Learn more about new facilities policy

by Tom Tozer

N eed your space? The Resource25 WebViewer, MTSU’s master calendar, is an easily accessible place to find it—and to learn what, when and where events and classes are happening throughout the campus. The calendar is found at www.mtsu.edu/webviewer.

Once you have this information and know what spaces would be appropriate for your needs, you can visit the Event Coordination Web site at www.mtsu.edu/eventcoordination to view the new Use of Facilities Policy, obtain the forms needed and use links to the various offices.

Save the dates!
April 16, 1:30 p.m.
April 29, 10 a.m.

Campuswide implementation of R25 has expanded over the years and now includes areas like the Cope Conference Room, Learning Resource Center computer labs and the Campus Recreation Center. With the addition of other schedulers and facilities to R25, scheduling events on campus has become more diverse and comprehensive. This expansion of schedulers has led to some changes in the policies and procedures for scheduling space on campus.

Event Coordination has played a crucial role in working with the campus community, university administration and the Tennessee Board of Regents to define and implement the new scheduling policies.

See ‘Learn’ page 5

Listen up

Jazz up your life with support for WMOT-FM

“K eep playing the best of jazz. I wish we had it here in (the) Louisville area,” says Jamey, one of WMOT-Jazz 89’s biggest supporters.

The staff at WMOT Jazz89 is hoping that comments like Jamey’s will help Middle Tennessee music fans understand how important it is to financially support this treasure of a radio station.

Jamey listens to streaming audio of WMOT’s air signal and makes financial contributions online at www.wmot.org to help pay for the jazz he enjoys.

WMOT-JAZZ89’s annual "Blitz Build" campaign. For more information, call 615-898-2782.

See ‘Jazz’ page 5

Women’s sports at MTSU marks proud heritage

by Alesha Brown

F resh from Women’s History Month celebrations, and with the NCAA Women’s Basketball Tournament set for April 6-8, spring is a timely season to think about the role and history of women’s sports.

In 1997, the nation witnessed the first Women’s National Basketball Association season. By 1999, Serena and Venus Williams had given tennis lovers a show for their money. And in 2005, Danica Patrick placed fourth at the Indianapolis 500, the best showing by a woman to date.

These recent accomplishments alone are enough for women athletes to stand proudly, but without overcoming obstacles, understanding and appreciating those accomplishments would be incomplete.

“Title IX was one of my most memorable moments in women’s sports,” said Diane Turnham, MTSU associate athletic director.

Title IX prohibits any sexual discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. It is probably most well-known, though, for its role in the increase of women’s participation in sports.

Full academic scholarships for women athletes were unheard of before the 1970s, but Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments finally made financial aid an option for aspiring female athletes. (‘Female’ players paid for everything until the late ’70s,” recalled Turnham, who also was the first full-time women’s assistant coach at MTSU.

In 1975, MTSU gave out three scholarships.

See ‘Women’s’ page 5

Stacks of history
April ‘Middle Tennessee Record’ celebrates MTSU’s library legacy

see page 3

Inside this edition:
Intercultural event draws CNN anchor, page 2
Celebrate excellence with president, page 5
Exchange student is going places, page 8
by Gina K. Logue

Fredricka Whitfield, anchor for Cable News Network, will be the featured speaker at the inaugural Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs Symposium on Tuesday, April 15.

All of the day’s events are free and open to the public and will take place in MTSU’s Keathley University Center Theater.

The gathering will begin at 9:45 a.m. CNN’s Whitfield will deliver her address, “Underrepresented and Overexposed: People of Color in the Media,” at 4 p.m. Luther Buie, interim director of the Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs, says the topic stems from discussions with mass communication students who had questions about their journalistic mission.

Buie says they asked, “Is there a social responsibility to my particular community that I come from, or is it just that of an ethical responsibility in general? Do we separate those two, or are they intertwined?”

