Auld lang syne, grads

by Lisa L. Rollins

M ore than 1,600 degree candi-
dates are expected to gradu-
ate during MTSU’s 95th fall com-
encement—a record number of candidates for a December graduation event—reports Dr. Sherian Huddleston, associate vice provost for enrollment services.

On Saturday, Dec. 16, MTSU will again feature dual ceremonies and dual speakers starting at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. in Murphy Center. Of the 1,676 set to graduate, 1,406 are undergraduates and 270 are graduate students, including 256 master’s candidates, nine education specialist degree candi-
dates and five Ph.D. candidates.

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

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

Scenes of the season

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

Ending ’06 on a healthier note

by Will Fanguy

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

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

“The program is promoting healthy lifestyle change in folks whose unhealthy habits have limited their ability to maintain proper health, energy and quality of life,” Anshel said. “These are folks who are, most likely, disconnected from their values.”

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

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

The program, which is concluding its first semester, has had 105 initial participants. It lasts 10 weeks, including an additional week at the beginning for testing and...
The Fourth Annual TLSAMP Undergraduate Research Conference was held since 2003, 222 student-authored proposals have been submitted, with 180 provided a budget of $80,000 to award to students as assistants working on a pilot project to include all disciplines across campus. URSCP was used primarily for student stipends during the summer and resulted in five proving the possibility of first-rate undergraduate research. The money was enlisting undergraduate students to collaborate with professor-mentors and for the 2002-03 academic year to pilot processes and strategies aimed at testosterone. Boyle elected the University of Louisville to come to TLSAMP because he saw an “intriguing” ad and considered it a good career move. A member of TLSAMP’s faculty since summer 2006, Boyle said that when he began his role he had to figure how things operated within the college. After three months, he had prepared several specific initiatives that the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning plans to pursue: • expanding its role in supporting training needs of local schools, businesses and governmental agencies; finding ways to help student fund public service projects; • expanding online courses; and • working with the needs of non-traditional students. “My role is simply to continue the evolution of the college to meet the ever-changing needs of the community,” Boyle said. Boyle’s career in teaching skill levels classes evolved into continuing education, commonly known as vocational education. Since then, Boyle has helped create ways to work with people with specialized degrees. Providing an opportunity is the vehicle, he said, and talent and desire can make it happen. “I was teaching people in certain skills and didn’t know that I was doing it,” Boyle said.

TAEA honors Sickler-Voigt
by Fre’Drisa Dixon

Dr. Deborah C. Sickler-Voigt, assistant professor of art education at MTSU, recently was named as the 2007 Tennessee Art Education Association Higher Education Art Educator of the Year. Sickler-Voigt was selected as a candidate for the award after a former student, a colleague and a professor at University of Kentucky nominated her.

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

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

A member of MTSU’s faculty for four years, Sickler-Voigt is originally from Miami, Fla. She attended the University of Florida and the University of Cologne in Germany, where she received her bachelor’s degree. She received her master’s degree from Florida International and her Ph.D from Florida State University.

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

“The TAEA is a program that students can join at college level,” Sickler-Voigt said. “This is a starting point for everyone and their needs, kind of like a support network for art educators.” For more information about the TAEA, please visit its Web site at www.tnarts.org.

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

Research

MTSU is a member of the Tennessee Board of Regents Media Consortium, which was created in the late 1970s to negotiate purchasing agreements with media vendors and purchase items at a discount, Fedak said. It is now one of the standing TBR subcommittees and over the last 30 years has realized about $2 million in savings with media vendors. Just this fall, the consortium brought the TBR schools online for streaming video, and MTSU has access to 29 titles to date. More will be written later about this service.

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

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Calendar

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

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

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

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

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

Dec. 5
Tuesday, Dec. 5
JAWC Career/Professional
Development Brown Bag
Noon-1 p.m., BAS SunTrust Room
For information, contact: 615-898-2919.

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

Dec. 6
Wednesday, Dec. 6
Last day of Fall 2006 classes

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

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

Dec. 8
Dec. 8-14
Final Examinations

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

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

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

Dec. 10
Sunday, Dec. 10
“MTSU on the Record—
Russian Relationships”
Guest: Dr. Andrei Korobkov
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM

Dec. 14
Thursday, Dec. 14
Retired Faculty & Staff Coffee
9:30 a.m., Foundation House
For information, contact: 615-898-8756.

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

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

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

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

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

Dec. 21
Thursday, Dec. 21
Yule/Winter Solstice

Dec. 23
Winter break; university closed

Dec. 24
Dec. 24-25
Christmas Eve/Christmas Day

Dec. 26
Saturday, Dec. 26
TWHBEA Winter Tournament
Saturday, Jan. 13
MTSU Percussion Ensemble
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

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

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

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

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

Jan. 2, 2007
Tuesday, Jan. 2
University offices reopen

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

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

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

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

Healthier from page 1

orientation, and Anshel said the response has been overwhelming.

At present, three rounds of the programs have been budgeted: one for the fall semester, one for the spring semester and one that will be conducted over the summer. The program is also part of a larger study by Anshel, “The Effect of Personal Coaching on Improving Healthy Lifestyle Habits,” which is being used to document the costs and benefits of personal coaching for improving health. Anshel said that because MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee has agreed to fund the program, he has a right to know if it is working. Also, McPhee is registered for the spring session, so he has a vested interest in the success of the program from an institutional perspective.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Anshel assured those who sign up that “we will look after you. We have a plan.”

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.

