

the RECORD

University launches new safety-alert system

from Staff Reports

MTSU students, faculty and staff now will be able to receive safety-alert text messages on their cell phones when they register and become part of MTSU's Emergency Text-Messaging Service.

The university recently contracted with RAVE Wireless to administer the service, which is now operational.

"In our efforts to keep our campus as safe as possible, especially in today's uncertain world, we must be able to notify students, faculty and staff in a timely and responsible manner," President Sidney A. McPhee said. "To become part of this vital communications network, however, a person must opt in to the program."

Campus safety alerts may include a security breach, fire or class cancellation due to impending severe weather, among other situations.

MTSU officials are assuring those who register for the service that their personal information will not be shared. An e-mail/PipelineMT username

will be required for access to the service.

MTSU's Emergency Text-Messaging Service will not replace any

See 'Safety' page 5



SUNO benefit offers 'surprises'

by Lisa L. Rollins

The academic partnership between MTSU and Southern University at New Orleans will be expressed via sound Thursday, Oct. 4, during The Presidential "Prism" Gala Concert, a music-filled benefit for the Katrina-ravaged institution that promises to deliver "sonic surprises."

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. in MTSU's Tucker Theatre, an array of bands, orchestras and choral ensembles from the McLean School of Music—as well as special guests Dr. Cedric Dent of the Grammy-winning Take 6 and David Pruett, world-music percussionist—will team to present an evening of diverse musical performances to pay tribute to the historic institution whose faculty, students and staff have operated from FEMA trailers for more than a year.

"Just as a prism diffuses flashes of kaleidoscopic colors, this gala event is designed to produce a steady stream of sonic surprises from unexpected places as our band, jazz, choral, string and world-music ensembles perform a continuous array of music in a 360-degree setting" Dr. George T. Riordan, director of the McLean School, said.

"Once you experience a prism concert, you will definitely want to return," added Dr. Reed Thomas, director of bands for MTSU. "The word 'experience' is well-chosen in describing this event, (because) the audience members are an integral part of the concert. You will never know where the music is coming from next, and at some point you will be literally surrounded by music and musicians—a truly up-close and personal encounter."

The concept for the Prism con-

cert, with its uninterrupted, surround-sound presentation, originated at the famed Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., where the first such event was staged four decades ago, Thomas observed.

"Not only does the tradition continue there," he said, "but universities across the nation have picked up the idea and annually draw thousands to such spectacles, where music schools can show off the wide variety of their offerings at one event."

SUNO Chancellor Victor Ukpolo said the upcoming Presidential "Prism" Gala Concert is but one of numerous gestures by MTSU that continues to convey tremendous support for his university's rebuilding and long-term success.

"The relationship Southern University at New Orleans established with MTSU earlier this year greatly assists our institution with enhancing educational opportunities for our students," Ukpolo said. "More than two years post-Katrina, SUNO remains the only institution of higher learning in New Orleans that has not returned to its original campus, a goal that is expected to be fully accomplished by fall 2009. But despite this challenge, having this relationship with MTSU is quite special."

"When we pledged to form an academic partnership with Southern University at New Orleans in February of this year, we did so with purpose and a sustaining intent that was comprehensive in its scope," said MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee, who visited New Orleans shortly after the hurricane and toured the SUNO campus earlier this year.

"The Presidential 'Prism' Gala Concert is only one collaboration of what will be many between MTSU and

New shuttles aim to calm campus traffic woes, get students to class

by Claire Rogers

As construction and growth continues to make parking in the center of campus difficult, more students rely on the Raider Xpress to get to class on time.

Beginning this semester, riders will enjoy the benefit of brand new shuttles running on all three Raider Xpress routes.

The five new buses were purchased by the university to be more cost-effective, creating an 11-bus fleet.

"Our old shuttles are so old, we spend probably half of our budget each year on repairs," said Tracy Read, assistant manager of Parking and Transportation Services.

Each new bus cost \$102,000, and all of the old Raider Xpress shuttles are expected to be replaced in five years. Benefits of the equipment include better handling and greater capacity, officials said.

"They are designed differently on the inside," Read said. "They will hold more people—not sitting, but

See 'Shuttles' page 5

Illustration by Publications and Graphics

See 'Benefit' page 5

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IN BRIEF

CATCH UP ON SLEEP LEARNING

A Department of Psychology Colloquium featuring Dr. Raffaele Ferri of the Oasi Institute for Research on Mental Retardation and Brain Aging in Troina, Italy, is

set for Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 1 p.m. in Room N109 of the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building. Ferri will speak on "Sleep Slow-Wave Activity Microstructure and Sleep-Related Learning." The colloquium is free and open to the public. For more information, call 615-898-2706.

WMOT FUNDRAISER BEGINS

WMOT Jazz 89 is celebrating its 25th year as a full-time jazz station during its fall on-air fundraiser Oct. 3-18. Help MTSU's award-winning NPR affiliate by visiting www.wmot.org to make a pledge and learn more about the station's operations, or call 615-898-2800.

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FOR THE RECORD

First time at polls? Volunteering is a big challenge, too

by Bonnie Bailey

When I volunteered to help out WSMV-TV Channel 4 News during the Mayoral Runoff Election Sept. 11 in Nashville, I didn't know what to expect.

I have never voted before, and my first time at the polls would be as a volunteer, not as a voter.

I was one of 75 precinct volunteers and had been assigned to four voting precincts in Antioch. My job was to call in the final number of votes for each candidate to the news station as soon as they were posted after 7 p.m.

