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Dr. Aaron Todd's 'indomitable will' inspires, teaches

from Staff Reports

Dr. Aaron W. Todd, 69, emeritus professor of chemistry and one of MTSU's most determined and dedicated sports fans, passed away April 5 after a valiant fight against brain cancer.

A winner of the MTSU Foundation's Outstanding Teacher Award, he was the founder of and adviser for MTSU's chapter of Gamma Beta Phi, as well as the organization's national president. Dr. Todd, who came to MTSU in 1963, co-authored two college physical science textbooks and authored two lab manuals for college physical science, teaching an estimated 12,000 students in a 40-year career at the university.

Father of two and grandfather of five, Dr. Todd was diagnosed with inoperable brain cancer on Christmas Eve 2003 and told he had 12 months to live. He beat that prediction by more than two years, gaining renown for his "Operation: Full House" quest to fill Murphy Center with basketball fans.

"Dr. Aaron Todd remains with us in spirit because of his indomitable will to live fully in spite of his affliction," said MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee. "We celebrate and remember

See 'Todd' page 5

Spring commencement

Nearly 2,000 grads to celebrate 2 ceremonies

by Lisa L. Rollins

Nearly 2,000 degree candidates are expected to graduate during MTSU's 95th spring commencement ceremonies, reports Dr. Sherian Huddleston, associate vice provost for enrollment services.

On Saturday, May 5, MTSU will again feature dual ceremonies and dual speakers starting at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Murphy Center. Of the 1,998 set to graduate, 1,726 are undergraduates and 268 are graduate students, including 229 master's candidates, 32 education specialist (Ed.S.) degree candidates and seven Ph.D. candidates.

Candidates from the College of Graduate Studies, Jennings A. Jones College of Business and College of Education and Behavioral Science will receive their degrees in the morning ceremony.

That afternoon, degrees will be conferred on candidates in the Colleges of Basic and Applied Sciences, Liberal Arts, Mass Communication and the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, said Dr. Jack Thomas, senior vice provost for academic affairs and chairman of the commencement committee.

Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey, R-

Related article, page 5

Blountville, who represents Tennessee's Second Senate District, will be the guest speaker for the 10 a.m. ceremony.

Ramsey, whose district encompasses Johnson and Sullivan counties in East Tennessee, was elected to the senate in 1996 after serving two terms in the state's House of Representatives. During his time as a state representative, he served District 1 in Sullivan County.

On Jan. 9, 2007, Ramsey was elected speaker of the senate by an 18-15 margin, receiving the votes of all state GOP senators and one Democratic senator. He is the first GOP senate speaker in 140 years and the first from Sullivan County in more than 100 years.

A graduate of Sullivan Central High School and a 1978 graduate of East Tennessee State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in industrial technology, Ramsey resides in Blountville with his wife, Cindy, and their three daughters, Tiffany, Sheena and Madison.

When he is not in Nashville, Ramsey is a real estate broker and auctioneer with his own company, Ron Ramsey and Associates, in Blountville. Among other activities, he is a past president of the Blountville Business Association

See 'Spring' page 5

IN BRIEF

LUNCH AT OUTBACK APRIL 25
BENEFITS ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

Lunch at Outback Steakhouse, with all proceeds benefiting the Rutherford County Alumni Scholarship at MTSU, will be held Wednesday, April 25, at Outback Steakhouse, 1968 Old Fort Parkway in Murfreesboro. Three seating times—11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m.—will be available for participants. Tied in with Administrative Professionals Day, the event has become an annual fundraiser for the Rutherford County Alumni Chapter. Cost is \$10 per person and includes a meal of Caesar salad, steak or chicken, mashed potatoes and bread. To make reservations, call 615-898-2922 or visit www.mtalumni.com.

ETIS PLANS OPEN HOUSE APRIL 26
IN TOM H. JACKSON BUILDING

The MTSU Department of Engineering Technology and Industrial Studies will hold an open house from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 26, in the Tom H. Jackson Building (old Alumni Center). Poster presentations by ETIS faculty members and student projects will be on display, and the Lead Elimination Action Program and Concrete Industry Management Program will have booths. Other booths will be added as the open house draws closer. For more information, call 615-898-2776.

SEE SPOT RUN! RUN, SPOT, RUN ...
HEY, SPOT, COME BACK HERE!

Join the race to support Rutherford County Habitat for Humanity in an event unlike any other in middle Tennessee! Sure to be an event to remember, participants are encouraged to run with their dogs at the upcoming See Spot Run 5K set for Saturday, May 12, at 8 a.m. on the MTSU campus. Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. at Peck Hall. The entry fee is \$15 before May 1 and \$20 until race day. For more information, please contact 615-898-5812.

PORTION OF FAULKINBERRY
TO CLOSE SATURDAY, APRIL 28

A section of Faulkinberry Drive will be closed between Normal Way and Blue Raider Drive on Saturday, April 28. The work should begin at 8 a.m. and finish by 2 p.m. If you have any questions, please call the Office of Construction Administration at 615-898-2967.



www.mtsunews.com

Business sense



LEARNING FROM THE BEST—Rebecca R. Jones, seated, friend of education and widow of former Murfreesboro mayor and philanthropist Jennings A. Jones, poses with students of her husband's namesake College of Business at the recent MTSU Executives in Residence day on campus. From left are Jeanice McCord, Courtnie Holliday, Casey Smith, Mrs. Jones, Daniel Wood, Kim Morrow, Jo Gilley and Roy Adcock.

photo by Andy Heidt

FOR THE RECORD

SUNO chancellor says partnership is already fruitful

by Dr. Victor Ukpolo

Greetings. It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to address the Middle Tennessee State University community.

First and foremost, I again thank Dr. Sidney McPhee and everyone at MTSU for the spectacular hospitality displayed to me and other Southern University at New Orleans executive staff members during our visit to your wonderful campus in early February. Everyone at MTSU welcomed us with open arms and expressed their support of this unique partnership. We were equally pleased that three MTSU executive staff members visited with us briefly in New Orleans shortly after our visit to Murfreesboro to see firsthand the temporary campus from which SUNO continues to operate.

Various SUNO and MTSU deans have engaged in initial discussions about ways in which this partnership will realize the goal of being mutually beneficial. I am pleased to report that three SUNO science majors have been selected to participate in a summer internship program at MTSU, complete with a \$5,000 stipend. This represents just one of the many opportunities that we hope this partnership will spawn. I thank Dean Thomas Cheatham and Provost Kaylene Gebert for their assistance with helping our students secure this special opportunity.

