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the RECORD

Auld lang syne, grads

by Lisa L. Rollins

More than 1,600 degree candidates are expected to graduate during MTSU's 95th fall commencement—a record number of candidates for a December graduation event—reports Dr. Sherian Huddleston, associate vice provost for enrollment services.

On Saturday, Dec. 16, MTSU will again feature dual ceremonies and dual speakers starting at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Murphy Center. Of the 1,676 set to graduate, 1,406 are undergraduates and 270 are graduate students,

including 256 master's candidates, nine education specialist degree candidates and five Ph.D. candidates.

Candidates from the College of Graduate Studies, Jennings A. Jones College of Business and the College of Education and Behavioral Science will receive their degrees in the morning ceremony. That afternoon, degrees will be conferred on candidates in the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, College of Liberal Arts, College of Mass Communication and the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, said Dr. Jack Thomas, senior vice provost for aca-



demic affairs and chairman of the commencement committee.

Congressman Bart Gordon, who has served as the representative for the Sixth Congressional District in the

See 'Grads' page 5

Sobriety checks set on campus Dec. 7: MT police

from Staff Reports

Because there is a higher incidence of drunk driving right before and during traditional academic breaks, the Department of Public Safety at MTSU will set up field-sobriety checkpoints on campus the evening of Thursday, Dec. 7, and repeat them on a quarterly basis throughout 2007.

MTSU police are joining local and state law enforcement agencies, at the urging of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Governor's Highway Safety Office, to help make Tennessee streets and highways safer for everyone. The goal is to reduce alcohol- and drug-related fatalities to 35 percent in 2006 from

See 'Sobriety' page 6

Scenes of the season



HOLIDAY JEWELS—Bright poinsettias grown in MTSU's greenhouse join MTSU First Lady Liz McPhee's collection of nutcrackers to grace the main entry hall of the President's Home during the holidays. To learn more about how those poinsettias grow from tiny, struggling seedlings to the beautiful plants sold on campus every year, tune in to the December edition of "Middle Tennessee Record," airing Monday through Sunday at 5 p.m. on cable channel 9 or Saturdays at 1 p.m. on NewsChannel 5+.

file photo by Jack Ross

Ending '06 on a healthier note

by Will Fanguy

Habits are part of life. They dictate when to wake up, which route to take to work and what to eat for lunch. Following these patterns every day without fail, however, may cause depression and lead to poor health.

Dr. Mark Anshel, professor of health and human performance, wants to help change unhealthy routines, and as a result, he's the driving force behind the new MTSU Faculty/Staff Wellness Program.

"The program is promoting healthy lifestyle change in folks whose unhealthy habits have limited their ability to maintain proper health, energy and quality of life,"

Anshel said. "These are folks who are, most likely, disconnected from their values."

Facets of life such as health, family, job performance and job quality are sometimes compromised by poor health, the professor noted.

"This program is about helping people examine their disconnects between where they are and what they're passionate about. It's about promoting healthy habits by developing new routines to replace the old unhealthy ones," Anshel said.

The program, which is concluding its first semester, has had 105 initial participants. It lasts 10 weeks, including an additional week at the beginning for testing and

See 'Healthier' page 5

IN BRIEF

WHEN WEATHER OUTSIDE TURNS FRIGHTFUL, TURN TO THE WEB

When inclement weather arises, MTSU closing information will be available on area radio and TV stations. Class cancellations will apply to all classes, credit and noncredit. MTSU offices will be open unless the message specifically says all offices will be closed. Overnight closing decisions will be announced by 6 a.m. the next day. You can learn more at www.mtsunews.com by clicking the "Emergency Weather Information for Students, Faculty and Staff" link.

CAMPUS REC MEMBERSHIP RATES SET FOR EMPLOYEES, FAMILIES

The Department of Campus Recreation has changed the membership rates for MTSU hourly and adjunct-faculty employees and their families. Single membership rates are now \$25 for four months, \$50 for eight months and \$80 per year. Hourly and adjunct family memberships, which include a spouse and dependents up to age 21, are now \$115 for four months, \$225 for eight months and \$325 per year. For more information, visit the Campus Rec Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~camprec.

WHERE WILL GUESTS PARK? ASK PARKING SERVICES EARLY

Make a resolution for the new year: If you're planning an event that requires parking spaces to be reserved, please visit the Parking and Transportation Services Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~parking and click on "Event Parking." Print and fill out the necessary form and fax it to 615-904-8109, and the Special Event Supervisor will schedule your request promptly. Please note that your request must be made within the five-business-day requirement.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR 2007 NEWS, EVENT PUBLICITY

Make sure your Spring 2007 campus news and events are included in *The Record*! The publication is on winter break until Jan. 15, 2007, when it will return with the first edition of the new semester. To see publication dates and when to submit your information to *The Record* for 2007, visit www.mtsunews.com and click on "The Record" at the top of the page, then click "Deadlines & Submissions." And happy new year!



www.mtsunews.com

MTSU helping undergrad researchers to flourish

by Dr. Diane Miller

The journey to getting undergraduate students at MTSU involved in research or creative projects has taken varied paths for both faculty members and students. Nov. 15-16 marked the 15th annual Tennessee Undergraduate Social Science Symposium with the majority of program time devoted to students’ paper sessions.

In October 1993, Earl Keese, then the dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, formed an Undergraduate Research Council to develop a college-level undergraduate research program to promote, facilitate and showcase undergraduate research in the sciences. During 1999, then-Provost Barbara Haskew formed an Applied Research Task Force “to develop specific goals and objectives, with timetables for implementation.”

Under the leadership of Dr. Robert Carlton, the report of the Applied Research Task Force transformed into a conceptual framework with strategies for introducing research and creative activity across the undergraduate curriculum in all disciplines. According to the university’s Academic Master Plan 2002-2012, “Achieving excellence will require that students be able to use a variety of research methods and tools, create artistic productions in a chosen field, and participate effectively in the international workplace and the world community.” In 2002, President Sidney A. McPhee charged the vice provost for research with implementing undergraduate research across all disciplines.

As students and faculty members embraced this concept, the Office of Research formalized the initiative by forming the Tennessee Board of Regents’ first Undergraduate Research Center. The center will serve as an umbrella structure and a focus for all activities on campus that promote undergraduate students’ participation in research and creative projects.

Getting undergraduate students involved in research or creative projects benefits the discipline, the student and faculty participants and the institution. Our responsibility as members of the faculty is to ensure that undergraduate students are aware of the various opportunities to become engaged as active learners and budding researchers or artists.