"There was a time when we received the numbers directly from the Election Commission," said Belinda Coffee, internship coordinator at WSMV. "We were not able to get the numbers to our community as quickly during this time. That's why we have chosen to have representatives sent to each precinct."

There also were 20 in-house volunteers working the phones and the computer system, said Coffee.

When I arrived at the first voting precinct at 6:30 p.m., only a crooked line of about 20 voters remained, and the election staff looked ready to close up.

I quickly visited two other precincts so I would know their locations and was searching for the fourth. That is where the adventure began.

The first three had been easy to find: a church, a high school and a library. The fourth proved to be more elusive. I couldn't find it by the directions I had, and everyone I asked had never heard of the place.

Finally, I called one of the voting precincts I had visited earlier and asked them to look it up for me. They gave me a phone number to the precinct, and I got directions directly from the staff there.

It still wasn't easy to find, but I eventually got there.

Once I arrived, I wasn't sure I was at the right place. The precinct was merely an old house with peeling white paint, old appliances stacked on the front porch and a tiny room inside, with faded wallpaper and shag carpeting, where the voting took place.

It wasn't my idea of a voting precinct, and the fact that it is on Bakers Grove Road off Bakers Grove Lane still confuses me, but who am I to judge? Remember, I've never even voted.

It was almost 7, so I quickly returned to the first voting precinct and waited for the results with everyone else.

Until then, there hadn't been much excitement, but as the last few minutes of voting approached, people were driving up and running full-out into the building to try to get their votes in before it closed.

The last one, a middle-aged man, pulled up, jumped out of his car and

See 'Volunteering' page 3

Get ready to chow down at Grand Slam Fish Fry

from MT Media Relations

Middle Tennessee head baseball coach Steve Peterson has announced that the annual Grand Slam Fish Fry fundraiser will take place Monday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m. at the Tennessee Livestock Center on the MTSU campus.

As always, the event will feature country fried whole catfish with all the trimmings, prepared by Shelbyville's "Big Hoss" Cartwright, and authentic Cajun gumbo by Blue Raider legend John Stanford, as well as hot dogs for the kids.

Russ & Becky Jeffers Country Band from the Jack Daniel's Distillery will be on hand for entertainment.

Proceeds from the Grand Slam

Fish Fry, now in its 14th year, benefit the Blue Raider baseball program. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Children six and under are admitted free. Tickets are available at the MTSU Ticket Office, Crosslin Supply in Smyrna and the Blue Raider Athletic Association office.

For more information, please call 615-898-2450.

Search to begin for new Mass Comm dean

from Staff Reports

A national search soon will be under way to find a permanent dean for the College of Mass Communication.

Dr. Anantha S. Babbili, dean of the college since August 2002, announced Sept. 6 that he will become the new provost and vice president for academic affairs at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi on Oct. 1. Associate Dean John Omachonu will serve as interim dean of the college while a replacement is being sought.

"I am leaving behind, with mixed feelings I might add, the MTSU family, a great situation of leadership of a strong College of Mass Communication under the nurturing guidance of President (Sidney A.) McPhee and Provost (Kaylene) Gebert," Babbili said. "I am leaving a very good place for a very good opportunity. Our mass comm programs are highly respected in the state and the country, and I was privileged to be the dean of a signature college."

Before coming to MTSU, Babbili, a former journalist, was a professor of journalism and media studies at Texas Christian University for two decades. A recognized expert in international media ethics, Babbili has published his research in several books and prominent journals and co-edited the journal *Crime Victims and the News Media*. He also is the editor of *Journalism & Communication Monographs* and serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Mass Media Ethics and Journalism Studies*.

"Dean Babbili has led the College of Mass Communication to an increased national reputation with new programs, enhanced curricula, and increased integration of technology," said Gebert, executive vice president and provost at MTSU. "He is highly regarded in professional circles and brought a strong focus on international and diversity issues to our campus."

"Anantha is highly respected by his fellow deans and administrators and gets high marks from his faculty for effectiveness. He established a prestigious Board of



Babbili



Omachonu

Visitors and was successful in increasing fundraising for college priorities. I will miss his energy and his enthusiasm for his college faculty and students and MTSU."

Babbili's new duties at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi will include coordinating the university's instructional, research and service programs; implementing policies and procedures that affect the Division of Academic Affairs; upholding academic and accreditation standards; and advising the president on academic matters. The deans of that university's five colleges also report directly to the provost.

Interim dean Omachonu, who joined the college in July 2004 as associate dean and professor of electronic media communication, has more than 20 years of international broadcasting experience and 15 years of college teaching.

"Under Dr. Babbili's leadership, the College of Mass Communication has become a key player in journalism and mass communication education both nationally and internationally. We have no choice but to continue to strive for excellence," Omachonu said.

Omachonu has received several postdoctoral administrative fellowships, including the Freedom Forum's Leadership Institute for Journalism & Mass Communication Administrators, the Journalism and Mass Communication Leadership Institute for Diversity and, most recently, the prestigious Management Development Program at Harvard University. He is the former chair of the Communication Department at William Paterson University, Wayne, N.J., and chair of the Mass Communication Department at Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, Ga. His publications have appeared in *Communication Research, Feedback* and several conference proceedings.

Omachonu's teaching and research areas include mass communication law and ethics, media management, introduction to mass communication, media technology and globalization. He also has consulting expertise in substance abuse education and counseling, implementation of collegiate broadcasting media and religious communication.

Danner golf tourney tees off Oct. 3 in Nashville

by Randy Weiler

Golfers can register to play in the 14th annual Danner Invitational Golf Tournament, which will be held Wednesday, Oct. 3, at Nashville's Hermitage Golf Course.