This partnership evolved from Dr. McPhee's desire to provide assistance to SUNO, which initially revolved around hosting a fundraiser for our institution. However, as each of us began to chat about how our universities could possibly assist each other, the partnership, which has been outlined in other MTSU publications and media reports, began to take form. I fully expect within the coming weeks that we will announce other outcomes that will showcase the true spirit and intent of this partnership. I also look forward to working with MTSU officials to formally announce the proposed benefit concert that is tentatively scheduled to happen in the fall.

I also want to take this opportunity to provide an update on SUNO. As many of you have probably read, the 11 buildings that comprise our main campus were flooded with four to 11 inches of water that remained stagnant for approximately 3 1/2 weeks. For approximately 12 months, SUNO has operated out of 45 modular trailers, constructed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and currently serves a student population of slightly more than 2,300, representing 65 percent of our pre-Katrina enroll-

See 'SUNO' page 3

MTSU to shine again at city's annual JazzFest

from Staff Reports

MTSU's jazz musicians will once again shine at Murfreesboro's annual Main Street JazzFest as students and professors take the stage on the city's public square Saturday, May 5.

After an evening of "Future Jazz Greats" performances by county high-school jazz bands May 4, the students of the MTSU Jazz Ensemble I will tune up at noon May 5 for an hour-long midday set at the festival's main stage.

Percussion professor Lalo Davila is set to perform at 3 p.m., followed by jazz faculty members Don Aliquo (tenor saxophone), Shawn Purcell (guitar) and Jamey Simmons (trumpet) and The A.P.S.9, their newly formed nonet. A.P.S.9 also includes MTSU faculty David Loucky (trombone), Pat Coil (piano), Jim Ferguson (bass) and Tom Giampieto (drums) and grad student Mike Jenner (baritone saxophone). Their set is scheduled



to begin at 4:30 p.m. on the main stage.

At 6 p.m. on the event's Kroger stage, the students of the MTSU Jazz Ensemble II are scheduled to perform.

JazzFest headliner Louis Hayes and his Cannonball Band, featuring trumpeter Jeremy Pelt and saxophonist Vincent Herring, will perform at 7:30 p.m. on the main stage.

Sets by other local bands also are on tap during the festival; for a complete schedule of events, visit www.mainstreetjazzfest.com and click on the "performances" link.

JazzFest is celebrating its 11th anniversary this year. Presented by MTSU's McLean School of Music, it's a project of Main Street: Murfreesboro/Rutherford County Inc., a nonprofit organization that assists in the promotion, historic preservation and economic development of the downtown area.

For more information, visit www.mainstreetjazzfest.com.

10 years of HELP at Project's facility

from Staff Reports

Ten years ago, the project that began in two cardboard boxes finally moved into its own bright, colorful building. Today, MTSU's Project HELP (Help Educate Little People) is still bubbling over with new ideas and new children—and students—to serve.

Project HELP, which began in 1983 to provide a classroom environment for developmentally delayed preschool children and a training ground for education majors, celebrated its 10th anniversary in its North Baird Lane facility April 5.

Founding director Dr. Ann Campbell, a professor of elementary and special education who initially ran the program out of two boxes in the trunk of her car, praised Drs. Barbara Haskew and Mary Tom Berry as two people instrumental in getting Project HELP off the ground—and into a building—back in the 1980s.

"Project HELP is a wonderful marriage between the university and community—and it continues today," Campbell said during the festivities.

To be admitted into the program, a child must be developmentally delayed because of a specific handicap or "at risk." Once in the program, a child is educationally assessed, an Individual Program Plan is developed and related activities are prescribed.

Throughout its 24-year history, the program has assisted more than 300 children and is a training ground for MTSU students. It serves



10 YEARS OF HARD WORK—Dr. Gloria Bonner, left, dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Science, presents Dr. Ann Campbell, professor of elementary and special education, with flowers during the recent Project HELP 10th anniversary open house. Campbell was the program's founding director.

photo by J. Intintoli

children from birth to age 3 and also welcomes typically abled children between 15 months and 3 years old to provide a more diverse educational experience.

The program's first real home was in a kindergarten classroom at Homer Pittard Campus School. In 1985, it became a United Way agency and began receiving communitywide financial support. From there, Project HELP moved to the basement of the Home Living Center, next to the Ellington Human Sciences Building, and then to a lounge area in Jones Hall.

In February 1996 ground was broken on the corner of First Street and Baird Lane for a 4,300-square-foot, \$400,000 facility. Finally, in April 1997, Project HELP cut the rib-

bon and opened the doors to its present home, where it currently serves 24 children.

The Christy-Houston Foundation was a major donor to the permanent facility, Campbell said, contributing more than half (\$236,000) of the money needed for construction. Charity Circle, Nissan Motor Manufacturing Corp. and the local Rotary Club are other organizations that have "offered great support" to the project, Campbell said.

Campbell served as director of Project HELP until 2000, when she passed the torch to the first official full-time director, Debbie Bauder. Bauder returned to the classroom in September 2006, making room for the current director, Susan Waldrop.

Leadership Middle Tennessee wants you

Leadership Middle Tennessee is accepting applications until Tuesday, May 15, for its upcoming Class of 2008, which begins this September.

The program, which brings together community leaders from a 10-county area in an atmosphere of networking, collaboration and strate-

gic thinking, consists of 10 sessions and ends with graduation on May 21, 2008.

To obtain an application packet, contact Susan Turner Taylor, executive director, at 615-904-8207 or taylor@mtsu.edu.

LMT's mission is to develop leaders who can contribute to long-

term solutions that sustain and balance the quality of life and economic growth "for our collective unique communities."

The administrative and operational support location of LMT, founded in 1999, is housed in the Jennings A. Jones College of Business.

\$10K scholarship will help achieve goals: honoree

by Randy Weiler

Warren County High School senior Crystal Clayton says the “key to my success is using my bad experiences as stepping stones for the future. ... Nothing will stop my pursuit of happiness, which is making a positive change in the hearts of children.”

Clayton’s “stepping stones” and “pursuit of happiness” got a lift April 10 when the McMinnville resident received the \$10,000 Ray Danner Scholarship during the ninth annual Neill-Sandler Strive for Excellence Banquet at MTSU’s Tennessee Miller Coliseum Miller Room.

Clayton said her goal is to become a clinical licensed counselor with an emphasis on children. She demonstrates her desire to help children through volunteer efforts with programs like the Kids of the Community project, Structured Athletics for Challenged Children and Bobby Ray Elementary Star.

The young woman has been a part of many school, community and church activities and already enjoyed a taste of the university by being a two-year member of the MTSU Educational Talent Search group.

Jessica Berry of DeKalb County High School in Smithville was honored with the \$7,500 Elizabeth and Sidney A. McPhee Scholarship. Since the start of her freshman year of high school, Berry has endured her parents’ divorce, her mother’s three-year struggle with brain cancer that ended two weeks after Mother’s Day 2006, living alone, working and paying bills and rebuilding a relationship with her father.