To paraphrase a popular expression that President McPhee references, he does support his words with money. The undergraduate research initiative began with \$30,000 for the 2002-03 academic year to pilot processes and strategies aimed at enlisting undergraduate students to collaborate with professor-mentors and proving the possibility of first-rate undergraduate research. The money was used primarily for student stipends during the summer and resulted in five manuscripts “in review” at top journals in physics, all with student first authors.

During the 2003-04 academic year, the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Projects Task Force was formed to adapt and extend the pilot project to include all disciplines across campus. URSCP was provided a budget of \$80,000 to award to students as assistants working on a faculty member’s project or as scholars working on an original project. Due to the interest expressed by the number of proposals submitted for review, URSCP’s budget was increased to \$120,000 for the 2004-05 academic year. Since 2003, 222 student-authored proposals have been submitted, with 180 receiving full or partial funding. Detailed information about URSCP and its application process is available at www.mtsu.edu/~research/urc.html.

The College of Basic and Applied Sciences continues its support of the undergraduate research initiative by conducting its own proposal competition for students majoring in a CBAS department or in geosciences. Like URSCP, CBAS has two levels of awards: one for students working as research assistants and a second for students serving as principal investigators. More information is at www.mtsu.edu/~collbas/Undergrad Research/.

The CBAS also hosts a program called STEPMT, or STEPping up Undergraduate Research at Middle Tennessee, funded by the National Science Foundation. Funds in this program are used to increase discovery-based learning and undergraduate research in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics—or STEM— disciplines. Freshmen and sophomores are eligible for awards as research assistants, and juniors and seniors may apply for awards to conduct original research projects. Seven departments qualify for STEPMT funding: biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, mathematics, physics & astronomy, and geosciences. Detailed information about this program is at www.mtsu.edu/~stepmt.

MTSU also is a partner in the Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, whose goal is to increase the number of underrepresented students in the STEM disciplines. The program has three objectives, including one to ensure that a larger number of STEM undergraduates are prepared to enter graduate programs. To achieve this objective, the program helps students identify and engage in undergraduate research opportunities. The Fourth Annual TLSAMP Undergraduate Research Conference was held Nov. 16-17 in Murfreesboro. More information about TLSAMP is at www.mtsu.edu/~tlsamp/aboutTLSAMP.html.

The McNair Program has been highlighted in this column before. Named



Miller

New dean makes big plans

by Ashley Pinkerton

In the role of an administrator, one’s job is to support the teaching and learning functions of a university. Dr. Mike Boyle, as the new dean of the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, said he has based his career on helping others.

Boyle left the University of Louisville to come to MTSU because he saw an “intriguing” ad and considered it a good career move.

A member of MTSU’s faculty since summer 2006, Boyle said that when he began his new role, he had to figure how things operated within the college. After three months, he had prepared several specific initiatives that the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning plans to pursue:

- expanding its role in supporting training needs of local schools, businesses and governmental agencies;
- finding ways to help faculty fund public service projects;
- expanding online courses; and
- working with the needs of non-traditional students.

“My role is simply to continue the evolution of the college to meet the ever-changing needs of the community and the university,” Boyle said.

Boyle’s career in teaching skill-level classes evolved into continuing education, commonly known as vocational education. Since then, Boyle has helped create ways to work with people with specialized degrees.

Providing an opportunity is the vehicle, he said, and talent and desire can make it happen.

“I was training people in certain skills and didn’t know that I was doing it,” Boyle said.



Boyle

Boyle is from Abilene, Texas, where he obtained his bachelor’s degree in industrial technology and a master’s degree in management and human relations at Abilene Christian University and worked in a boat manufacturing company and as a stockbroker.

In his late 30s, he went back to school, earning a Ph.D. in educational human resource development from Texas A&M University, then worked as an instructor for the Center for Training and Development at Blinn College in Texas from 1993 to 1994.

He became an adjunct professor at ACU in 1995 and subsequently went to the University of Louisville as an assistant professor.

“I was an associate professor and vice-chair in the Department of Leadership, Foundations and Human Resource Education at the University of Louisville from 2001 to 2006,” Boyle said.

He found his niche by becoming a program director for the U.S. Army Armor Center at Fort Knox, Ky., along with General Electric and United Parcel Service. He helped develop noncredit distance training courses for different organizations and was the founding director of the Metropolitan Workforce Research Project. By partnering with UPS, he created an opportunity for more than 2,200 students to attend college. These students were provided with room and board, books, tuition and even jobs at UPS, said Boyle.

In his newest role as a professor in the College of Education and Behavioral Science and as dean of the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, Boyle said he looks forward to what’s ahead.

“I love helping people and that’s what I plan to continue doing,” Boyle said.

Ashley Pinkerton is a junior majoring in mass communication.

TAEA honors Sickler-Voigt

by Fre’Drisha Dixon

Dr. Debrah C. Sickler-Voigt, assistant professor of art education at MTSU, recently was named as the 2007 Tennessee Art Education Association Higher Education Art Educator of the Year.

Sickler-Voigt was selected as a candidate for the award after a former student, a colleague and a professor at University of Tennessee at Martin nominated her.

“This award means a lot to me, especially knowing that people wanted to nominate me. It made me proud,” Sickler-Voigt said.

Added Lindsey Hughes, one of Sickler-Voigt’s students: “She’s very good at what she does and she’s knowledgeable of art, so I think she’s deserving of the award.”

A member of MTSU’s faculty for four years, Sickler-Voigt is origi-



Sickler-Voigt

nally from Miami, Fla. She attended the University of Florida and the University of Cologne in Germany, where she received her bachelor’s degree. She received her master’s degree from Florida International and her Ph.D. from Florida State University.

The Tennessee Art Education Association, a professional organization for art education, presented Sickler-Voigt with the honor at a ceremony during its annual conference at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg Nov. 9-12.

“The TAEA is a program that students can join at college level,” Sickler-Voigt said. “There’s something for everyone and their needs, kind of like a support network for art educators.”

For more information about the TAEA, please visit its Web site at www.tnarts.org.

Fre’Drisha Dixon is a junior majoring in mass communication.

LRC Media Resources Library is buried treasure

by Tom Tozer

Learning Resources Center Room 101 may be one of the best-kept secrets on campus. But not on purpose.