Whitfield, who anchors the weekend edition of “CNN Newsroom,” also has reported for the network from the Persian Gulf region during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, covered debates over public display of the Ten Commandments and reported on arrests in arson cases in which African-American churches were damaged or destroyed.

“Reportor of the Year” Award. A graduate of Howard University with a bachelor’s degree in journalism, Whitfield received the school’s “Alumni of the Year” Award in 2002. In addition, Whitfield will hear Dr. Jennifer Woodard, an associate professor of electronic media communication at MTSU, speak on “Deconstructing Images of Women in the Media” at 9:45 a.m.

Buie says the symposium is a joint effort sponsored by his office, the College of Mass Communication and the John Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies.

“This is the first of its kind, and we definitely plan on trying to do this again, making it an annual event, and maybe move from college to college to hear diverse voices from the various schools and colleges that MTSU represents,” Buie says.

For more information on other symposium events, contact the Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs at 615-898-5812 or send an e-mail to Buie at lbuie@mtsu.edu.

CNN anchor to keynote intercultural event

by Brittany Witt

Business executives from across the region will take over 10:15 and 11:20 a.m. classes at MTSU on Friday, April 11, in an event that has become one of the university’s signature occasions linking textbook theory and real-world applicability.

The 17th Annual University Takeover/Executives-in-Residence program, sponsored by the Jennings A. Jones Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise, is the largest event of its kind in the Southeast, according to event organizers in the Jennings A. Jones College of Business.

Local CEOs, business owners, directors and managers will meet with morning classes to share their experiences and answer questions from students on topics like interviewing and how to climb the corporate ladder.

“The Executives-in-Residence program provides an opportunity for our students to interact with some very dynamic executives in Middle Tennessee and gives them a chance to see some of the theory they’re being taught in actual practice,” said Dr. Jim Burton, dean of the Jones College of Business.

“The classroom experience will also give visiting executives an opportunity to know more about the quality of the students that we’re making available to them as future employees. This event represents everything that Jennings Jones was about—vision, achievement and giving back.”

Following the morning classes, there will be an invitation-only luncheon at 12:30 p.m. in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

The luncheon speaker will be John R. Ingram, vice chairman of Ingram Industries Inc. and CEO of Ingram Content Holdings, which includes Ingram Book Group, Lighting Source Inc. and Ingram Digital Group.

Ingram earned his bachelor’s degree in English from Princeton University in 1984 and received his MBA from the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University.

Ingram is a member of the board of directors of Ingram Micro Inc., the National Book Foundation and the National Center for Learning Disabilities. He serves on the Board of Trustees for Vanderbilt, Montgomery Bell Academy and The Harpeth Hall School.

Marketing professor earns students’ acclaim

Ingram, Jennings A. Jones Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise, will deliver an address, “Outstanding Professor in the College of Business,” at 9:45 a.m. Thursday, April 17, as part of the MTSU Excellence in First Amendment Symposium.

“Dr. Friz is enormously popular with his students,” said Dr. Jill Austin, management and marketing department chair. “He works diligently to enhance his teaching so that students have a good learning experience in his classes.”

Friz, who has been a professor at MTSU for five years and teaches courses in principles of marketing, consumer behavior and personal selling, received a plaque to honor his achievement Thursday, April 17, at the Omega Chapter Initiation Banquet. His name also will appear on a larger plaque that hangs in the faculty lounge of the Business and Aerospace Building.

“My classroom philosophy is to create a lighthearted learning environment,” Friz said. “I strive to make the material interesting with real-life examples using products, services and companies with which the students can relate.”

Friz received an undergraduate degree in psychology from MTSU in 1999 and an MBA with an emphasis in marketing from MTSU in 2003.

“It is evident that business students approve of the teaching approach that Mr. Friz uses in teaching marketing courses,” said Dr. Jill Austin, management and marketing department chair. “He works diligently to enhance his teaching so that students have a good learning experience in his classes.”