Sponsored by The Neill-Sandler Foundation to benefit the Neill-Sandler Scholars at MTSU program, up to 120 golfers will compete in the event.

The tournament schedule includes registration and practice starting at 11:30 a.m.; lunch at noon; 1 p.m. shotgun start; and beverages, dinner and awards after tournament play ends.

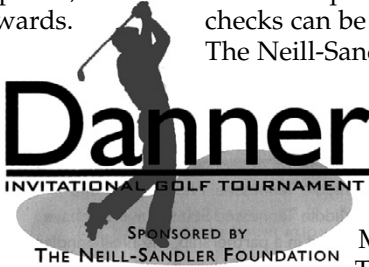
The golf scramble entry fee will include registra-

tion, practice, buffet provided by Crockett's Restaurant, cart rental, greens fees, player's gift pack, refreshments on the course, door prizes, drinks and awards.

There will be two flights and prizes for the top three teams in each flight.

Tournament prizes will be given for closest to the pin and longest drive. There will be prizes for holes-in-one at all four par-three holes.

Entry and sponsor fees include a \$195 donation toward prizes, \$350 per person or \$1,295 team entry and hole sponsorship



(paid by Sept. 28) or \$450 hole sponsorship.

Entry forms can be obtained by calling Amanda Bell at 615-785-8657. Completed forms and checks can be mailed to The Neill-Sandler Foundation, P.O. Box 1419, 2240 N.W. Broad St., Murfreesboro, Tenn., 37133.

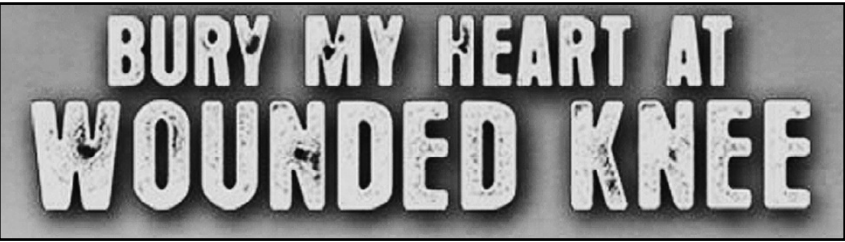
Event sponsors include Bell Construction, The Danner Foundation, Maggart & Associates, *The Daily News Journal*, Frank E. Neal and Company and Bank of America/Brian Austin. The *DNJ* provides media support.

Ray Danner of The Danner Company, MTSU

President Sidney A. McPhee, tournament chairman Tony Rose and Gary Neill and Mike Sandler of the Neill-Sandler Foundation are encouraging golfers and participants to "help make possible a college education for several deserving young people from middle Tennessee ... who might not attend college otherwise."

Eighty-five students have been awarded scholarships since 1999. Each spring, up to 10 scholarships are awarded to students from Bedford, Cannon, Coffee, DeKalb, Franklin, Rutherford, Warren, Williamson and Wilson counties and Tullahoma City Schools.

For more information, call Bell at 615-785-8657.



from Staff Reports

The hearts and minds of the Emmy-nominated creative team behind HBO Films’ retelling of “Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee” will be open to the public Wednesday, Oct. 10, during a free symposium at MTSU.

Sponsored by the MTSU Distinguished Lectures Committee, the MTSU Tom T. Hall Lecture Series and Broadcast Music International, the event is set for 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Keathley University Center Theater.

- Featured are:
- director Yves Simoneau, who received his first Emmy nomination in 2005 for the pilot of the TV series “The 4400,” and in 2003 won the prestigious 7 d’Or Award as best director for “Napoleon”;
 - screenwriter Daniel Giat, who was Emmy- and Humanitas-nominated in 2002 for “Path to War,” a 2002 HBO production and John Frankenheimer film; and
 - composer George S. Clinton, an MTSU alumnus and multiple award-winner, including the 2007 BMI Richard Kirk Award for Outstanding Career Achievement, whose scores have enhanced films like “The Astronaut’s Wife,” “Joe Somebody” and the “Austin Powers” series.

“Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee” topped all other television programs when it garnered 17 Emmy nominations, including nominations for all three of the panelists. (The film won Best Made-for-TV Movie at the Sept. 16 ceremony and five other Emmys for sound, cinematography and makeup.)

“George is the type of guy you’d hope all celebrities would be,” said Dr. Bob Wood, coordinator of production and technology in MTSU’s Department of Recording Industry. “He is unselfish with his time and routinely comes to



Simoneu



Giat



Clinton

MTSU to present seminars on composing for film. This is great, real-world advice that our students can immediately apply to their film music projects.”

The discussion will be moderated by Beverly Keel, recording industry professor and director of MTSU’s Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies, who will lead the panelists as they show scenes from the film and discuss how their ideas were translated to the screen. The working relationship between the director and the composer, and the director and the screenwriter also will be examined.

The session will conclude with an opportunity for the audience to ask questions of the filmmakers. A similar symposium for the public is planned for 5:30 p.m. the same day at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum’s Ford Theater in Nashville.

“I was very fortunate to be permitted to attend the recording sessions for the film score for ‘Wounded Knee,’” Wood said. “It was there that George introduced me to Yves, who was gracious and treated me like an old friend. He listened intently and made comments and suggestions that George took back to the orchestra. The interaction between the director and the composer was very congenial and relaxed, but all their conversations had a musical outcome. Yves knew exactly how he wanted the music to support the film.”