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

Gordon and Spellings, before her White House tenure, also served for six years as a senior adviser to Bush when he was governor of Texas. In this role, her responsibilities centered upon developing and implementing the governor’s education policy, where she helped craft education policies, including the Texas Reading Initiative, the Student Success Fund and the Space Subcommittee (1997-2002). In 2003, Gordon assumed the role of president of the agency on its financial management and cost-estimating activities. The December ceremony should last about two hours, so students planning celebration activities should be aware of this commitment.

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

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

For more information on the University’s spring commencement, please visit the MNSU Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~records/grad.htm or call 615-886-2200.

Heather Spivey

Spelling from page 1

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

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

Spelling, before her White House tenure, also served for six years as a senior adviser to Bush when he was governor of Texas. In this role, her responsibilities centered upon developing and implementing the governor’s education policy, which included the Texas Reading Initiative, the Student Success Initiative to help eliminate social promotion, and the nation’s strongest school assessment and accountability system.

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

Fall 06 Commencement at a glance

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

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

Where: Murphy Center on the MTSU campus

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

*— Approximate number as of Nov. 28, 2006

Given a blood test that includes a lipid profile to document their cholesterol levels and a mental well-being test that is used to determine mental barriers that may conflict with accomplishing the goals of the program. The first is data. Participants are given a blood test that includes a lipid profile to document their cholesterol levels and a mental well-being test that is used to determine mental barriers that may conflict with accomplishing the goals of the program.
Give yourself an alternative during next break

by Thad Mitchell

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

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

“This fall we went to Asheville, North Carolina,” said project coordinator Matt DeMonbrun, a graduate assistant in MTSU’s Office of Student Organizations & Community Service.

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

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

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

Employee Giving breaks records: $78K+ pledged

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

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

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

Employees who returned their pledge forms by the deadline were eligible for a campuswide drawing for 37 prizes, and several university divisions and departments also gave prizes to encourage 100 percent participation. Donations were not required to enter any of the prize drawings.

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

Faculty and staff will be giving via payroll deduction to charitable organizations included on a list of nine independent charities and three federated charitable organizations, including Community Health Charities, Community Shares and local United Ways. The deductions will begin with the first paycheck of 2007.

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

Walker Library making noise about its services

by Gina K. Logue

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sobriety

a baseline of 41 percent in 2000.

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

“Our goal is to reduce the number of impeded drivers by being proactive,” said MTSU’s Associate Chief Roy Brewer. According to a 2005 report from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System, a Web-based encyclopedia, Tennessee ranks 10th nationwide for alcohol-related highway fatalities. Additionally, with MTSU’s enrollment increasing 2 to 3 percent each year over the last several years, Public Safety records indicate there also has been a steady rise in the number of alcohol-related incidents and arrests on campus.

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

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

“In addition to many education programs that we present to interest groups on campus, such as ‘Drunk Goggles,’” the associate chief said.
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PCSW seeking grant applications

by Gina K. Logue

T he President’s Commission on the Status of Women is accepting applications for three summer grants of $1,800 each to integrate experiences and perspectives of women into the curriculum.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Take aim at target club membership

by Thad Mitchell

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

The club meets twice a month at the MTSU Department of Public Safety, 122 E. Main St. Function for the club are held once a month at Big Springs Clay Target Sports in Wartrace, Tenn., for practice or competition. The club also works closely with high-school clay target teams in the area, serving as mentors for the younger generation of shooters, according to Nelson.

Nelson is a defending national champion in clay shooting and is currently a junior majoring in aerospace maintenance management at MTSU.

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

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

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

Senior says ‘get involved!’

by Thad Mitchell

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

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

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

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

“I’ve had the privilege of attending a couple of red-carpet events and meeting some famous people,” she said. “I’m always willing to help. The response we’ve received from soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan has been interesting, too.”

To date, Williams has collected letters from as far back as World War I, with some as recent as 2001. E-mails received from soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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

“People on campus have been very willing to help. The response has been largely from support staff and they seem very enthusiastic about helping students,” she said. “It’s important people not only have contact with have been very helpful and generous.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For more information, contact Johnson at 615-988-2709 or wtjohns@mtsu.edu.

Senior says ‘get involved!’

by Thad Mitchell

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

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

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

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

“I’ve had the privilege of attending a couple of red-carpet events and meeting some famous people,” she said. “I’m always willing to help. The response we’ve received from soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan has been interesting, too.”

To date, Williams has collected letters from as far back as World War I, with some as recent as 2001. E-mails received from soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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

“People on campus have been very willing to help. The response has been largely from support staff and they seem very enthusiastic about helping students,” she said. “It’s important people not only have contact with have been very helpful and generous.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For more information, contact Johnson at 615-988-2709 or wtjohns@mtsu.edu.

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by Samantha Meeks

Freshman’s interests lead to ‘historic’ work

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Samantha Meeks is a senior majoring in philosophy—Freshman history major Kelsey Jensen is published every two weeks.

by the mile. Pop goes the weasel. The table is turned.

as a chapter in Victorian England’s struggle with science” at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association meeting at the University of California, Riverside, Nov. 10.

Dr. Sandy Neal (health and human performance) is a member of the Senior Mixed Doubles tennis team from Murfreesboro that won the Southern Sectional Mixed Doubles Team Championship in Cary, N.C., Oct. 20-22. The competition included more than 700 participants from nine southern states. Neal’s team qualified for the USTA Eastern National Tournament in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Nov. 17-19.


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

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

For more information about the Sam Davis Home, 1399 Sam Davis Road in Smyrna, including tour times, please call 615-459-2341. photos by Samantha Meeks

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