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by John C. Lynch

With 2008 as the 50th anniversary of MTSU’s venerable Todd Building, the April edition of “Middle Tennessee Record,” the university’s monthly video magazine, looks back on a century of libraries on campus in its regular “Centennial Countdown” segment.

One of the key figures in bringing Middle Tennessee State Normal School to Murfreesboro was Andrew L. Todd, a member of the State Board of Education and, more importantly, a member of the selection committee that in 1909 chose Murfreesboro over Clarksville and Cookeville for the site of the new institution.

During his career as an educator, Todd held positions from high-school principal to assistant state superintendent of education. In his political career, he was a member of the Tennessee General Assembly and is credited with Tennessee’s first compulsory school-attendance law.

The Todd Building was the third home for MTSU’s library. The first was the basement of Kirksey Old Main, the campus’s first classroom and administration building. The second library location was Murfree Hall, which was located where Peck Hall stands today.

In 1999, the James E. Walker Library was dedicated. Today, the renovated Todd Building is the home of the Albert Gore Research Center and the Department of Art and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

When the Todd Library opened in 1958, it housed 64,000 volumes. The current number in the Walker Library is 937,000.

The April MTR lineup also includes:

- MTSU professors and students continuing their investigation of alternative energy sources;

- science prodigy Taylor Barnes getting his name on the A List;

- MTSU students helping families learn a healthier lifestyle through the Healthy Families program;

- young inventors learning what songwriters and inventors have in common; and

- four Tennessee writers visiting campus and sharing insights on their profession.

“Middle Tennessee Record” for April also mourns two beloved professors, Drs. Lon Nuell and David Walker. And musician alumnus William Richardson takes a trip to “Duke’s Place.”

To watch these stories in MTSU’s monthly video magazine, check out local Cable Channel 9 daily at 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., Sundays at 1:30 p.m. on NewsChannel5+; or anytime via www.mtsunews.com on YouTube.

Music author sets workshops

from Staff Reports

C linician and double bassist Barry Green, author of The Inner Game of Music and Mastery of Music, will present free public workshops and master classes April 18-19 in Room 173 of the Wright Music Building.

A California native, Green’s Friday, April 18, presentations include an Inner Game overview at 9 a.m.; musical coaching from Inner Game techniques at 10:15 a.m.; Music Alive, “Reaching the Mountain Top,” at 1 p.m.; and musical coaching from Inner Game and Music Alive techniques at 2:15 p.m.

On Saturday, April 19, Green will present another musical coaching from Inner Game and Music Alive techniques at 9 a.m. and a music workshop, “Ten Pathways to True Artistry,” at 10:15 a.m. He will close with a 1 p.m. master class for the string bass.

Green served as principal bassist of the Cincinnati Symphony for 28 years. He currently directs a young bassist program for the San Francisco Symphony Education Department and teaches privately at Stanford, intermediate in Lafayette and at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He also has organized the Northern California Bass Club.

Seating is limited; to reserve a seat, contact Deanna Little at dbilanh@mtsu.edu or 615-898-2473 by Tuesday, April 15.

University to serve as host for statewide math contest

by Randy Weiler

M TSU and the Department of Mathematical Sciences will serve as a regional host for the 52nd annual Statewide High School Mathematics Contest.

Between 300 and 400 students will be competing in the contest, which will start at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 15, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building, said Dr. Michael Beck, assistant chair of mathematical sciences and test center chair for the contest.

Participants may compete in only one of six test divisions—Algebra I, geometry, Algebra II, pre-calculus, calculus and advanced topics.

The contest will end around 11:30 a.m., Beck said, adding that organizers hope to announce results by 1:30 p.m.

Awards will be presented to state winners and school representatives at the annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers’ Association Sept. 19 at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville.

Participating schools were invited to register on a first-come-first-served basis because of limited seating capacity, and the contest is scheduled to include public and private schools from several districts across the state.