“I am going to succeed at all of my goals, no matter what I have to do to accomplish them,” she wrote in her application essay. “I love and miss my

mom terribly, but I know she wants me to succeed, also.”

Recipients of one-time \$5,000 Neill-Sandler Scholars at MTSU grants included Kyle Chompooming of Franklin County High School; India Clark of Lebanon High; Chris Ehemann of Tullahoma High; Lauren Grooms of Smyrna High; Chad Howse of Cannon County High; Melissa McClenney of Shelbyville Central High; Brittany Nelson of Independence High; and Tosha Stoutenburg of Coffee County Central High.

Each of the students’ compelling stories were shared in comments by Murfreesboro businessman Mike Sandler of the Neill-Sandler Foundation and in a video presentation by John Lynch and graduate student Seth Alder from the Office of

News and Public Affairs.

Scholarships are provided through the Neill-Sandler Foundation and The Danner Company, a Nashville-based business led by chairman Ray Danner. When the newest group arrives on campus this fall, it will mean 95 recipients have benefited since 1999, said Kippy Todd, assistant director for annual giving and donor relations in the Office of Development.

The efforts of Sandler, Danner, businessman Gary Neill of Knoxville and others have helped maintain the scholarship program. Neill, Sandler and Randy Morton of the Neill-Sandler Foundation initiated the program in 1999. An annual Danner Invitational Golf Tournament, held in early October at Hermitage Golf Course in Nashville, helps fund the scholarships. Call 615-604-7171 for tournament inquiries.

For more information about the program, visit www.mtsu.edu/~devofc/neill-sandler.htm.



Clayton



Berry

Scholars Week



DEMONSTRATING EXCELLENCE—Zhijie Qi, left, a grad student in economics, explains his project, “Value of Higher Education in Tennessee,” to sophomores Gloria Ewulo and Ellen-Craig Russell during the Scholars Week universitywide faculty and student poster exhibit held in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. Research, scholarship and creative project winners for the 2007 Scholars Week included undergrads Erin Meaker, sociology and anthropology; Doug Hayes, geosciences; Sara McCarty, history; Terri Proctor, psychology; Maria Davidson, psychology; Larry Winslow and Joy Pollard, psychology; Travis Denton, physics; Justin Head, biology; Nate Brady, physics; Matthew Bullington, economics and finance; Jeffrey Blackman, computer information systems; Tabitha Taylor and Jessica Gault, management and marketing; Silviu Ciulei, Benjamin James Golden, Darren Foster, Tony Hartman and Taylor Leonardo, recording industry and music; and Dorisse Lee, electronic media communication; graduate students Hillary Robson, English; Jessica Lendon, sociology and anthropology; Sarah Hildenbrand, English; Sandy Stevens, health and human performance; Joseph Baker and Stephen Schmidt, psychology; Tiago Barreira, Jeremy Bettle and Matthew Renfro, HHP; Thomas Wilson, chemistry; Stanton Belford, biology; Chad Lloyd, engineering technology and industrial studies; Pamela Morris, economics and finance; Alan Seals, economics and finance; Zhijie Qi, economics and finance; and Terry Tilton, Matt Vance, Max Wolke and David Joye, computer information systems.

photo by J. Intintoli

SUNO from page 2

ment. SUNO remains the only New Orleans-area institution of higher learning that has not returned to its original campus.

I am happy to report that work is visibly under way at the main campus. We anticipate beginning a phased return in the fall with the completion of our gym, which will provide office and classroom space and serve as a multifunctional facility.

SUNO has always been a commuter institution, and post-Katrina, our students cannot find affordable housing in the New Orleans area. The Southern University System Board of Supervisors recently approved SUNO’s proposal to construct student housing for the first time in the university’s history. This will enable displaced students to return to New Orleans, giving us a great opportunity to begin approaching our pre-Katrina enrollment by fall 2008, when the building is scheduled to be completed. We are awaiting final approval from the Louisiana Board of Regents.

The Louisiana Board of Regents

and the Southern University System Board of Supervisors have approved SUNO’s proposal to construct a brand new Technology Center. The Technology Center will house our Information Technology Center and both the e-learning and audio/visual departments. A significant lack of space, as well as the fact that our mainframe is housed at another New Orleans institution (as a result of Katrina), dictates the necessity of constructing this facility.

In spite of our many challenges, we believe that our institution will surpass its former prominence. As we reach for this goal, we are glad to count MTSU as an ardent supporter.

Dr. Victor Ukpole is chancellor of Southern University of New Orleans. For more information on the MTSU-SUNO partnership, visit the Record archives online at www.mtsunews.com and read the Feb. 12, 2007, edition of The Record.

WMOT now broadcasting in HD

WMOT Jazz 89 is now broadcasting in HD radio! MTSU’s all-jazz National Public Radio member station has joined other leading stations throughout middle Tennessee and across the country by broadcasting its signal both in “regular” analog format and digital.

For those who listen to WMOT and own an HD radio receiver, the station now can be heard in digital mode without normal radio interference, providing clear, crisp, clean digital-quality sound.

“HDRadio is the marketing name for the iBoc (In Band On Channel) system of combining existing FM transmitters with another (digital) transmitter on the same antenna and frequency,” said WMOT Chief Engineer Gary Brown.

2007 also marks the 25th year that WMOT has broadcast an all-jazz format—an unusual feat in the cradle of country music.

WMOT’s spring on-air fundraiser will run through Thursday, May 3. Listeners can support Jazz 89 financially anytime by pledging at 615-898-2800 or online at www.wmot.org.

Payroll deduction is available for MTSU faculty, staff and administration.

The station’s need for private funding is more critical than ever, station personnel said, due to a 50 percent reduction in federal funding for fiscal year 2006-2007 and probable additional cuts in 2007-2008.



Campus Calendar

April 23-May 6

TV Schedule

“Middle Tennessee Record”
Cable Channel 9
Monday-Sunday—5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+
Saturdays—1 p.m.
Visit www.mtsu.edu/~proffice/MTR.html
for airtimes on 12 other cable outlets.

April 23

Monday, April 23
Retirement Roast for Dr. Kiyoshi Kawahito
5 p.m., Tom Jackson Building
For information, contact:
615-898-5179.

“Black. White.”
Keynote speakers: Bruno Marcotulli
and Brian Sparks
7 p.m., Tucker Theatre
No admission charge
For information, contact:
615-898-2870.

April 24

Tuesday, April 24
“My Name is Wallace” screening, Nashville Film Festival
9 p.m., Regal Green Hills 16 Theater
Admission: \$9 adult, \$7 student
For information, visit
www.nashvillefilmfestival.org.