The Instructional Media Resources library sits in a rather out-of-the-way corner of the McWherter Learning Resources Center. There is no signage on the outside of the building that points the way. People who walk through the bank of glass doors on the south side of the LRC more often than not turn right, which leads them to Audio-Visual Services down the hall, Publications and Graphics down another hall, Photographic Services upstairs, or Room 222, the large lecture hall.

If only more people turned left once inside those doors. The IMR's cavernous space houses study rooms and carrels, a computer lab with PCs, Macs, laser printers, scanners, wireless network access and a closed-circuit cable system serving the study carrels. These resources are available to faculty, staff and students.

"What we find is that we still get students who will come in and their eyes go to the ceiling—and when we ask if we may help them, a generic type of response is, 'Wow, I didn't know this was here. I'm getting ready to graduate, and I didn't know this was here,'" said Gail Fedak, IMR manager. "Our location is not apparent from the exterior of the building. We will be working this year to help correct that."

As the university's multimedia library, IMR provides A-V materials and equipment to support the academic core, enhance the growth of both the undergraduate and graduate programs, provide resources that encourage research and promote student-centered learning.



Fedak

Four major components of the IMR are video resources and related equipment, audio resources, the Philip C. Howard Music Library and computer resources. The largest component is the video collection, Fedak said.

"We currently have about 13,000 titles," she said. "The collection is driven by faculty requests and faculty support. We've added resources this year. We have film studies, a video series on copyright compliance, materials on mass communication, speech and theater, storytelling, children's literature and history. We cover cultural topics, the sciences,

business and much more.

"These resources can be accessed by faculty, staff and students," Fedak continued. "They are listed in the library's Voyager database, and anyone can search that database from his office, dorm room, and off-campus home. If you have access to the Internet, you can search the database."

Faculty are permitted to take most of the resources to their classes; however, students must keep them in the media library, she said. Faculty who want students in their classes to be able to check out video materials should contact Fedak or Regina Forsythe for details. (The main IMR phone number is 615-898-2740.)

"And we provide the equipment. People may use any of the formats that



DIG RIGHT IN—The Instructional Media Resources Library offers a plethora of information and services.

photo by J. Intintoli

we have—you don't have to go looking for other equipment. It's all here."

Fedak emphasized that she and her staff are always willing to help anyone use the equipment.

"The technology used to intimidate faculty more than it does today," Fedak said, adding that she has not found students to be intimidated at all by the ever-evolving technology. "They may not know what the equipment does, but most of them are not too shy to ask. We don't mind anyone asking for help—that's why we're here."

Fedak added that her staff is working to cull video materials that are no longer useful for classroom instruction. They want faculty in all departments to provide them with feedback as to what material ought to be kept or discarded, especially video resources in math and the sciences.

"We work with departments to help get what they need but also to ask them to help us meet their needs," Fedak noted. "We ask departments to help share the cost of very expensive materials, especially if they are discipline-specific."

MTSU is a member of the Tennessee Board of Regents Media Consortium, which was created in the late 1970s to negotiate purchasing agreements with media vendors and purchase items at a discount, Fedak said. It is now one of the standing TBR subcommittees and over the last 30 years has realized about \$2 million in savings with media vendors.

Just this fall, the consortium brought the TBR schools online for streaming video, and MTSU has access to 29 titles to date. More will be written later about this service.

For more information about the IMR, visit www.mtsu.edu/~imr.

Insurance program grows

by Thad Mitchell

MTSU's insurance program is growing and expected to keep growing over the next few years.

Currently MTSU has 135 students enrolled in insurance classes, including 100 students who have declared a major or minor in insurance, according to the program's director, Dr. Kenneth Hollman.

"Six hundred and sixty students have graduated from the insurance program since it began in 1983," Hollman said. "This is the most we have had enrolled during a semester."

Part of the reason for the rise of the insurance program is the job market, which Hollman described as "very good" and "growing."

"Students who graduate from the insurance program compete nationwide for jobs in sales, under-

writing, claims and data management," Hollman said. "We have almost no trouble placing students in a job once they have graduated."

The insurance program is reaping the benefits of its success by receiving more funding for the program. Hollman said he expects up to 45 scholarship winners this year alone, and for the first time in 15 years, the program has increased the amount of money that scholarship winners receive and expects that sum to continue to rise next year. The program has distributed more than 800 scholarships among 410 students since 1983.



Hollman

The Omega Chapter of the Gamma Iota Sigma Insurance fraternity also is doing great things, Hollman said. The fraternity competes for national recognition and has won more than 70 awards since 1983, including several individual awards.

Research

from page 2

for astronaut Ronald E. McNair who died in the Challenger shuttle explosion, the goal of this program is to help specific groups of undergraduate students gain admission to graduate school and earn a Ph.D. Open to all disciplines on campus, students must be first-generation college students (neither parent has a college degree) with financial need or be from an underrepresented group (Black/non-Hispanic, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaskan native). Students must have 60 or more credit hours at the time of acceptance, have a 3.0 or better GPA and have a desire to attain a doctorate. Funded by the Department of Education, students receive a total \$2,800 stipend during a calendar year, support to present scholarly work at professional conferences and support to visit graduate schools. They also participate in seminars to assist them in identifying, applying and gaining admission to a graduate school of their choice. Please encourage students who qualify for this program to visit the McNair Program Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~mcnair.

The purpose of this piece is two-fold: to provide a brief history of undergraduate research on campus and inform faculty and administrators of the opportunities available to students; and this report may be missing some steps in the historical development of the initiative and may not include all funding sources or opportunities on campus. As director of MTSU's Undergraduate Research Center, I need your help. First, please inform me about the history of undergraduate research in your department or college, and second, send me information about opportunities for undergraduate students to do research or a creative project in your department or college. Thank you for anything you send me and for making a commitment to encourage undergraduate students to get involved in the experiential learning process known as research or creative activity.

Dr. Diane Miller directs MTSU's Undergraduate Research Center. She can be reached via e-mail at dmiller@mtsu.edu.

Calendar

Dec. 4, 2006-Jan. 14, 2007

TV Schedule

“Middle Tennessee Record”
Cable Channel 9
Monday-Sunday—5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+
Saturdays—1 p.m.

Every Monday night

MTSU Guys & Dolls
Swing Dance Club
Free dance lessons 6-7 p.m.,
open dancing 7-9 p.m.
Murphy Center Dance Studio A
For information, e-mail:
lindyfiend@gmail.com.