The epic film, starring Aidan Quinn, Anna Paquin, Adam Beach, August Schellenberg and Fred Thompson and produced by television veteran Dick Wolf, is based on Dee Brown’s bestseller, *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*. The book powerfully explores the tragic impact that the United States’ westward expansion had on American Indian culture, and the economic, political and social pressures that motivated it.

For more information about the symposium, contact Wood at 615-898-2532. For more on the film and its creative team, visit www.hbo.com/films/burymyheart.

Art exhibit honors creativity of state’s instructors

by Lisa L. Rollins

Colleagues: A Community College Art Faculty Exhibition” is the art exhibit, rich in diversity, that is featured through Oct. 4 in the Todd Gallery at MTSU.

“This exhibition recognizes the talented faculty who serve students enrolled in community colleges across the state that are often far removed from major population centers,” said Lon Nuell, art professor and gallery curator.

“These dedicated individuals provide access to art instruction for their local populations who have an interest, and they often display incredible talent,” he continued. “And in addition to highlighting their creativity, ‘Colleagues’ also serves as a small gesture of thanks for the invaluable work these faculty do to prepare the many students who continue on in the four-year universities of the Tennessee Board of Regents and University of Tennessee systems.”

- The artists/faculty include:
- Marcia Athens, Pellissippi State Community College;
 - Fred Behrens and Herbert Cobb, Columbia State Community College;

- Amy Evans, Walters State Community College;
- Claire Hampton and Sue Mulcahy, Volunteer State Community College;
- Skip Jackson, Scott McRoberts, Emily Naff, Priscilla Nash, Dale Rogers, Beth Traube and David Weilmuenster, Nashville State Community College;
- Stacy Jacobs and Nancy McDonald, Roane State Community College;
- Jeff Morris and Steve Simmerman, Chattanooga State Community College;
- Carol Norman, Jackson State Community College;
- Reid Parish, Cleveland State Community College; and
- Brian Robinson, Motlow State Community College.

Nuell said the participating artists work and teach in traditional studio areas such as painting, photography, printmaking, drawing, ceramics and sculpture, and graphic design and visual communication.

“Exhibited together, their works represent the rich diversity of many artists who not only live and work across the state, but also bring to their work intriguing personal experiences, perceptions and expressions,” he said.



ON EXHIBIT—A man pours liquid into a cup for a woman in this pastel domestic scene created by Steve Simmerman, a graphic designer who teaches at Chattanooga State Community College. This and works from 19 other artists who teach at Tennessee’s community colleges are on display at the Todd Gallery through Oct. 4.

photo submitted

A closing reception for the participating artists, free and open to the public, will be held Thursday, Oct. 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery’s lobby.

The Todd Gallery is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Admission is

always free, and the exhibit is open to the public.

For more information, please contact 615-898-5653 or esnyder@mtsu.edu.

Volunteering

raced into the building in what must have been the last 30 seconds of voting.

“Yes! I did it! I was the last voter!” he shouted triumphantly as he came out, smiling.

“I thought there would be voting booths set up in the mall like last year,” he told an election volunteer.

“That’s why I was late.”

After that, the election volunteers opened the doors to the media and led us all into a tiny room where the vote totals would be printed.

The anticipation in the room was obvious, and everyone was ready to jot down the results with pen and paper in hand.

It only took about 10 minutes, and everything went smoothly from there. The results were printed at each of the precincts, and I called them in to the station one by one.

It was an experience I enjoyed and would love to do again. I would recommend the experience to anyone, especially students. I learned a lot

about the voting process, and who knows? I might even be at the polls as a voter next time instead of a volunteer.

Bonnie Bailey is a junior majoring in journalism. For information about voting in Rutherford County, stop by the KUC Information Desk or call 615-898-2590.

from page 2

Campus Calendar

Sept. 24-Oct. 7

TV Schedule

“Middle Tennessee Record”
Cable Channel 9:
Monday-Sunday—5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+:
Sundays—1:30 p.m.
Visit www.mtsunews.com
for other cable outlet airtimes.

Every Wednesday

Gender Circles
Weekly conversations on
diversity with emphasis on
gender issues
1-3 p.m., JUB 206
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

Sept. 24

Monday, Sept. 24
Our Friends: Our Selves
Bookclub
featured book: *The Second Shift*
by Arlie Russell Hochschild
1-3 p.m., JUB 206
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

Faculty Voice Recital:
Stephen Smith
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Sept. 27

Sept. 27-29
High School Honors Orchestra
WMB’s Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Thursday, Sept. 27
“Will Work Leave You
Speechless? The Erosion of
Free Expression in the
American Workplace,”
Dr. Bruce Barry, Vanderbilt
9:45 a.m., KUC Theater
For information, contact:
615-898-5150.

“Freshman Experience”
Concert
11:20 a.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Free Legal Clinic
sponsored by the June
Anderson Women’s Center
7-9 p.m., JUB 206
Appointments required
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

Sept. 28

Sept. 28-29
MTSU Theatre and Dance:
“Mother Courage and Her
Children” by Bertolt Brecht
7:30 p.m., BDA South Lawn
For information, contact:
615-898-2640.

Friday, Sept. 28
Economic Outlook Conference
8:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m., JUB
For information, contact:
615-898-2764.

MT Soccer Fan Weekend/
Beach Bash: Women’s Soccer
vs. Florida Atlantic
7 p.m., Blue Raider Field
For information, contact:
615-898-2450.

MT Volleyball vs. Denver
7 p.m., Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-904-8115.

Sept. 29

Saturday, Sept. 29
Blue Raider Football
vs. Florida International
6 p.m., Floyd Stadium
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Sept. 30

Sunday, Sept. 30
“MTSU On the Record—
SUNO/PRISM Concert”
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at
www.mtsunews.com.