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

April 25

Wednesday, April 25
Last day of Spring 2007 classes

Administrative Professionals Day Reception
9-10:30 a.m., JUB Tennessee Room
For information, contact:
615-898-5344.

American Red Cross Blood Drive
sponsored by the Student
Government Association
10 a.m.-4 p.m., KUC 322
For information, contact:
615-898-2464.

Lunch at Outback Steakhouse
proceeds benefit the Rutherford
County Alumni Chapter Scholarship
11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. seating times
Cost: \$10 per person
For information and reservations,
visit www.mtalumni.com
or contact: 615-898-2922.

MT Baseball vs. Belmont
6 p.m., Reese Smith Field
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

April 26

April 26-27
School of Agribusiness & Agriscience Annual Plant Sale—Final Two Days
8 a.m.-5 p.m., Horticulture Center
For information, contact:
615-898-2430.

Thursday, April 26
Study Day
No classes; university offices open

“Planning for the Future” Seminar from Human Resource Services
8-11 a.m., KUC Theater
For more information, contact:
615-898-2929.

Ebony Achievement Awards
6:30 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room
For ticket information, contact:
615-898-2987.

April 27

April 27-May 3
Final Examinations

April 27-28
20th Annual Charlie Daniels’ Twin Pines Ranch Rodeo
7 p.m., Tennessee Livestock Center
Admission: \$12 at the door,
\$5 for children ages 5-11
For information, contact:
615-641-0121.

April 28

April 28-29
MT Softball vs. Florida Atlantic
April 28, 1 and 3 p.m.; April 29, noon
Blue Raider Softball Field
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

How do you read

the RECORD?

Do you prefer the print edition
of the MTSU community publication,
or
is the Web version more your style?

Share your opinion!
E-mail gfann@mtsu.edu,
visit www.mtsunews.com
or drop us a note in Cope 209
by Friday, May 11.

Thursday, April 26
Accounting Alumni Appreciation Day
proceeds benefit accounting scholarships
8 a.m.-4:45 p.m., BAS State Farm
Lecture Hall
Cost: \$75 MTSU alumni, \$100 others
For information, visit
www.mtsu.edu/~actgdept.

ETIS Open House
3:30-5:30 p.m., Tom H. Jackson
Building
For information, contact:
615-898-2776.

“My Name is Wallace” screening, Nashville Film Festival
6:30 p.m., Regal Green Hills 16 Theater
Admission: \$9 adult, \$7 student
For information, visit
www.nashvillefilmfestival.org.

Free Legal Clinic
Open to all students, faculty and staff
7-9 p.m., JUB 206 (JAWC)
Appointments required
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

Saturday, April 28
CAIRS Yard Sale
8 a.m.-noon, St. Rose of Lima gym,
1601 N. Tennessee Blvd.
(Sale item donations also accepted
onsite 3-8 p.m. Friday, April 27)
For information, contact:
615-427-9411.

Middle Tennessee Psychological Association Spring Meeting
Speaker: Dr. Michael Gazzaniga
8 a.m.-1 p.m., Business & Aerospace
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~wlangsto/MTPAHome.html.

April 29

Sunday, April 29
“MTSU On the Record—Islam and the West”
Guest: Dr. John Esposito
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at www.mtsunews.com
or free subscription at iTunes.

May 1

Tuesday, May 1
JAWC Career/Professional Development Brown Bag:
Dr. Judith Iriarte-Gross, “You Are
What You Eat, Are You?”
Noon-1 p.m., BAS SunTrust Room
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

May 4

May 4-6
MT Baseball vs. Florida Atlantic
May 4, 6 p.m.; May 5, 4 p.m.;
May 6, 1 p.m.; Reese Smith Field
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

May 4-5
11th Annual Main Street JazzFest
Murfreesboro Public Square
For information, see story, page 2,
or visit www.mainstreetjazzfest.com.

Friday, May 4
Spring 2007 AROTC Commissioning Ceremony
11 a.m, KUC Theater
For information, contact:
615-898-2470.

Spring 2007 Nursing Pinning Ceremony
3 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room
For information, contact:
615-898-5621.

May 2007 Commencement Reception
honoring the May graduating class
4-6 p.m., Alumni House
For information, see story, page 5,
or contact: 1-800-533-6878.

First Friday Star Party
Dr. Chuck Higgins, “Sounds of
Space”
6:30-8:30 p.m., WPS Room 102
For information, contact:
615-898-5946.

May 5

Saturday, May 5
Spring 2007 Commencement
10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit
www.mtsu.edu/~records/grad.htm
or contact: 615-898-2919.

May 6

Sunday, May 6
“MTSU On the Record—Hoop Dreams”
Guest: David Hudson
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at www.mtsunews.com
or free subscription at iTunes.

Get it in The Record!

Calendar Items Welcomed
Submit your campus event calendar
items (at least three weeks in advance
of the event) to gfann@mtsu.edu
or via fax to 615-898-5714.


and a member of Elizabeth Chapel United Methodist Church, where he teaches Sunday school.

George S. Clinton, who began his career as a songwriter, arranger and session musician in Nashville while attending MTSU, will be the featured speaker for the 2 p.m. ceremony.


A native of Chattanooga, Clinton, upon his college graduation, traveled to Los Angeles in pursuit of a career in popular music. He became a staff writer for Warner Bros. Music with songs recorded by artists such as Michael Jackson, Joe Cocker and Smokey Robinson, among many. Although he continued to work as a music arranger and session player, Clinton secured his own recording deal and released four albums.

A critically acclaimed artist,

Clinton’s many awards include a 2002 Grammy nomination and six BMI Film Music Awards. In addition to writing several concert works and three musicals, his inventiveness and versatility have enabled him to contribute memorable scores to diverse film such as the hit comedy “Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery” and its blockbuster sequels, as well as “Mortal Kombat” and its sequel, John Waters’ “A Dirty Shame,” Kevin Costner’s “3,000 Miles to Graceland,” “The Astronaut’s Wife,” and, more recently, “Big Momma’s House 2” and “Deck the Halls.”



Clinton



Ramsey

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 a day 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, through Thomas, the graduation committee also

emphasized that students who participate in commencement will be required to stay for the entire ceremony, which should last about two hours. Candidates who are planning celebration activities should be aware of this commitment, he said,

On graduation day, the doors to Murphy Center will open at 9 a.m. for the morning ceremony and candidates are expected to be in their assigned areas, dressed in their caps and gowns, no later than 9:30 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.

The ceremonies once again will be webcast via streaming video. For more information about the webcasts, watch *www.mtsunews.com* as commencement day nears.