While it is considered a high-school state contest, younger students from elementary and middle schools (including sixth through eighth grades) may enter the contest, said Gill Cripps, a secretary in the mathematical sciences department who is involved in the registration process.

Islamic Awareness Week planned April 7-10

MTSU’s Muslim Student Association plans an Islamic Awareness Week April 7-10 featuring informational events and a bake sale to raise funds for a scholarship honoring the late Dr. Lon Nuell.

On Monday, April 7, an IAW information table and bake sale are planned on the KUC Knoll from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Rain location is KUC second floor.)

A lecture on “The Role of Women in Islam” by Tasneem Ahmed is set for Tuesday, April 8, at 6 p.m. in BAS S316. At 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, the MSA will screen the “30 Days as a Muslim” episode of the F/X series “30 Days,” which was located where Peck Hall stands today.

During his career as an educator, Todd held positions from high-school principal to assistant state superintendent of education. In his political career, he was a member of the Tennessee General Assembly and is credited with Tennessee’s first compulsory school-attendance law.

Fifty years ago, on March 25, 1958, the newly built library on campus was dedicated in his name.

The Tod Building was the third home for MTSU’s library. The first was the basement of Kirksey Old Main, the campus’s first classroom and administration building. The second library location was Murfree Hall, which was located where Peck Hall stands today.

In 1999, the James E. Walker Library was dedicated. Today, the renovated Todd Building is the home of the Albert Gore Research Center and the Department of Art and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology.

When the Todd Library opened in 1958, it housed 64,000 volumes. The current number in the Walker Library is 937,000.
April 7

TV Schedule

“Middle Tennessee Record” Cable Channel 9:
- Monday-Sunday—7 a.m., 5 p.m.
- NewsChannel 5+: Sundays—1:30 p.m.
Visit www.mtsunews.com for other cable outlet airtimes.

Through April 11

Jaz’s Jammies Pajama Drive
New PJs needed for children in hospitals and homeless shelters For information, e-mail jazsjammies@yahoo.com.

April 7

- April 7-8 AAUW Annual Book Sale KUC first floor For information, e-mail AAUWBooksale@mtsu.edu.

Monday, April 7

Women’s Tennis vs. Western Ky.
2 p.m., Bouldin Tennis Center For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

Honors Lecture Series: Dr. Ron Bombardi, “On the Neurobiology of Truth” 3-3:50 p.m., HONR 106 For information, contact: 615-898-2152.

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

April 8

Tuesday, April 8

Tornado Siren Test Date
12:20 p.m., campuswide For information, contact: 615-898-2424.

MTU Baseball vs. Lipscomb
6 p.m., Reese Smith Field For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

April 9

Wednesday, April 9

Women in Concrete Luncheon
noon-2 p.m., Foundation House For information, contact: 615-904-8060.

MTSU Baseball vs. Belmont
6 p.m., Reese Smith Field For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

April 10

Thursday, April 10

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

Health and Education Fair
10 a.m.-2 p.m., KUC lobbies For information, contact: 615-898-5729.

Red Cross Blood Drive
10 a.m.-4 p.m., KUC third floor For information, contact: 615-898-5729.

April 11

17th Annual Windham Lecture: Dr. Philip Furia, “Skytark: The Life and Times of Johnny Mercer” 5 p.m., Hinton Music Hall For information, contact: 615-494-7628.

MTSU Wind Ensemble
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

April 12

April 12-13

MT Softball vs. Florida Int’l.
April 12: 1, 3 p.m.; April 13: noon Blue Raider Field For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

MTSU Jazz Festival
Wright Music Building For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Celebration of Excellence
6 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room Tickets: $20 per person; RSVP by Wednesday, April 9 For information, contact: 615-904-8260.

April 13

Sunday, April 13

Faculty Voice Recital: Dina Cancryn
5 p.m., Hinton Music Hall For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

MTSU Brass Chamber Ensemble
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

April 14

April 14-17

National Women’s History Month: Clothesline Project
11 a.m.-2 p.m., KUC Knoll For information, contact: 615-898-2193.