MT Soccer Fan Weekend/
Beach Bash: Women’s Soccer
vs. Florida International
1 p.m., Blue Raider Field
For information, contact:
615-898-2450.

MT Volleyball vs. North Texas
1 p.m., Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-904-8115.

Oct. 1

Monday, Oct. 1
Stones River Chamber Players
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Oct. 2

Tuesday, Oct. 2
JAWC Career/Professional
Development Brown Bag:
Robbie Snapp, Bonnie McCarty
and Barbara Sensing,
“Super Tips for Supervisors!”
Noon-1 p.m., JUB Hazlewood
Dining Room
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

Oct. 3

Wednesday, Oct. 3
MTSU Theatre and Dance:
“Mother Courage and Her
Children” by Bertolt Brecht
7:30 p.m., BDA South Lawn
For information, contact:
615-898-2640.

Oct. 4

Thursday, Oct. 4
Presidential Gala “Prism”
Concert benefiting Southern
University at New Orleans
7:30 p.m., Tucker Theatre
Admission: \$20 per person,
\$10 per student with ID
For information, contact:
615-898-5261.

MTSU Women’s Choral
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Oct. 5

Oct. 5-6
MTSU Theatre and Dance:
“Mother Courage and Her
Children” by Bertolt Brecht
7:30 p.m., BDA South Lawn
For information, contact:
615-898-2640.

Friday, Oct. 5
First Friday Star Party
Dr. Charles Higgins,
“Double Stars”
6:30-8:30 p.m., WPS Room 102
For information, contact:
615-898-5946.

MT Volleyball
vs. Arkansas-Little Rock
7 p.m., Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-904-8115.

Oct. 6

Saturday, Oct. 6
“The Sound of Music”
encore performance
3 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

Blue Raider Football
vs. Virginia
6 p.m., Floyd Stadium
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-898-2103.

Oct. 7

Sunday, Oct. 7
“MTSU On the Record—
Digital Difficulties, Part One”
Guest: Ken Sanney
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at
www.mtsunews.com.

MT Volleyball
vs. Arkansas State
1 p.m., Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com
or contact: 615-904-8115.

How do you read



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, Oct. 12.

Benefit from page 1

SUNO, “ McPhee said, “and this musically rich performance is a cultural event that will benefit not only our respective students, faculty and staff, but also contribute to the broader arts community in the area.”

A former associate vice chancellor for the Tennessee Board of Regents in 1997-99, Ukpolo has said that Hurricane Katrina’s total damage to SUNO is estimated to have reached \$60 million.

“My professional career in higher education began in Tennessee, and this outpouring of support makes me feel as though I never left the state,” Ukpolo said. “On behalf of the entire SUNO community, I again extend thanks to President McPhee and everyone at MTSU for your encouragement, thoughtfulness and heartfelt support. ”

Tickets for the show are \$20 each (\$10 for students with ID) and are available through the MTSU Ticket Office by calling 615-898-5261. Tickets also will be available at the door on a first-come, first-served basis.

“Our prism concert is destined to become an annual showcase for our music program, but this year we have the added privilege of supporting our fellow scholars in need at SUNO,” Riordan said. “Once the people of Middle Tennessee get to know this concert, they will look forward to it ... and we expect that it will sell out each year.”

Ensembles scheduled to perform include the MTSU Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band and Concert Chorale; the Band of Blue Marching Band; the MTSU Chamber Winds, Flute Ensemble, Clarinet Ensemble, Brass Quintet, Trumpet Ensemble, Horn Ensemble and Trombone Choir; the MTSU Low Brass Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, String Ensemble and Hot Jazz Group; the MTSU Steel Drum Band and Salsa Band; and artist Silviu Ciulei.



BACK HOME TO HELP OUT—Members of MTSU’s Wind Ensemble, shown here as they visit the Great Wall of China during their recent summer tour of the country, will don their performance finest with their MTSU musical colleagues Thursday, Oct. 4, in Tucker Theatre to celebrate the students and staff of Southern University at New Orleans at the Presidential Gala “Prism” Concert. Tickets are \$20 each or \$10 with a student ID at the MTSU Ticket Office.

photo submitted



READY TO ROLL—Drivers proudly pause two of the new Raider Xpress shuttles for a photo in the Rutherford Boulevard parking lot east of campus. MTSU has purchased five new shuttle buses to transport riders more efficiently and cost-effectively.

photo by J. Intintoli

Shuttles from page 1

standing.” While there are fewer seats, two people can stand side by side in the center aisle using the hand rails. One driver said he fit 95 students on a new bus during the first week of classes.

Reather Arnold has been driving the Raider Xpress for almost 10 years, after spending 35 years driving for Murfreesboro City Schools. She enjoys the new buses because they make her job more comfortable.

“They’re quieter, and the driver has more control over the air conditioning and the radio,” Arnold said. “It’s like trading in your car. Newer feels better. The new buses are shorter, so they turn [more] easily.”

Arnold said she’s noticed that more students seem to be using the Raider Xpress, and she expects to see a greater increase in riders during colder weather.

The change has sparked interest in students as well. Chase Hamby and Candice Corley are two freshmen who use the shuttles’ red route to make their commute easier.

They have used both the old and new buses and are impressed with the change. “They look more professional, not like public school buses that have been repainted,” Hamby said. “The only problem is people aren’t using the rails the right way to make room for everyone else.”

Added Corley: “I like them a lot. The air conditioning works better and the ride feels smoother. But I’m short, so I can’t reach the rails, and it’s hard to keep my balance when I stand. People should be polite about who needs the seats and who doesn’t.”