Students, families, university invited to May 4 reception

by Molly Cochran

When the families of graduating seniors arrive in town for commencement the first weekend in May, they’re also invited to a new commencement reception.

The MTSU National Alumni Association will host its first commencement reception Friday, May 4, from 4 to 6 p.m., honoring the May 2007 graduating class.

Graduating seniors and their families are invited to the MTSU Alumni House to be welcomed as new members of the alumni association. Students also will have the opportunity to introduce their families to their favorite professors, advisers and staff members before the May 5 commencement ceremonies.

“This is a way for the university community to come together and congratulate these students on their accomplishments,” said Ginger Freeman (B.B.A. ’89, M.Ed. ’92), director of alumni relations. “It also gives us the opportunity to show the graduates that they will always be a part of MTSU and have a home at the Alumni House.”

The new MTSU Alumni House at 2259 Middle Tennessee Blvd. has been open for just over a year, so the reception will give prospective graduates and their families the opportunity to tour the house and take pictures on the grounds.

“For many students, this is their first interaction with the alumni association, and we want them to become familiar with us so that they will feel welcome to participate in future alumni activities,” said Marla Frisby (B.S. ’95), chair of the young alumni committee.

All university faculty and staff members are invited and encouraged to attend this initial celebration.

“We hope everyone will join us as we congratulate these students and wish them well. We know students have a bond with the faculty and staff members that they work with on campus, and they want to share these connections with their families,” said Freeman.

No RSVP is required to attend the commencement reception, which also will include refreshments.

For more information, please call 615-898-2922.

Molly Cochran is assistant director of alumni relations.

Todd

from page 1

his love for MTSU and his tremendous enthusiasm for anything that bled Raider Blue. He touched and changed all of us in many ways, and because of that, he is always among us.”

In a Feb. 23, 2004, column for *The Record*, Dr. Todd wrote about his quest to fill Murphy Center with “Operation: Full House.” He invited all MTSU students, faculty, staff and friends to pack the house “at least one more time ... to see Murphy Center filled with fans like it was back during the 1970s.”

“I sincerely believe that whatever is good for MTSU athletics is good for the university as a whole,” he wrote.

He got his wish Feb. 26, 2004, when the Blue Raiders defeated rival Western Kentucky before a record 11,807 people, beating the previous attendance record of 11,600 in 1974. The Blue Raiders won 73-59.

“Operation: Full House II,” presented by First Tennessee to honor Dr. Todd, took place at MTSU’s Sept. 18, 2004, home football opener. The Blue Raiders lost to conference foe Florida Atlantic, but the biggest cheers rose when Todd was presented with a framed MTSU football jersey during halftime.

Dr. Todd’s ancestors came to southeastern Rutherford County in 1807 and many descendants still live in Middle Tennessee. His most famous ancestor was grandfather Andrew Lee Todd Sr., a founder of MTSU and former speaker of both the Tennessee Senate and House of Representatives. Todd Hall, formerly Todd Library, on the MTSU campus is named for the senior Todd.

Dr. Todd was preceded in death by his mother, Martha Fox Todd, and his father, Andrew Lee “Jack” Todd Jr., who served 2 1/2 terms as mayor of Murfreesboro. Dr. Todd is survived by his brother, Andrew Lee “Jack” Todd III of Murfreesboro.

He also leaves behind his beloved wife, Clara, who taught math at Central and Riverdale high schools and served as coordinator of health science advising at MTSU. Dr. and Mrs. Todd have two sons, Roger Wilson Todd and Christopher Lee Todd (wife, Cheri). Both sons live in Murfreesboro, where Roger works for IBM and Chris is employed by State Farm. Roger has two children, Ben and Alison. Chris has three children—Alan, Andrew and Anna Marie. All five grandchildren were the apples of Dr. Todd’s eye.

Dr. Todd attended Central High School, playing on the basketball and golf teams. He also played golf at Stones River Country Club, and his name is inscribed nine times on championship plaques.

Dr. Todd was a member of the Blue Raider Athletic Association and received the Loyalty Award in 2004. He was also a member of the Friends of Linebaugh Library, the Rutherford County Historical Society, the MTSU Foundation and First Baptist Church. He and his family have asked that

memorials be made to the MTSU Foundation, earmarked for the Aaron and Clara Todd Pre-Dental Scholarship Fund.

“I ... occasionally had students question why they had to study something they felt was irrelevant, like Shakespeare,” Dr. Todd wrote in *The Record*.

“I would tell them in the bigger picture of life, one can never be completely sure what was important. Just dive in, give it your best effort, and somewhere down the road, it might make sense.”



“JUST DIVE IN”—Dr. Aaron Todd poses for one of the Walker Library’s READ posters created by the Publications and Graphics and Photographic Services departments. There’s more information on the READ poster project available at <http://ulibnet.mtsu.edu/misc/posters.html>.

Kawahito concluding MTSU career with pride

by Gina K. Logue

MTSU’s busiest one-man cultural and educational exchange society will have a somewhat smaller “to do” list as of June 2. Dr. Kiyoshi Kawahito, professor of economics and finance and director of the Japan-U.S. Program, will be feted at a retirement roast at 5 p.m. Monday, April 23, in the Tom Jackson Building.

The future of the Japan-U.S. Program, which has led to greater understanding among people in a region where Bridgestone/Firestone, Nissan and Toshiba are major economic players, remains uncertain.

Kawahito is personally responsible for bringing Music from Japan, an exclusive annual tour of the finest practitioners of traditional Japanese music, to MTSU year after year. He also hosted an annual Japanese New Year’s potluck feast, complete with traditional music, special food and drinks, and guests clad in kimonos.

Not the least of Kawahito’s many contributions to the campus community is the establishment of

partnerships with Ateno de Manila University in the Philippines; Fukushima University, Saitama University, Nagoya Yakuin University and Kansai Gaidai University in Japan; Yonsei University in South Korea; and Bangkok University in Thailand.

‘This is not the best in the nation. I believe this is the best in the world.’

Dr. Kiyoshi Kawahito, on MTSU’s Japan field study program

The use of Kawahito’s extensive network of personal contacts has not only made study-abroad trips to Asia thrilling and enlightening experiences for students, but it has made those trips less expensive than if they had been arranged through a consortium. The itineraries were arranged by Kawahito himself, benefiting more than 130 students, and he admits it is the accomplishment of which he is most proud.



“This is not the best in Middle Tennessee,” Kawahito says. “This is not the best in Tennessee. This is not the best in the nation. I believe this is the best in the world. If anyone can show me any better 15-day field study program in Japan, I’ll come over there and study that.”

Now it is time for Kawahito to travel for his own pleasure and relaxation.