Dec. 4

Monday, Dec. 4
Honors Lecture Series
“The Role of the Military in
Natural Disasters”
3-3:50 p.m., HONR 106
For information, contact:
615-898-7611.

Basketball Doubleheader:
Women vs. Austin Peay
Men vs. Tennessee State
5 & 7:30 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Handel’s “Messiah”
MTSU combined choruses
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Dec. 5

Tuesday, Dec. 5
JAWC Career/Professional
Development Brown Bag
Noon-1 p.m., BAS SunTrust Room
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

MTSU Symphonic Band
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
No admission charge
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Dec. 6

Wednesday, Dec. 6
Last day of Fall 2006 classes

U.T. Tested Bull Sale
11 a.m.-1 p.m., Tennessee
Livestock Center
For information, contact:
865-974-7294.

Wednesday, Dec. 6
MTSU Percussion Ensemble
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Dec. 7

Thursday, Dec. 7
Study Day
No classes; university offices open

Dec. 8

Dec. 8-14
Final Examinations

Friday, Dec. 8
“Santa’s Little Raiders”
6 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room
For information, contact:
615-898-2424.

Dec. 9

Saturday, Dec. 9
M’boro Classic Llama Show
Tennessee Livestock Center
For information, visit:
www.thecli.org.

Men’s Basketball
vs. Martin Methodist
7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Dec. 10

Sunday, Dec. 10
“MTSU On the Record—
Russian Relationships”
Guest: Dr. Andrei Korobkov
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast at www.mtsunews.com.

Dec. 14

Thursday, Dec. 14
Retired Faculty & Staff Coffee
9:30 a.m., Foundation House
For information, contact
615-898-5756.

Dec. 15

Dec. 15-22
Chanukah
(Jewish Festival of Lights)

Dec. 16

Saturday, Dec. 16
Fall 2006 Commencement
9 a.m. & 2 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, contact:
615-898-2919.

Dec. 17

Sunday, Dec. 17
“MTSU On the Record—
The Who Sell Out”
Guest: Dr. John Dougan
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast at www.mtsunews.com.

Basketball Doubleheader:
Women vs. Louisiana-Monroe
Men vs. Louisiana-Monroe
1:30 & 4 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Dec. 19

Tuesday, Dec. 19
Women’s Basketball
vs. Old Dominion
7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Dec. 21

Thursday, Dec. 21
Yule/Winter Solstice

Dec. 23

Dec. 23, 2006-Jan. 1, 2007
Winter break; university closed

Dec. 24

Dec. 24-25
Christmas Eve/Christmas Day

Sunday, Dec. 24
“MTSU On the Record—
Science and Spirituality”
Guest: Rabbi Rami Shapiro
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast at www.mtsunews.com.

Dec. 26

Dec. 26, 2006-Jan. 1, 2007
Kwanzaa

Dec. 27

Wednesday, Dec. 27
Women’s Basketball
vs. Western Kentucky
7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Dec. 28

Thursday, Dec. 28
Men’s Basketball
vs. Western Kentucky
7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Dec. 31

Sunday, Dec. 31
Eid al-Adha
(Islamic Festival of Sacrifice)

“MTSU On the Record—
CSI: MTSU”
Guest: Dr. Hugh Berryman
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast at www.mtsunews.com.

Jan. 2, 2007

Tuesday, Jan. 2
University offices reopen

Women’s Basketball
vs. North Dakota State
7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Jan. 6

Saturday, Jan. 6
Basketball Doubleheader:
Women vs. Troy University
Men vs. Troy University
2 & 7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Jan. 13

Saturday, Jan. 13
TWHBEA Winter Tournament
Tennessee Livestock Center
For information, contact:
931-359-0597.

Jan. 14

Sunday, Jan. 14
Greyhound Gathering
Tennessee Livestock Center
For information, contact:
615-898-5301.

U.S. House of Representatives since first winning election in 1984, will be the guest speaker for the 9 a.m. ceremony. A 1971 graduate with honors from MTSU, Gordon received his law degree at the University of Tennessee in 1973 and served in the United States Army Reserves in 1971-72. Before his election to Congress, Gordon was an attorney in private practice.

A native of Murfreesboro, Gordon is the dean of the Tennessee delegation and has served as the ranking member on both the Technology Subcommittee (1995-96) and the Space Subcommittee (1997-2002). In 2003, Gordon assumed the senior Democratic post on the Full Committee. Additionally, the 11-term congressman serves on the powerful House Energy and Commerce Committee, as well as serving on two Energy and Commerce subcommittees—Health and Telecommunications and the Internet.

A firm believer in a bipartisan form of government to create needed solutions, Gordon, among his many accomplishments, is perhaps best known for his work on issues related to NASA, including leading the call for an independent investigation of the Columbia space-shuttle disaster, pushing the agency on its financial management and cost-estimating practices, and working to ensure that NASA addresses its workforce and infrastructure needs in a credible fashion.

A former director of the state Democratic Party in 1979 and state party chairman from 1981 to 1983, Gordon lives in Murfreesboro with his wife, Leslie, and their daughter, Peyton Margaret Gordon.

U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings will be the featured speaker for the 2 p.m. ceremony. A native of Michigan and longtime resident of Houston, Texas, where she graduated from the University of Houston with a political science degree, Spellings is the country’s eighth education secretary, receiving confirmation of office from the U.S. Senate on Jan. 20, 2005.

The first mother of school-aged children to serve in the role as education secretary, Spellings has a special appreciation for the hopes and concerns of American families and actively works to ensure that every young American has the knowledge and skills to succeed in the 21st century.

Prior to her current appointment, Spellings served as assistant to President George W. Bush in the area of domestic policy, where she helped craft education policies, including the No Child Left Behind Act. She also aided in the development and implementation of White House policy on immigration, health, labor, transportation, justice and housing.

Spellings, before her White House tenure, also served for six years as a senior adviser to Bush when he was governor of Texas. In this role, her responsibilities centered upon developing and implementing the governor’s education policy, which included the Texas Reading Initiative, the Student Success



Gordon



Spellings

Initiative to help eliminate social promotion, and the nation’s strongest school assessment and accountability system.

A former associate executive director of the Texas Association of School Boards, Spellings is the mother of four, including a daughter in college and another in high school.