Two of the old buses will be sold and one donated to be converted into an environmentally friendly vehicle, Read said. The others will be kept and used for university group charters.

The Raider Xpress has provided an alternative source of transportation on campus since 1993. The shuttles make stops every 15 to 20 minutes at designated locations around campus.

Learn more!

Raider XPress routes map:
[www.mtsu.edu/~parking/
busroutes.pdf](http://www.mtsu.edu/~parking/busroutes.pdf)

Shuttle service is available
7 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday,
7 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday

Safety from page 1

current notification methods but will be used as one of several alert systems already in place, including e-mail, Web site, tornado siren and local news media.

“It is important to note that text messaging, while highly effective, is not a cure-all for keeping everyone 100 percent safe—it’s just one tool in the kit,” MTSU Police Chief Buddy Peaster emphasized.

“With this service, we feel we are further enhancing our ability to keep the MTSU community informed of critical situations,” added Lucinda Lea, vice president of information technology and chief information officer. “The system’s effectiveness will be in proportion to the number of users we have.”

MTSU students, faculty and staff should follow the steps below to register for the service:

1. Go to www.mtsu.edu/alert4u.
2. Click on “Sign up for MTSU’s Emergency Text-Messaging Service,” which takes you to www.getrave.com/login/mtsu.
3. Click the “If you haven’t registered, Join Now” link under the login button at the Rave page.
4. Proceed with the five-step registration process as instructed—verify the school, validate a username, create an account, confirm the cell number and complete your registration. Remember: *You must create a different password than the one used for MTSU e-mail.*

While registration is free, the user’s current cell carrier’s text-messaging rates do apply.

General information on emergencies will always be available at www.mtsu.edu/alert4u.

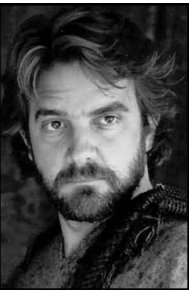
Theatre and Dance offer intriguing 2007-08 season

from Staff Reports

Members of MTSU Theatre and Dance will take to the stage once again to deliver a passport for entertainment via the program’s 2007-08 season, which promises to transport theatergoers through war, love and midlife crises.

The journey will begin amid the Thirty Years’ War with “Mother Courage and Her Children,” written by Bertolt Brecht in the 1940s, and presented Sept. 28-29, Oct. 3 and Oct. 5-6 on the south lawn of the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building on the MTSU campus.

“The play examines the result of war on the human spirit, and its message will resonate just as strong today as it did in the midst of World War II,” said Jeff Gibson, director of theatre, who adds that the MTSU production will feature “eclectic musical instruments and stunning performances by MTSU students.”



Davies

Next, on Nov 2-3 and Nov. 7-10, William Shakespeare’s classic “Romeo and Juliet” will be performed on the stage of Tucker Theatre in the BDA. Audience members, Gibson said, “will be transported to the land of lavish Elizabethan England in our production that will come to life vividly on the stage as two star-crossed lovers share their tragic but inspiring tale of love and peace.”

The classic tale will feature astounding costumes and scenery, as well as brilliant performances. This production will showcase guest artist Lane Davies, MTSU alumnus, as Capulet.

In late November, MTSU Dance Theatre will bring new life to the stage with its Fall Dance Concert, which will join innovative and classical dance numbers for audiences who will have the opportunity to expe-

rience the meaning of movement. The show’s choreography will feature guest artists and original student work during its Nov. 29-Dec. 1 run in the BDA’s Tucker Theatre.

Then, in February 2008, MTSU Theatre’s players will deliver a flashback to the 1980s with the musical known as “Baby,” which follows the journey of three couples as they experience what it means to spend nine months waiting on that one special visitor.

““Baby’ features a wide array of musical styles, from Broadway to rock to classical, and provides an exciting visual experience through dance and movement,” Gibson said of the fast-paced musical that will arrive Feb. 15-16 and Feb. 20-23 in Tucker Theatre.

A new work by MTSU student Ian Hunt will round out the theatrical season March 28-29 and April 2-5 in Tucker Theatre. The yet-to-be titled original piece draws on themes from the Broadway sensations “Stomp” and “Stomp Out Loud” to create an innovative night of theater.

“Using everyday objects, the cast combines dance, movement, percussion and performance to provide a show that will impress people of all ages,” Gibson said.

The annual Spring Dance Concert by MTSU Dance Theatre will conclude the 2007-08 Theatre & Dance Series April 17-19. This performance will highlight a year of extraordinary choreography by faculty, students and special guest artists.

All season performances begin at 7:30 p.m., and tickets are available at the door beginning one hour before each performance. Admission is \$10 for adults and free to MTSU students with a valid university ID.

For more information, please visit www.mtsu.edu/~theatre.



Fall '07 enrollment beats 23,000 mark

by Randy Weiler

A preliminary headcount of 23,264 students enrolled this fall at MTSU is a record that will be submitted to the Tennessee Board of Regents, said Dr. Sherian Huddleston, assistant vice provost for enrollment services.

It marks the first time MTSU has surpassed 23,000 in a semester, university officials said. It is a 1.75 percent increase from fall 2006 and means 401 more students are taking classes this fall compared to a year ago, she said.

“We are pleased that we still are able to maintain our growth at a manageable level,” said Dr. Bob Glenn, vice provost for enrollment and academic services and vice president for student affairs. “We are not growing too quickly to outstrip our resources, and it demonstrates that students in Tennessee are voting with their feet and voting Middle Tennessee No. 1 (school of choice).”