“I would like to travel to a few different parts of the world, but at my own pace, not at a very busy and fast-moving pace,” Kawahito says of his upcoming retirement years. He also would like to write a history of MTSU’s interaction with the Japanese community over the last 25 years and perhaps organize groups of MTSU alumni in Japan and Thailand.

In 2004, Kawahito was presented the “Gaimu Daijin Sho,” or the Foreign Minister’s Commendation in Commemoration of 150th Anniversary of U.S.-Japan Friendship, by Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Kawahito earned his bachelor’s degree from Oklahoma City University and his master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Maryland.

Homeland Security grant will provide thermal imager for campus safety use

from Staff Reports

MTSU will put a \$10,553 U.S. Department of Homeland Security grant to good use with equipment that helps locate people by their body heat in low-visibility areas, officials said.

The university’s Department of Public Safety and Security was one of four Rutherford County agencies receiving a total of \$51,750 in homeland security grants announced March 30 by U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon.

MTSU, the Rutherford County Sheriff’s Department and Rutherford County Emergency Medical Services each plan to purchase a thermal imager, a device that allows the user to see people through their body heat when traditional visibility is obscured or low.

“We can use the thermal imager if we start to have problems with car break-ins or personal assaults,” MTSU Public Safety Sgt. Jason Morton said. “The imager can allow us to do surveillance in some of the bigger areas of campus and wooded areas around campus.

“We have to secure the football stadium before all home games, and when vacant, a heat signature will stand out,” Morton added.

The fourth agency, Smyrna Airport Police and Fire, will purchase aircraft rescue and firefighting equipment with its grant funds.

“The Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program provides smaller communities and rural areas with technology, equipment and training to enhance their first-responder capabilities,” Gordon said. “These grants will enhance the capabilities of law enforcement agencies and first responders in Rutherford County.”

Teachers Hall of Fame adds 7 educators

by Lisa L. Rollins

The Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame, with help from returning master of ceremonies Rep. John Hood, will induct seven new members during its annual induction ceremony and banquet beginning at 5:30 p.m. Friday, May 4, in the Presidential Ballroom of the Opryland Hotel in Nashville.

The black-tie affair will mark the 13th year that the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame has honored those educators who have exemplified excellence in teaching in Tennessee.

To date, more than 60 educators have been inducted into the hall of fame, which is co-sponsored each year by Middle Tennessee State University and overseen by a board of governors, whose members represent all major educational organizations within the state.

“Although MTSU is the sponsor of the activities associated with the Tennessee Teachers Hall of Fame, the effort truly is a statewide endeavor,” said Dr. Gloria Bonner, dean of MTSU’s College of Education and Behavioral Science and coordinator of the ceremony.

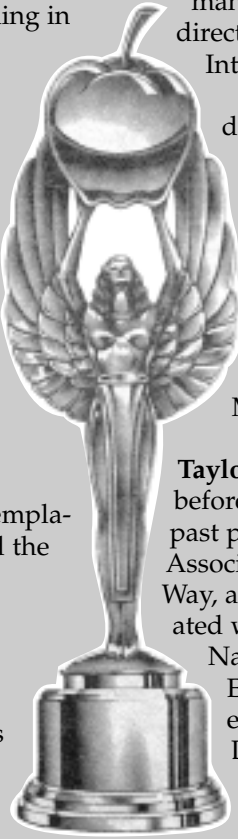
“The hall of fame is a wonderful way for Tennesseans to honor those who have made exemplary contributions to the education profession and the lives of young people,” she added.

This year’s inductees are:

- Murfreesboro resident **Nancy Y. Duggin**, who served 24 of her 31 years as a professional educator in the classroom and seven in professional assignment. An MTSU alumna four times over, Duggin received her bachelor’s degree in elementary education, an M.Ed. in early childhood and two education specialist degrees—one in curriculum and instruction and one in administration and supervision. Now retired after most recently serving as an education consultant, Duggin taught for Murfreesboro City Schools for many years.

- Memphis resident **Mary Gatewood**, who spent all 44 years of her professional career in the classroom before retiring from Double Tree Montessori School in the Memphis City Schools district in May 2006. Gatewood began her teaching career at age 20 in Catholic schools, where she taught third-, fourth- and fifth-graders. Next she taught kindergarten for Andrews Methodist School, which is no longer in existence, before joining the Memphis school system in 1977 for the next 29 years.

- **Jackie Gilbert Dingus** of Blountville, who devoted 33 years to middle-school education before retiring from Colonial Heights Middle School in the Sullivan County system. Serving as both an English educator and coach,



Dingus—in her letters of nomination for the hall of fame—is cited for her commitment to both academic and athletic excellence and for providing exceptional teaching and guidance.

- Memphis resident **Blanche Deaderick**, a 39-year teaching veteran who retired from Germantown High School in the Shelby County Schools district, and devoted all her classroom years to teaching subjects such as government, economics, history and AP classes. Deaderick founded her school’s model on mediation, among many contributions, and continues to serve as the director of the Tennessee Governor’s School for International Studies.

- **Evelyn Ada Haley Casey** of McMinnville devoted all of her 45 years in education to students in the classroom before retiring in 1987 from West Elementary and the Warren County school system. Casey earned her bachelor’s degree in education from MTSU and credits toward a master’s degree from Tennessee Technological University. Before teaching in Warren County’s William Biles, Old City Grammar and West Elementary schools, she first taught in Ripley, Miss., beginning in 1942.

- Mount Pleasant resident **Hixsie Southall Taylor** served students in her classrooms for 39 years before her retirement from Maury County Schools. A past president of the Maury County Retired Teachers Association and a volunteer for her county’s United Way, as well as a caregiver for the elderly, Taylor graduated with honors from Tennessee A&I University in Nashville, where she was in the Elementary Education Club as well as numerous honor societies and the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority’s Alpha Delta Omega chapter. She is a lifetime member of the National Education Association and the Tennessee Education Association.

- **Dianne Cozart** of Lebanon, a 30-year veteran of the classroom until her 2002 retirement from Wilson County’s Southside Elementary School, is a 1971 graduate of MTSU with a B.S. in elementary education. During the course of her teaching career, she taught physical education at Middle Tennessee Christian School in Murfreesboro while working toward her undergraduate degree and was soon hired to coach the first girls’ basketball team at MTCS. She went on to teach second, third and fifth grades at Southside, as well as coach four basketball teams for two age levels for the Southside YMCA. She taught junior-high-level English and reading as well as math and science, including coaching Science Olympiads for several years. She also became the school’s first computer teacher and attended Tennessee Space Week Teachers’ Workshops.

Advance tickets to the banquet and induction ceremony are \$40 each and available by calling 615-898-2874.