Fall '06 Commencement at a glance

Who: Approximately 1,676 graduates*
(1,406 undergraduates, 270 graduate students)

When: 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 16

Where: Murphy Center on the MTSU campus

Commencement speakers:

- U.S Rep. Bart Gordon, Sixth Congressional District, 9 a.m. ceremony
- Margaret Spellings, current U.S. secretary of education, 2 p.m. ceremony

**— Approximate number as of Nov. 28, 2006*

Regarding the upcoming commencement, Thomas said he wanted to remind all degree candidates of the importance of appropriate dress, decorum and respect for the ceremony.

“We believe this is a very important day in the lives of many people,” Thomas said. “Commencement is one of those few days that families always remember as special. It is difficult to give the ceremony the dignified atmosphere it deserves if people are using air horns or leaving before the completion of the ceremony.”

Additionally, Thomas said, the graduation committee emphasized that students who participate in commencement will be required to stay for the entire ceremony. The December ceremony should last about two hours, so students planning celebration activities should be aware of this commitment.

The doors of Murphy Center will open at 8 a.m. Dec. 16 for the morning ceremony and candidates are expected to be in their assigned areas, dressed in their caps and gowns, no later than 8:30 a.m. For the afternoon ceremony, the doors will open at 1 p.m., and candidates are expected to be in their assigned areas and ready at 1:30 p.m. Students who are not in their assigned gyms at the proper times will not be allowed to participate in the ceremony.

For more information about commencement, please visit the Records Office Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~records/grad.htm or call 615-898-2600.

orientation, and Anshel said the response has been overwhelming.

At present, three rounds of the programs have been budgeted: one for the fall semester, one for the spring semester and one that will be conducted over the summer. The program is also part of a larger study by Anshel, “The Effect of Personal Coaching on Improving Healthy Lifestyle Habits,” which is being used to document the results of the program.

Anshel said that because MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee has agreed to fund the program, he has a right to know if it is working. Also, McPhee is registered for the spring session, so he has a vested interest in the success of the program from that standpoint as well, Anshel added.

“Because of President McPhee’s dedication to this program, not only are we changing the climate on campus to improve our health and energy, but we are also the first university in the state of Tennessee to allot funds for faculty wellness,” Anshel said.

The program incorporates four tools to drive the participants. The first is data. Participants are given a blood test that includes a lipid profile to document their cholesterol levels and a mental well-being test that is used to determine mental barriers that may conflict with accomplishing the goals of the program.

“People are driven by numbers. These numbers point out to them, in a very clear way, their deficiencies,” Anshel said.

The second essential part of the program is the coaching staff. “We’ve got fitness coaches, a life-skills coach and a set of nutritional coaches. These are people who provide instruction, prescription for improving habits, monitoring and motivation. So many people start exercise programs and they don’t receive any feedback or instruction, and they end up doing it wrong. They struggle and they drop out. We’re trying to prevent that,” Anshel said.

The third factor people need is routines, Anshel said. “The reason routines are so important is ... we perform them with almost no thought. Ninety-five percent of what we do is routines. We want to go with routines that promote health and well-being,” he remarked.

Finally, the fourth thing participants must do to succeed in the program is acknowledge their values, Anshel said.

“You have to find out what is important to you. You have to focus on what it’s really about,” Anshel said. “If family is one of your values, you have to look after yourself so you can appreciate them and enjoy them.”

Anshel said he credits a preacher in Murfreesboro with a line that truly sums up what values are all about.

“He says that you’ll never run out of excuses to take care of yourself, but

you will run out of time.”

Jim Fanguy, a lieutenant with the MTSU Department of Public Safety, is a participant in the current study and said he knows about running out of time. After his quadruple-bypass heart surgery last year, Fanguy knew it was time to do something about his health.

“The Wellness Program is a holistic program. It’s not a weight-loss program or an exercise program. It’s more about changing your behavior so that you lose weight and exercise and eat right,” Fanguy said.

“The entire idea here is not just physical. It’s physical, mental, spiritual and emotional. All aspects are being covered, and it’s the most complete program of its type that I’ve ever seen,” the lieutenant added. “It’s about replacing destructive habits with routines that are healthy. Overall, your entire performance increases.”

Christy Davis, a registered dietician and graduate student, is a nutrition coach involved in the program. She is accountable for 25 program participants and provides them with information about everything from reading food labels to making healthy choices with holiday meals and eating out. If needed, she is also available to meet with her clients one-on-one.

Davis noted that the overall response to the program has been positive, and participants have been receptive to her advice.

“Most of the things we’re talking about are common sense, and it’s just the fact of applying it to your life,” she said.

“It’s great that I’ve been able to connect with different faculty on campus, and it’s great that they have the opportunity to work to improve their quality of life. It’s important that people realize that nutrition and exercise go hand in hand. Some people forget that, and it’s important to remember to balance those two things.”

Faculty and staff members who are unsure about whether the program is suitable for them should consider that the program “is more about looking after the people that love you and need you than it is about looking after yourself,” Anshel said. “It’s about a bigger purpose.”

Anshel assured those who sign up that “we will look after you. We have a set of very devoted health coaches. We will monitor your progress, and we will help you. We’ll watch out for you. This is the best opportunity a person employed on this campus will ever have to make a significant change in his or her life.”

For more information or to sign up for the MTSU Faculty/Staff Wellness Program, contact Anshel at manshel@mtsu.edu.

Will Fanguy is a senior majoring in mass communication.



Employee Giving breaks records: \$78K+ pledged

from Staff Reports

Pledge cards have been returned, prizes have been awarded and the paperwork is being finalized for MTSU’s 2006 Employee Charitable Giving Campaign after a record-breaking season of giving: more than \$78,550 from the university community to our community neighbors.

“On behalf of all the people in our community who will benefit from your generosity and caring spirit, President Sidney A. McPhee and I wish to extend sincere thanks for your participation in the 2006 MTSU Employee Charitable Giving Campaign,” said 2006 campaign chair Lucinda Lea, vice president for information technology and chief information officer.

“Total donations to date are more than \$78,550, bringing MTSU to a record high for giving in this campaign.”

Employees who returned their pledge forms by the deadline were eligible for a campuswide drawing for 73 prizes, and several university divisions and departments also gave prizes to encourage 100 percent participation. Donations were not required to enter any of the prize drawings.

The drive, which is conducted in unison with all Tennessee Board of Regents institutions, officially concluded on Nov. 10, although pledges are still being accepted. The 2006 campaign goal was simply to exceed \$70,000; the 2005 campaign netted slightly more than \$76,300.

