A successful experience at the Missouri University camp in Springfield the week of July 24-28.

They brought home three trophies in their division: a second place for cheer with extended stunt; a third place for sideline/crowd cheer; and also walked away with the Leadership award, as voted by their own peer schools in their division such as Milliken and Southeastern Oklahoma State.

The camp consisted of two and four year college/university schools. A cheer camp and a dance camp were run simultaneously - two Magic rahs also attended sessions in the dance camp.

"These kids are putting SLCC (St. Louis Community College) on the map for having a cheerleading program," said coach Yanko. "Many of the other schools and coaches did not know we had cheerleading."

Also at the camp, coach Yanko earned AACCA safety certification for a four year period.

Earlier in the year, the squad brought home the award for Best Youth Marching Unit at the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown St. Louis.

August will be activity-filled as well for the hard-working group - they will conduct a clinic on Saturday, Aug. 5 for high school cheerleaders. Then on Friday, Aug. 25 the cheerleaders travel to the St. Louis Science Center to participate in the new Sportsworld exhibit. They'll perform four 10 minute routines starting at 1:00. They'll repeat the performances on Saturday, Sept. 23.

Wrapping up the busy month will be a workshop and tryouts for the 2006-'07 squad on Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 29-30 from 6:00-9:00 pm. The event will take place in the Meramec cafeteria in the Student Center.

Men's Soccer Squad Kicks Off Season Vs. SWIC Aug. 29

The men’s soccer squad, under second year head coach Brian Smugala, makes its season and home debut on Tuesday, Aug. 28 against Southwestern Illinois Community College in a 4:00 kickoff.

Two days later, the team competes in the Missouri Juco Invitational Tournament at Chesterfield. They'll play Illinois Central on Thursday (Aug. 31) at 5:30, then battle Young Harris C.C. on Sept. 1 at 8:00. Tourney play wraps up with a match against Kansas City C.C. on Sunday, Sept. 3 at 11:00 am in Union, MO.

The team returns several starters including midfielder Nick Bigogno (Lindbergh), midfielder Grant Landon (Marquette), last year's leading scorer/forward Joe Brennan (CBC), Sam Hackett (Lindbergh),
and Sam Stremlau (St. Mary’s). Goalie Jim Mace (Seckman) and midfielder Colin Kuster (DeSmet) also saw considerable time last season.

New recruits include transfers Charlie Reitz (Francis Marion/CBC, Brady Graham (Butler/DeSmet), Sean McGeeaney (St. Thomas-Miami/England), and goalie Tyler Italiano (Aurora College/St. Mary’s).

Fresh from the prep ranks will be signees Matt and Kyle Gamache, a brother combo out of Francis Howell Central, Zach Costello (Kennedy), Chris Martin (Parkway South), Billy Feicht (Vianney), Bryan Enger (Mehlville), and Mike Riti (Webster Groves.)

The team finished 15-3-2 in 2005.

**Women’s Soccer Makes Home Debut Vs. Harris-Stowe Aug. 29**

The Magic collective soccer program, men’s and women’s, will make a doubleheader of their season and home openers on Tuesday, Aug. 29 when the women’s squad faces Harris-Stowe at 6:00 at Meramec. The team will take a brief schedule hiatus after the opener and resume play on Sept. 10.

Coach Jeff Karl enters his twenty fourth season as the program’s only head coach. Karl is looking to make history - he needs six wins to reach the 300 victory milestone in his career and become the only junior college women’s soccer coach to do so. He is the nation’s Juco career wins leader for his sport.

Forward Kelly Koshak (Marquette) will be Karl’s go-to player this year - she scored five goals and three assists last season. A pair of returning sophomores from Washington, MO will also be counted on: stopper/back Jenna Ridenhour, and Kelly Webb - a defender/midfielder. Forward/goalie Tara Baechle (St. Pius X) is also back.

Emily Schultz, a defender/forward transfers in from Lewis and Clark C.C. Standout goalie Haley Fox enters the Magic after a fine career at Lindbergh High. Stephanie Godfrey, a defender/midfielder, has been signed from Marquette High.

Angie Reich (DuBourg), Alex Klapp (DuBourg), and Theresa Weil (Oakville) will round out the team.

**Volleyball Team Defends John Wood Tourney Title Aug. 25-26**

The Magic volleyball squad, under ninth year head coach Lee Clauss Jr., begins its ’06 campaign in defense of the John Wood Tournament in Quincy, Il. Aug. 25-26 (Fri.-Sat.) The spikers make their home debut Wednesday, Aug. 30 against Mineral Area at 7:00. Last season, Meramec won the John Wood Tourney in decisive fashion.

Setter Kandice Berkel (St. Clair) highlights several quality returning players. Berkel missed the 2005 season with an injury, but was an All-Region honoree in her freshman year of 2004. Middle/outside hitter Sarah Herbert (Belleville West) and middle hitter Sarah Rusnak (St. Elizabeth’s) will also form a solid returning core.

Outside hitter Sarah Templeton (Seckman) also saw much playing time in ’05, along with Sarah Guinther (Pacific) and offensive hitter Jaime Hacker (Perryville.)

New signees include Jessica Greaves (St. Joseph’s), Stacey Baxter (St. Clair), Amy Moran (Mehlville), and Stephanie Narez (St. Elezabeth’s).

Middle hitter Samantha Huson (Windsor), and Laura Kitchen (Rosati Kain) also will add depth as freshmen. Mandy McGowen (Eureka) transfers in from Lindenwood.
Next Physicals Set For Aug. 23 At Health South Offices

The next scheduled physicals are slated for Wednesday, Aug. 23 at 4:00 at the Health South offices at Big Bend and S. Kirkwood Road, just a half mile east of Meramec on Big Bend.

Physicals are required of all Meramec athletes and prospective athletes. Proper physical forms must be completed and on file with trainer Darren Jones before an athlete may participate in any practice session.

Forms and more information may be downloaded from the Meramec Athletics website.