system.

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The MSJC football team finished spring workouts and the players are back at it this summer preparing for the 2014 season.

Crews started in April getting the field ready. They leveled the playing field, laid sod, built dug-outs and installed a back stop. This field is making history, because it is the first official home for the Mt. San Jacinto College women’s team.

This is a huge step forward for the hard-working Lady Eagles.

“Playing on a home field will create a sense of school pride and tradition.” said Coach Gina Oliver. “For decades, we’ve played and practiced on a field designed for men’s slow-pitch at Valley Wide Recreation Center. Although we appreciated having a place to hold our program, building our student-athletes a facility on campus will be the largest development in the history of MSJC Softball. I could not be any happier to celebrate our new home!”

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