Faculty and staff will be giving via payroll deduction to charitable organizations included on a

list of nine independent charities and three federated charitable organizations, including Community Health Charities, Community Shares and local United Ways. The deductions will begin with the first paycheck of 2007.

“We extend our sincere appreciation to the many volunteers and to all those who contributed the 73 prizes,” Lea said.

“Congratulations to all the prize winners! A list of prizes and the winners is posted on the Charitable Giving Web site, www.mtsu.edu/givemtsu. And I extend special thanks to those in the IT Division who helped with the campaign organization.

“Thank you for exhibiting true-blue spirit and showing the surrounding community that the MTSU ‘family’ cares!”

Walker Library making noise about its services

by Gina K. Logue

Libraries and banks share a similar challenge—how to present themselves as more than cold and impersonal edifices. With an area of 250,000 gross square feet and a capacity of 800,000 volumes, the James E. Walker Library can seem quite imposing to students whose previous library experience might have consisted of occasional use of the photocopy machine and a well-worn copy of *Silas Marner*.

Even library personnel recognize the irony that the facility’s comprehensiveness and wide range of services, assets that make it such a valued resource, can make it daunting for the uninitiated. That is why outreach is such a vibrant and necessary part of the library’s mission.

“Very few students have access to a facility like this when they’re in high school or even at a community college,” Bill Black, associate professor of the Walker Library, says. “It was built to try to make it easy to find locations. Every floor has a major title that gives you an idea what’s on that floor.”



Black

At each CUSTOMS orientation, library volunteers are on hand to dispense information. A greeter program is in place for the first few days of each semester to put a human face on the library. Students can grade the library with special cards that are made available to let them point out the library’s strengths and weaknesses.

“In the strengths and weaknesses program, we get over a 95 percent approval rating on staff interactions and the dealings they have with our personnel,” Black says. “Where we really have some complaints is in the area of equipment.”

When the inventory includes \$6 million worth of furniture and equipment and \$2.2 million worth of computers, upkeep is a top priority. Black says problems are magnified when students are crunched for time when they’re working on a paper and a printer jams, a monitor fails or a computer eats a disk.

To provide immediate assistance, students trained by the Office of Information Technology began working this semester.

“They go through the lab training (from Information Technology), and they’re trained to work with the computers (and) the printing, and they’re also trained to help students with Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint and Word,” Sharon Parente, assistant professor, says.

One user-friendly aspect of the library’s design with which its users might not be familiar is the accommodation of different kinds of studying styles.



Parente

“It was also designed, as you go higher up in the library and farther back, to be quieter,” Parente says. “So students can study somewhere if they like a little bit of noise and activity going on around them, which some of them do, and other ones want it to be very quiet where they study.”

Yet, far from being a static part of only the university, the library reaches out to the community at large, as well. The READ poster project, which has won a national award from the American Library Association, features outstanding and accomplished MTSU students encouraging youngsters to take time to appreciate books. The posters made their debut a couple of years ago, and Black says they serve a dual purpose.

“I think the president really saw immediately the recruiting possibilities,” Black says with a laugh. “And it ignites in students, I think, an idea that maybe they can do something they may not have thought of before.”

As popular as the READ posters are, what better way to communicate the importance of the printed word than through a printing press? The recreation of an 18th-century press, using 100-year-old wood from Virginia, is not only a symbol of the library’s mission and message. It is a functioning, interactive tool for teaching area K-12 students about history, the importance of literacy, even mathematics when it comes to determining the size of the type.

“It’s really a magical tool, in a way, because it really enlightens students and teaches them in a different way than they may have ever been taught before,” Black says.

Give yourself an alternative during next break

by Thad Mitchell

While many students spent their fall breaks in front of the TV or catching up with overdue homework assignments, a group of 14 students spent their fall break helping the less fortunate.

Alternative Fall Break and Alternative Spring Break are an opportunity for students to spend their breaks away from the ordinary, traveling, helping out communities in need and meeting new people.

“This fall we went to Asheville, North

Carolina,” said project coordinator Matt DeMonbrun, a graduate assistant in MTSU’s Office of Student Organizations & Community Service.

“Our goal was to rebuild houses and help out with a small community there in any way that we could.”

The university provides primary funding for alternative breaks. Students are asked only to pay for their food and any luxuries during the trip. Lodging, tools and other necessities are provided by the program.

“It’s an excellent opportunity for our students to get involved and give back,” DeMonbrun said.

“It’s perfect for anyone looking to meet new people or just get away for a weekend.”

No destination has been set yet for Alternative Spring Break, but DeMonbrun says it is in the works, and recruitment for the event will begin as soon as the spring semester begins. There are limited slots available, so those who are interested should sign up as soon as possible. “We wish we could take everyone, but we do have limited funds and limited space,” DeMonbrun said.

For more information on alternative breaks, contact DeMonbrun at mdemonbr@mtsu.edu or stop by Room 326-S in the Keathley University Center.

Sobriety from page 1

a baseline of 41 percent in 2000.

A grant awarded to MTSU’s public safety department, financed with funds administered through the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the Governor’s Highway Safety Office, assisted in providing the necessary personnel and time.

“Our goal is to reduce the number of impaired drivers by being proactive,” said MTSU’s Associate

Chief Roy Brewer.

According to a 2005 report from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System, a Web-based encyclopedia, Tennessee ranks 10th nationwide for alcohol-related highway fatalities. Additionally, with MTSU’s enrollment increasing 2 to 3 percent each year over the last several years, Public Safety records indicate there also has been a steady rise in the number of

alcohol-related incidents and arrests on campus.

“We have been fortunate that with the university’s growth, we have not had a fatality crash on campus as of yet,” Brewer added. “We are aware of numerous fatality crashes off-campus involving MTSU students. If being more visible on campus can save just one life, our efforts will be worth it.”

This may be the first time in Tennessee history that sobriety checkpoints will be conducted on a college campus, Brewer noted, adding that it takes more than enforcement measures to protect the community from drunk drivers

“We also have many education programs that we present to interested groups on campus, such as ‘Drunk Goggles,’” the associate chief said.

PCSW seeking grant applications

by Gina K. Logue

The President’s Commission on the Status of Women is accepting applications for three summer grants of \$1,800 each to integrate experiences and perspectives of women into the curriculum.

The deadline to submit proposals is Friday, Jan. 19, 2007.

Grants are intended for use in the summer of 2007 by a tenured or tenure-track faculty member who wishes to pursue the revision of a course, the creation of a new course, the reconceptualization of a current minor or the creation of a new minor.