Huddleston said the headcount and full-time equivalent totals were submitted Sept. 10 to the TBR. However, the TBR allowed its six universities and 13 community colleges until Sept. 21 to submit their official census reports

	2007 fall semester totals	2006 fall semester totals
Head count	23,264 (+1.75%, 401 students)	22,863
Full-time equivalent	19,548 (+1.0%, 192 students)	19,355
First-time freshmen	3,580	3,373
New transfers	1,947	1,991
Returning students	15,904	15,633
Re-enrolling students	1,275	1,213
Freshmen	6,254	5,866
Sophomores	4,169	4,154
Juniors	4,172	4,169
Seniors	6,170	6,357
College of Graduate Studies	2,365	2,220

because “this is the first time we’re using a new software system,” she said.

There are 20,899 undergraduate students and 2,365 graduate students attending this fall, she said.

Huddleston said the full-time equivalent total this fall is 19,548, which is a 1.0 percent increase. FTE is a “portion of a formula TBR uses for funding state institutions,” she added.

The fall 2006 enrollment was 22,863 (20,643 undergraduate and 2,220 graduate students).

Writing Conference invites teachers grades K to college

MTSU will play host to a “Reading and Writing: Empowering Learners” conference, to be held Saturday, Sept. 29, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Registration will be in the lobby of MTSU’s Business and Aerospace Building. Sessions will be held in the Bragg Mass Communication Building. The conference is designed to provide professional development for teachers who teach kindergarten through college students.

Keynote speaker will be Ardith Cole, teacher and literacy consultant from Washington, D.C., who will speak on constructed-response writing on standardized testing. Session leader Aimee Buckner, a teacher in Gwinnett County, Ga., will discuss the values and benefits of writers’ notebooks. Breakout sessions will feature all aspects of writing from kindergarten through college. There will be special sessions for high-school and university teachers.

Pre-registration fee is \$45. On-site registration is \$50; two or more from the same school are \$35 each. Students may register for \$10. For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~mtwp and click on “conference brochure.”

Modern-day ‘Indy’ to speak Oct. 4

from Staff Reports

Dr. Doug Owsley, forensic anthropologist for the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., and described by some as a modern-day Indiana Jones, will speak at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 4, in the State Farm Lecture Hall in the Business and Aerospace Building.

His lecture will be free and open to the public.

Owsley is a detective of sorts, seeking clues to all kinds of anthropological mysteries. It has been said that he is more than a witness to history—he is an interpreter of it. Owsley has assisted law enforcement in examining remains in unsolved cases and has been the subject of programs on The Discovery Channel and on ABC’s “20/20.”

He received the Department of the Army Commander’s Award for Civilian Service for forensic investigations that helped identify victims of the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon.

He has worked on cases ranging from the Branch Davidian tragedy at Waco, Texas, and casualties of Desert Storm. He also has examined the skeletal remains of colonial and Civil War soldiers, as well as Kennewick Man, a



Owsley

9,000-plus-year-old skeleton found near the Columbia River in Washington state.

Owsley did his undergraduate work at the University of Wyoming, where he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. He received his doctorate in anthropology from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

In November 2005, *Smithsonian* magazine included him, along with software pioneer Bill Gates, astronaut Sally Ride and filmmaker Steven Spielberg, among "35 Who Made a Difference." The magazine recognized artists, scholars and scientists who have enriched American life.

Giving phonathon under way through Nov. 18

from Staff Reports

The MTSU Office of Development’s fall annual giving phonathon continues in a campaign that will run until Nov. 13, Meredith Edington, coordinator of annual giving, said. MTSU students continue to call alumni “to inform them of the latest develop-

ments from MTSU and their respective colleges and ask them to make a gift to the university,” Edington said, adding that calls generally will be made from Sunday through Thursday. Edington said the students would be calling alumni from the Jennings A. Jones College of Business until Wednesday, Oct. 3. From Oct. 4 through

Oct. 14, they will be contacting alumni from the College of Mass Communication. Alumni from the College of Education and Behavioral Science will be the student callers’ focus Oct. 17-28, she said. Alums from the College of Basic and Applied Sciences will be contacted from Oct. 29 through Nov. 13.

The final phase will be the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, whose alumni will be contacted Nov. 14-18. Edington said alumni interested in more information on the annual giving phonathon may call her at 615-898-2728.

Collage brings home gold ... and silver

by Lucy Welch

Muhammad Ali was awarded a gold medal for boxing in the 1960 Summer Olympics. Nancy Kerrigan took home the silver in the 1994 Winter Olympics for figure skating. While some may esteem these athletes for their talent and outstanding achievements, the staff members of MTSU’s student-run arts and literary magazine, *Collage, a Journal of Creative Expression*, have accomplished a feat that these Olympic champions didn’t: they’ve won both the gold and the silver.

The Columbia Scholastic Press Association first awarded *Collage*, which is sponsored by MTSU’s Honors College, the Gold Medalist Certificate and the Silver Crown Award for its Fall 2005/Spring 2006 issues, and then awarded it another Gold Medalist Certificate for its Fall 2006/Spring 2007 issues.

Created in 1925 as a program affiliated with Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism, the CSPA improves student print production by distributing awards of excellence to student newspapers, magazines, year-books and online media around the country. CSPA judges analyze the student publication, award it points in various categories, offer written suggestions for its improvement and award it a medal accordingly.

Out of the total 1,000 points available in the categories of organization, content and design, *Collage* received 970 for its Fall ‘06/Spring ‘07 issues, topping its previous Gold Medalist score by 45 points.