Math scholar to present research to Congress

by Tom Tozer

Dr. Xiaoya Zha, professor of mathematics at MTSU, says senior Brent Stephens is the best student he’s ever had in his 10 years at the university.

That goes a long way in explaining why Stephens is one of just 60 undergraduate students in the nation whose research abstract will be presented Wednesday, April 25, to members of Congress at the annual Posters-on-the-Hill in Washington, D.C.

Funded by the university’s Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Projects Committee, Stephens’ research was to enumerate embeddings of odd graphs on orientable surfaces.

“We are counting the different ways to draw graphs with a particular structure,” Stephens explained. By the end of last summer, he said, he solved the problem and began work on a paper that he will submit for publication.

“His result is strong and difficult and deserves to be published in a good math journal,” Zha, Stephens’ faculty mentor, said.

“I am very excited about this opportunity,” Stephens added. “It is an honor to be chosen. The purpose of Posters-on-the-Hill is to present to senators and representative of the results of our research. They are the ones making the decisions to fund or not fund the research programs, so we need to let them know that we are accomplishing something.”

Stephens, who also worked with Zha under the latter’s National Security Agency research grant, has been nominated for the Thomas Forrest Abstract Algebra Award and the Harold S. Spraker Senior Mathematics Awards. In addition to receiving the URSCP Research Scholar grant this spring, Stephens received the STEPMT Research Assistant grant in the spring of 2006 and the STEPMT Research Award later that fall.

The STEPMT program—or STEPping Up Undergraduate Research at MTSU—is a \$1.6 million grant project supported by the National Science Foundation.

“The more exposure an undergraduate has to actual research, the more likely he or she will become a successful researcher at the professional level,” Stephens noted.

Stephens has been accepted into Indiana University’s Ph.D. program and will begin a teaching assistantship there this fall.

“These programs are very important to the future of our country, even humanity as a whole,” Stephens said. “So I get the opportunity to ... encourage [Congress] to continue funding and maybe increase it. In that sense, it is important not just for me but for the progress of science in this country.”

In addition to presenting his research in the nation’s capital, the young scholar will schedule appointments with various representatives, visit museums and take a tour of the monuments.

Film festivals rapidly learning ‘Wallace’s’ name

by Gina K. Logue

My Name is Wallace,” an independent movie filmed in Murfreesboro and winner of numerous awards at film festivals worldwide, will be screened at 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, and at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 26, at the Nashville Film Festival.

“Wallace” tells the story of an odd, lonely, socially challenged man who looks for love through a phone-sex advertisement after his mother’s death.

The film was written and directed by Dr. Bob Pondillo, an associate professor of electronic media communication. Many members of the crew are MTSU students or alumni. They include director of photography Matthew Pessoni, cinematographer Scott Pessoni, sound designers Mark Duvall and Dave Wagner and editor Jessica Berryman.

“Wallace” has been entered in more than 270 film festivals and has been accepted by 38 of them.

“It’s most encouraging,” Pondillo says of the positive reception for his work. “I’m delighted people find it interesting and entertaining. I think the reason is there’s a little bit of Wallace in all of us.”

David Lawrence, a Los Angeles-based actor and host of “The David Lawrence Show” on XM Satellite

Radio, is the executive producer and stars as Wallace. Nashville singer-songwriter Leslie Ellis portrays Tiffany, the phone-sex operator. Pondillo has a small role as Wallace’s neighbor, Larry.

Pondillo’s initial independent film, “Would You Cry If I Died?,” captured third place in the Best Short category at the Southern Fried Flicks Film Festival in Augusta, Ga., and second place in the Narrative Faculty Video category at the 2006 Broadcast Educators Association Festival of Media Arts.

To order tickets for the showing of “My Name is Wallace,” go to www.nashvillefilmfestival.org. The festival will take place April 19-26 at the Regal Green Hills Stadium 16 Theater, 3815 Green Hills Village Drive in Nashville.

For more information about the film and to view the trailer, go to www.mynameiswallace.com.

Honors so far for “My Name is Wallace”

- ★ Best Short Comedy, San Fernando Valley International Film Festival, North Hollywood, Calif.
- ★ Best International Short Film, Okanagan Film Festival, British Columbia, Canada.
- ★ Best Short Film, Spokane Film Festival, Spokane, Wash.



UP IN LIGHTS—The Beverly Fine Arts Theater in Beverly Hills, Calif., features “My Name is Wallace” on its marquee at the film’s world premiere last December.

photo submitted

- ★ Best Short, Muskegon Film Festival, Muskegon, Mich.
- ★ Silver Medal of Excellence for Use of Music in a Short Film, Park City Film Music Festival, Park City, Utah.
- ★ Best Short Comedy of the Year, Gem City Film Festival, Palatka, Fla.
- ★ Best Actor, Best Screenplay, Best Short Comedy and Best of Fest, Trail Dance Film Festival, Duncan,

- Okla.
- ★ Best Short, Short Films of India Film Festival.
- ★ Honorable Mention, Beverly Hills Hi-Def Film Festival, Beverly Hills, Calif.
- ★ Special Selection and Finalist, Very Short Movies Film Festival, Hollywood, Calif.

Transfer honor society inducts 100 new members

from Staff Reports

MTSU’s chapter of Tau Sigma, the national transfer student honor society, inducted 100 new members April 10 in ceremonies at the State Farm Lecture Hall in the Business and Aerospace Building.

Undergraduate students from colleges and universities all over the country who have transferred to MTSU with at least 24 hours and maintained a 3.5 GPA in their first semester here are invited to join.

MTSU’s chapter also inducts members transferring from and enrolled in programs at various satellite campuses. This year, 50 students from other Tennessee Board of Regents community colleges were inducted into the honor society.

Due to the large number of new inductees enrolled in the MTSU 2+2 Program at Columbia

State Community College, an induction ceremony also was conducted April 12 at Columbia State. These students are enrolled in the Interdisciplinary Studies program, which allows students to earn a bachelor’s degree in education toward K-6 certification by completing an associate’s degree at Columbia State and a prescribed series of upper-division MTSU courses offered on the Columbia State campus.

“Our chapter of Tau Sigma is devoted to making the transition to MTSU easier for transfers,” said Stephanie Compton, secretary of the chapter for the 2006-2007 school year. “We are a liaison between the university administration and this growing segment of the student population.”

New officers include Rebekah Cook of Castalian Springs, president; Rochelle Roberts of Tullahoma, vice-president; Crystal Barton of Cordova, secretary; Stacy Lawrence of Nashville,

treasurer; and Caroline Odom of Summerville, S.C., webmaster.