Proposals should include a completed grant application form; a brief description of the project; a statement of goals and objectives; a timeline for completion and implementation of the project; a tentative bibliography, including materials on the theories and methods of curriculum integration; and a curriculum vitae.

In addition to the general criteria, faculty members who choose to revise courses or minors should provide details on how courses or minors would be altered as a result. Each proposal should be no longer than three pages, including the bibliography.

Each applicant should send four completed proposals (an original and three copies) to Dr. Newtona “Tina” Johnson, Department of English, Campus Mail Box 70.

“We take pride in the many courses that have been developed or revised through the support of the PCSW, particularly those in disciplines that traditionally do not take into account women’s issues, perspectives and experiences,” Johnson says. “We especially encourage proposals from faculty in such disciplines.”

One former grant recipient, Wendy Koenig, assistant professor of art, used the funding she received last summer to revise Art 4910, which is called “Women in Art.”

“I limited the focus of the course to the 20th century and included readings and discussions of various types of feminism as part of the curriculum,” Koenig says. “I taught the course for the first time in Spring 2006.”

As a result of that experience, Koenig presented a paper at the 2006 Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association conference Oct. 12-14 as part of the panel on “Teaching Feminism in the Classroom: Intersections in Feminist Pedagogy, Media Studies and Visual Studies.”

Proposals will be reviewed by an awards committee composed of faculty serving on the Academic Issues Subcommittee of the commission. The panel will view favorably proposals that incorporate innovative teaching techniques, those that involve disciplines in which women are underrepresented and those that integrate women’s concerns with issues of race or ethnicity, class and sexual orientation. Projects that can be implemented within two years will be given priority consideration.

“There is growing interest in the grants because the number of applications has increased in recent years, as well as the diversity of fields of studies,” Johnson says.

Grant recipients will be required to present their completed projects at the fall commission meeting, which will be held early in the Fall 2007 semester. Recipients also will be required to furnish the awards committee with a copy of the finished syllabus, course proposal, minor proposal or revised minor at the Fall 2007 meeting.

For more information, contact Johnson at 615-898-2705 or ntjohnso@mtsu.edu.

War letters project attracts a century of correspondence

by Will Fanguy

Dr. Jim Williams and his honors History 2020 class are immersed in a letter-laden project that spans three generations and almost 100 years.

A professor of history, Williams has charged his class with finding letters written by soldiers during wartime. The project focuses on two themes: free speech during wartime and war correspondence between soldiers and their loved ones.

Williams said the student-written essays will be placed with copies of the letters in the Albert Gore Research Center.

“My goal was to have the students go out and do what historians do,” he explained. “We were hoping that we would uncover some collections of letters that people might be willing to donate to the Gore Center.

“I’ve had the idea to use letters in some way for a few years now, (but) this is the first time I’ve tried it. I bought a collection myself some years ago.”

Williams’ collection is not just limited to letters, however. It also includes detailed woodcuts that were made by a soldier stationed in Guam in 1945.

“(The soldier) and his wife were both artists,” Williams said. “She would send him art supplies, and he would send home these color stamps of the scenery. These are rather unusual to have, and I was kind of hoping the students would come up with something interesting, too.”

To date, Williams has collected letters from as far back as World War I, with some as recent as e-mails received from soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Earlier this semester, Williams distributed a campuswide e-mail asking MTSU faculty and staff for help finding wartime letters.

“People on campus have been very willing to help. The response has been largely from support staff and they seem very enthusiastic about helping students,” he said. “(And) people I wouldn’t normally have contact with have been very helpful and generous.”

Trevor Ritenour, a student in Williams’ class, echoed his professor’s sentiments. “We’re digging up old letters and it’s been really interesting. Dr. Williams had to give some of us a jump-start with letters, but it’s been fun following soldiers through the war.

“It’s sad to read these letters and then see them die,” Ritenour added. “Overall, the project has been interesting and I think it’ll turn out good.”

As for the project’s final outcome, Williams, too, is optimistic.

“I’m curious to see what comes of this myself,” he noted. “I’m anxious to see what else they’ve found.”

For more information on the War Letters project, contact Williams via e-mail at jhwillia@mtsu.edu.

Take aim at target club membership

by Thad Mitchell

The MTSU Clay Target Club is looking for new members for the spring semester.

The Clay Target Club comprises MTSU students who have an interest or are experienced in clay target sports; no experience is necessary. The club currently has about 10 members, according to club president George Nelson.

The club meets twice a month at the MTSU Department of Public Safety, 1412 E. Main St. Functions for the club are held once a month at Big Springs Clay Target Sports in



Christiana, Tenn., for practice or competition. The club also works closely with high-school clay target teams in the area, serving as mentors for the younger generation of shooters, according to Nelson.

Nelson is a defending national champion in clay shooting and is cur-

rently a junior majoring in aerospace maintenance management at MTSU.

“I got involved with shooting at a very young age. I’ve been in a lot of competitions, and I look forward to sharing my experiences and expertise with fellow members of this club,” said Nelson.

Students of all experience levels are encouraged to join. Certified clay-target coaches will be on hand at meetings, practices and competitions to teach. MTSU Police Sgt. Steve Scott is an adviser and coach for the program.

For more information on the Clay Target Club, contact Nelson at chop_37122@yahoo.com.

Senior says ‘get involved!’

by Thad Mitchell

If you want to meet a student who defines what a student should be, at least according to some of her professors, then look no further than Lauren Tingle.

Tingle, a recording industry major with a minor in journalism, is set to graduate Dec. 16 and has left quite a mark on the school and quite an impression on her professors.

“Lauren just has a good sense of how to make the most out of this program,” said recording industry professor Paul Fischer, for whom Tingle has worked as an aide. “She has gotten involved in student activities, worked industry events and volunteered her time to different organizations.”

Among Tingle’s achievements during her time at MTSU are volunteering at South by Southwest, interning at CMT, studying abroad in London and meeting celebrities like Elijah Wood, Trace Adkins and Vince Gill.

“I’ve had the privilege of attending a couple of red-carpet events and meeting some famous people,” said Tingle.

She also hosts a radio show on WMTS-88.3 FM called the “Mermaid Café,” on which she plays an eclectic mix of music and discusses whatever’s in the news or on her mind.

“I like the idea of influencing what the audience lis-

tens to,” she said with a sly smile.