Even more impressive than winning the Gold Medalist Certificate twice, however, is winning the Silver Crown Award. In the Crown Awards competition, panels of experts in journalism judge the publication in a broad

collage
a journal of creative expression

variety of categories such as writing, editing, design, concept, photography, art and graphics. Judges distribute Crown Awards at their own discretion, and their decisions are final. Out of the 1,860 CSPA members who were eligible to win a Crown Award that year, only 24 received Silver Crowns.

As elated as adviser Marsha Powers and her staff members are with the overwhelming success of their magazine, they still are not satisfied.

“This semester we’re working to improve the magazine by publishing a larger and more diverse variety of art and literature,” Editor-in-Chief Elizebeth Tucker says. “We still want the traditional paintings, prose, photographs and poems, but we also want the diversity of MTSU’s student body to be represented in our publication. That means publishing non-fiction pieces, sculpture, fashion design, digital art, play scripts, basically anything artistic or literary, even if it’s a little different from what we normally publish.”

There’s no doubt about it; the people at *Collage* mean business. They’ve tasted the sweet flavor of success, and they want more. Besides the inclusion of exciting new types of art and literature, *Collage* has another secret weapon this year.

“We have a bigger, more cooperative staff than we’ve ever had,” Tucker says. “And more people are showing up to help every day.”

With such an enthusiastic, hard-working staff and more great ideas being implemented each day, it looks like *Collage* is headed for success again.

Perhaps this year they’ll win a Gold Crown.

Lucy Welch is a senior majoring in journalism.

Basic & Applied Sciences dean: college, faculty making waves

by Randy Weiler

Dean Tom Cheatham of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences says faculty recognition and making their presence felt globally were two of the many highlights of the 2006-07 academic year.

Cheatham delivered his state of the college message Sept. 6 in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

“I’m always excited to recognize MTSU Foundation Award winners,” he said. “We had eight this year, which is remarkable.”

The Foundation recipients included Sheila Marquart and Dr. Jenny Sauls (School of Nursing), Outstanding Teaching Awards; Judy Campbell (nursing) and Dr. Amy Phelps (chemistry, Outstanding Service Awards; Drs. Rong Luo (mathematical sciences) and Michael Sanger (chemistry), Distinguished Research Awards; Dr. Charles Perry (ETIS and Russell Chair of Manufacturing Excellence chairholder), Special Projects Award; and Dr. Robert Carlton (physics and astronomy), Career Achievement Award.

Cheatham also acknowledged other CBAS honorees for teaching, research, service and grant writing.

He said CBAS faculty sit on 162 national or international boards, “and we made presentations in 11 different countries. We are known much more globally, and I think the university is interested in and delighted faculty are contributing to that success.”

Cheatham said two issues facing the college are the new science building and “Ph.D. proposals faculty are working on that will significantly change our college in the future. There is much more work to be done in both areas.”

The CBAS dean said 2007-08 would mark the second year for planning, design and infrastructure on the science building, which is scheduled for completion by 2011.

“The big thing this year is to finish the architectural design and build the chilling plant on the south side of campus,” he said. “The big issue for us is to get funding from the state actually to do construction of the science building. Hopefully, our legislature and governor will move forward for that badly needed project.”

The doctoral programs include one in math and science education and one in computational science. Integrative life sciences was being considered for the third, “but the focus may change slightly over the next few weeks,” Cheatham said.

Cheatham said Dr. Paul Craig would be stepping down as chair in aerospace, with Dr. Wayne Dornan approved by the Tennessee Board of Regents as interim chair. Cheatham also introduced Drs. Heather Brown and Warren Gill as directors of concrete industry management and agribusiness and agriscience.

Free Rape Aggression Defense classes to begin

Classes will begin Tuesday, Sept. 25, and will run through Tuesday, Oct. 30, for the Rape Aggression Defense system, a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques.

RAD is a comprehensive course for women that begins with awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance, while progressing to the basics of hands-on defense training with easy, effective and proven self-defense/martial arts tactics. The class also will provide participants with the knowledge to make an educated

decision about resistance to violence.

Classes will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. for six consecutive sessions at the MTSU Public Safety Training Room, located at 1412 E. Main St.

The class is offered free to all MTSU students, faculty and staff, as well as the general public. A workbook/training manual is provided to each student.

Enrollment is limited; for more information or to enroll, call RAD Instructor David Smith at 615-494-8855.

Wheels

Racing Hall of Fame and Museum in Goshen, N.Y. She says the staff was delighted to enlighten her about Geers, a 1958 inductee, allowing her to touch Pop’s racing jacket and one of his sulkies.

A local racer took Hickman riding around the track in one of his sulkies so she could get the feel of harness racing. Since she was brought up on a farm, Hickman was no novice around Jagger Blue Chip, a horse valued at \$100,000, but this was unlike anything she had experienced at home.

“You’re right on the horse,” Hickman says. “There’s no room for error or anything.”

In addition to materials from the hall of fame and the Maury County archives, Hickman’s sources include various books, newspapers and magazines, and Geers’ grand-

daughter, Jane Janus, as well as the Margaret Lindsley Warden Collection at MTSU’s Albert Gore Research Center, where Hickman also worked on the Hurricane Katrina Oral History Project.

However, Hickman, ever the historian, wants to know even more about Pop. In fact, she wants to publish her thesis as a book someday. For now, graduating this December with a master’s degree in public history will suffice.

“I need a break from school,” Hickman says. “I need to let my career start to take off and to decide what I actually want to do.”

Anyone with any additional information about Geers and his legacy can contact Hickman by e-mail at sarelibeth@yahoo.com or by phone at 615-459-2341.

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