Honorary MTSU inductees at the April 10 ceremony included Dr. Sherian Huddleston, associate vice provost for enrollment services; Dr. Connie Jones, elementary and special education chair; Dr. Henry Means, elementary and special education and adviser for the 2+2 Program; Chris Haseleu, recording industry chairman; Joe Bales, vice president for development and university relations; Dr. John Lee, economics and finance chairman; Marilyn Wood, recording industry; Dr. Bob Wood, recording industry; Dr. James Huffman, educational leadership chairman; Terri Johnson, director of the June Anderson Women’s Center; and Dr. David Foote, associate professor of management and marketing and director of the Leadership Institute.

For more information about Tau Sigma, contact Dr. Virginia Donnell at 615-898-5728.

Beloved ‘Dr. Bob’ shares tales with class

by Cristol Camacho

He has been called a “walking history book” by some and a “master storyteller” by others, and rightly so. Dr. Bob Womack, professor of educational leadership at MTSU, captured the imagination of listeners in Dr. Barbara Haskew’s Principles of Macroeconomics class recently as he shared his life experiences and explained changes in consumer behavior throughout the years.

Womack, now 83, has spent most of his life in middle Tennessee. He was born in Flat Creek, a small town between Shelbyville and Lynchburg, where much of the community was based on education, religion and farming. However, you won’t hear the same old “I-walked-five-miles-to-school” stories from him.

As he recalls it, his mother used to can peaches and apples from their orchard to make “moon pies,” which the children traded in school.

“You could swap a ‘moon pie’ for just about anything,” Womack said. “There was no such thing as a hot lunch (or) indoor plumbing, and you didn’t go to the hospital unless you were ready to die!”

On Saturdays, he recalled, they made trips to Shelbyville so they could stay all day and watch people walk around. He and his sister once took a quarter to town and the big decision was what type of hamburger to buy.

“One was a nickel and the other was a dime, but my sister and I

couldn’t figure out if you got more with a dime hamburger or two nickel hamburgers.”

Womack discussed not only the economics of the time but also the impact of religion and culture in his community. There were four churches nearby—Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Church of Christ.

“On Sunday mornings, they couldn’t speak to each other much, because each thought the other was going to hell,” he said.

However, his mother, whom he described as “a foot-washing Baptist,” always found other denominations’ beliefs interesting and liked to have each of the preachers to Sunday lunch so that she could understand and argue about these differing beliefs.

Education also became very important to him early in life. His older sister, a high school history teacher, had always read poems and stories, which instilled within him a “love and appreciation of literature.”

“I didn’t become a physician like my brother because I never did like the smell of formaldehyde,” said Womack with a laugh.

Womack got his first job teaching English in Shelbyville after graduating from MTSU in 1948. He has since spent 49 years at MTSU as a professor, author and mentor.

One unforgettable event in his life occurred when he worked as a mentor for Upward Bound. Womack recalled J.W Harper coming out for football and being harassed by the rest of the team because of his race. Womack saw the young man’s poten-



‘YOU ARE LIVING IN A BETTER TIME’—Dr. Bob Womack regales Dr. Barbara Haskew’s macroeconomics class with life stories showing changes in consumer behavior.

photo by J. Intintoli

tial and encouraged him to stay, and Harper promised Womack that “if he got a pair of shoes, he wouldn’t quit the team.”

Harper made All-Conference the first year he played. He subsequently lettered in football and basketball at MTSU and went on to play pro football before becoming the defensive line coach at Texas Southern University.

“You can’t select the situation you are in, but you can choose your attitude,” Womack concluded. “You all are living in a better time, and I just

hope that I had something to do with that.”

Andy Womack, the professor’s son and fellow MTSU alumnus who served in the Tennessee Senate, discussed funding for education in Tennessee with the same class during the Executives in Residence day on campus April 6.

“I believe my students learned a lot about important macroeconomic changes and issues from the presentations of Womacks from two different generations,” said Haskew.

the RECORD

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Faculty/Staff Update

Awards

Dr. Robert B. Blair (business communication and entrepreneurship) received the 2007 National Business Education Association Collegiate Teacher of the Year Award in New York City April 6. Blair is the first Tennessee recipient of this award since its inception in 1978.

MTSU dancers were recognized for excellence in performance and choreography at the American College Dance Festival Association Regional Conference at the University of Mississippi March 14-17. “Stone in the Pocket: A Meditation on Virginia Woolf,” choreographed by Associate Professor **Kim Neal Nofsinger**, was selected from a field of 38 dances for the Gala Concert. The seven dancers in this piece were **Jessica Cavender, Tessie Quinn O’Connor, Mary Catherine Musick, Kathryn Turney, Hilary Walker, Tiffany Philpot and Steven Tate**. MTSU was only one of two minor programs selected for this distinction, surpassing several BFA and MFA programs. Fifteen students and four faculty members participated in the festival for MTSU.

Conferences

Dr. Mark Anshel (health and human performance) coordinated a

symposium, “Intervention Effectiveness in Promoting Exercise,” at the Society of Behavioral Medicine Conference in Washington, D.C., March 22-24. His presentation in this symposium was “Effective Strategies for Community Health and Wellness Programs.”

Grants

Drs. John Omachonu and Thomas Berg (electronic media communications) received a 2007 National Association of Broadcasters Research Grant to conduct a study of minority ownership of broadcast facilities in the United States. Their findings will be released in early 2008.

Presentations

William Black, Mary Ellen Pozzebon and Mayo Taylor (Walker Library) presented “Strategies for Redesigning the Website to Reflect Library Transformation” at the Association of College and Research Libraries conference March 29–April 1 in Baltimore.

Dr. Gary Wulfsberg (chemistry) gave a poster presentation, “Will Large Lecture Halls ‘Click’ in a New Science Building?”, at the 233rd National Meeting of the American

Chemical Society in Chicago March 25 in the Division of Chemical Education poster session. He repeated his presentation the following day in the “Sci-Mix” poster session, which included the best posters from all poster sessions. **Wulfsberg** presented another poster, “³⁵Cl Nuclear Quadrupole Resonance (NQR) Studies of Chlorinated Weakly Coordinating Anions,” March 27 at the same ACS meeting in the Division of Inorganic Chemistry poster session.

Publications

Dr. Mark Anshel (health and human performance) has published “Conceptualizing Applied Exercise Psychology” in the *Journal of the American Board of Sport Psychology* (Vol. 1, 2007).

Dr. Don Hong (mathematics) has published a paper, “Piecewise Linear Prewavelets over Type-2 Triangulations,” in the *Journal of Applicable Analysis*, Vol. 86 (2007), pages 83-98. His co-author is **Jiansheng Cao** of East Tennessee State University.

See yourself in The Record!

E-mail your accomplishments to gfann@mtsu.edu with “Faculty/Staff Update” in the subject line.