Her internship with CMT has turned into a full-time job in which she will be working behind the scenes, writing stories, scheduling interviews and making contacts.

“As a student, she always delivers more than the minimum, always tries a little harder. And I know she will continue to do the same throughout her professional career,” said Fischer.

“She is prepared, poised, professional and someone who will be an asset to any staff.”

Though Tingle’s collegiate career is winding down, she feels that she is ready for what lies ahead.

“I am excited about graduation. I’m ready to begin a new phase in my life. I have lots of great memories here at MTSU, but it’s time to move on,” she said.

Tingle also has some advice for incoming freshmen. “Get involved! Take advantage of all the opportunities that are presented to you. Volunteer, study abroad, bug your teachers ... do what you have to do to get an edge.”



Tingle at WMTS-88.3 FM

Freshman’s interests lead to ‘historic’ work

by Samantha Meeks

Sleep tight. Don’t let the bedbugs bite. Pop goes the weasel. The tables are turned.

As Kelsey Jensen, a freshman history major at MTSU, leads tour groups through the Sam Davis Home in Smyrna, she describes how some of those sayings may have originated. For example, many families during the early 19th century actually had tables with two top layers, one of which could be turned over if a guest was being welcomed.

“I was interested in history early on,” said Jensen, who has worked at the Sam Davis Home since November 2005. Her love of history, however, dates back much further.

“I traveled with my grandfather, Roy Jensen, across the state to visit various historic sites as part of his job for the Tennessee State Park Service by the time I was 4,” she recalled.

Born in Springfield, Tenn., but reared in Smyrna by her mother, Rebecca Smith, and stepfather, Johnny Smith, Jensen attended Smyrna High School, where she joined the school’s Historical Society.

The group volunteered for Heritage Days at Sam Davis Home to help 50 demonstrators teach 2,000 area students candlemaking, blacksmithing, colonial braiding, basket-

the RECORD

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weaving, rugmaking and other often-forgotten trades. Jensen noted that she still makes baskets to sell in the Sam Davis Home’s gift shop.

“It wasn’t until I attended (the) Governor’s School for the Scientific Exploration of Tennessee Heritage at East Tennessee State University in the summer of 2005 that I started thinking of history as a viable career choice,” she noted.

These days, Jensen spends her weekends at the Sam Davis Home, as well as an occasional weekday, if she does not have classes.

“I actually took the job to get over being shy,” she said. “I’m a lot better on tours, actually, than I am in personal situations.”

A young woman who enjoys music of all types, literature, hand-crafts and researching her Scandinavian heritage, Jensen commands the attention of tour groups with her insightful knowledge of details.

“It is pretty odd to have a young girl like Kelsey who is highly interested in history,” said John Lodl, director of the Rutherford County Archives and former director of the Sam Davis Home. “She definitely has the enthusiasm for it and loves working at the Sam Davis Home.”

Lodl mentioned Jensen’s participation in the site’s Apple Valley School, a weeklong, one-room school-house experience held during the summer for 20 children. Jensen recalled that at the end of the school week, she received an apple and herbs from a young child she had taught.

“I have learned a lot since I have



been here, but growing up in Smyrna you learn most of the history, at least about Sam,” Jensen said.

During her tour, Jensen reached high above her own head to point to a thumbprint made by one of the 52 slaves the Davis family owned.

“The slaves would put their fingerprints or toe prints because many of them did not know how to write,” she explained, showing that, as Lodl said, she “has a real knack for (tours).”

For more information about the Sam Davis Home, 1399 Sam Davis



LIVING HISTORY—Freshman history major Kelsey Jensen checks a lock on one of the buildings at the Sam Davis Home in Smyrna at the end of a day of guiding tours at the historic site in the photo above. In the photo above left, she points out a toe print in a brick at the home’s chimney. One of the slaves left his mark in the brick, Jensen says, because he could not write his name.

photos by Samantha Meeks

Road in Smyrna, including tour times, please call 615-459-2341.

Samantha Meeks is a senior majoring in mass communication.

Faculty/Staff Update

Elections

Dr. Phil Oliver (philosophy adjunct) was elected president of the Tennessee Philosophical Association for 2006-07 at the organization’s annual meeting, hosted at Vanderbilt University Nov. 11.

Honors

Professor Marc J. Barr (electronic media communication) received second-place honors in the “What is A Cup” Juried National Exhibit at the Vulcan 5 Gallery in Oakland, Calif., in November. His work also has been selected for an exhibition at the Tennessee Arts Commission Gallery in 2007.

Dr. Sandy Neal (health and human performance) is a member of the Senior Mixed Doubles tennis team from Murfreesboro that won the Southern Sectional Mixed Doubles Team Championship in Cary, N.C., Oct. 20-22. The competition included more than 700 participants from nine southern states. Neal’s team qualified for the USTA Eastern National

Tournament in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Nov. 17-19.

Presentations

Dr. Ronald Ferrara (aerospace) presented “Legalized Murder: The Army Flies the Mail” at the National Council on Aviation and Space Education annual conference Oct. 20 in Arlington, Va.

Dr. Rick Moffett (psychology) gave the opening presentation/kickoff, “The Future of Leadership: The Challenges of Leading in a Flat World,” at the River Cities Industrial-Organizational Psychology Conference Nov. 11.

Dr. Bob Petersen (English) presented “Philip Henry Gosse’s *Tenby: A Seaside Holiday* (1856): Nature Writing as a Chapter in Victorian England’s Struggle with Science” at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association meeting at the University of California, Riverside, Nov. 10.

Dr. Franco Zengaro (health and human performance) presented a

paper, “Learning to Plan for Teaching: A Multiple-Case Study,” at the Mid-South Educational Research Association Annual Meeting held in Birmingham, Ala., Nov. 8-10.

Publications

Dr. David Badger (journalism) has published his fifth nature book, *Butterflies* (Voyageur Press), with photographs by nature photographer Brian Kenney.

Dr. Pat Wall (business law) recently received acceptances for publication on the following articles: “New Ways to Cook the Books: Recent Accounting Disasters,” forthcoming in the *Journal of Business and Economic Perspectives*, Vol. XXXII, Number 2, Fall/Winter 2006, and “The Future of E-Commerce Tax Liability,” forthcoming in *Tax Adviser*, December 2006.

See yourself in The Record!

E-mail your faculty/staff accomplishments to gfann@mtsu.edu or fax to 615-898-5714, Attention: *The Record*, Faculty/Staff Update.