Monday, April 14

Faculty Senate Meeting
4:30 p.m., JUB 100 For information, contact: 615-898-2582.

MTSU Concert Band
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

April 15

Tuesday, April 15

MTU Baseball vs. Tennessee
6 p.m., Reese Smith Field For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

National Women’s History Month: Take Back the Night
6-9 p.m., KUC Knoll (rain date: April 16) For information, contact: 615-898-2193.

April 16

Wednesday, April 16

Red Cross Blood Drive
10 a.m.-4 p.m., KUC 322 For information, contact: 615-898-2950.

Scheduling Policy Workshop
1:30 p.m., KUC Theater For information, contact: 615-898-5143.

MTSU Baseball vs. Austin Peay
6 p.m., Reese Smith Field For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

April 17

April 17-19

Spring Dance Concert
7:30 p.m., Tucker Theatre For information, contact: 615-898-2640.

Thursday, April 17

Women’s Studies Research Series: Misa Culley, “Deconstructing Hillary: Framing Feminism in Election Politics” 3 p.m., JUB 100 For information, contact: 615-898-5282.

College of Basic and Applied Sciences Awards Ceremony
2:30-3 p.m. reception, 3-4 p.m. ceremony JUB Tennessee Room For information, contact: 615-898-2613.

MTSU Flute Choir
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

April 18

Friday, April 18

Campus Tornado Drill
9 a.m.-noon (time will vary) For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/alert4u or contact: 615-898-2424.

April 19

Saturday, April 19

Spring Preview Day
For information, contact: 615-898-5670.

Omar Faruk Tekbilek and His Ensemble
sponsored by the MTSU Middle East Center 2 p.m., KUC Theater For information, contact: 615-494-7906.

MTSU Flute Studio Recital
3 p.m., Hinton Music Hall For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

April 20

Sunday, April 20

MTSU Symphony Orchestra
4 p.m., Hinton Music Hall For information, contact: 615-898-2493.
Pay Equity Day notes gender salary disparities

According to the latest available statistics from the federal government (2006), women who work outside the home only receive an average of $77 cents in pay for every dollar a working man receives.

That’s why various MTSU groups will sponsor Pay Equity Day activities on the Keathley University Center Knoll from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22.

At 2:40 p.m., professor emeritus Dr. Ayne Turnham will deliver a free public address, “Behind the Pay Gap: How Far Have Women Come?” in Room 100 of the James Union Center Theater. An additional campuswide Pay Equity Day workshop to be offered at two separate times during the day will also be available for use of Facilities form that requires a department index number for Use of Facilities form that requires a department index number for Use of Facilities form that requires a department index number.

Also beginning July 1, organization contacts and links to forms that will be revised Application Web site for checklists, scheduling, and operating dollars from the university继续 to be flat.

Despite those factors, station Development Manager Keith Palmer says recent Arbitron ratings indicate that WMOT’s audience is showing a positive growth trend.

The fundraising campaign, which runs through Wednesday, April 30—just days before Murfreesboro’s annual Main Street Jazz Fest, of which WMOT has been a part and a promoter from the start—will benefit MTSU’s noncommercial, public broadcasting radio station.

Financial support of any amount is welcome, Palmer says. “Our listeners understand the importance of supporting the station financially and give in amounts from $10 to $1,000,” Palmer says. “Also, all indications are that there will be no increase in operating funds from MTSU this year, due to the current state budget picture, so it is up to those who listen and love the station to help pay the rising costs of broadcasting a quality signal, on-air and online 24/7.”

As a public broadcasting station and a public service of MTSU and its College of Mass Communication, WMOT relies on funding from MTSU and the public through membership dollars, philanthropic giving, business support underwriting and other fundraising endeavors.

For information on how you can help, visit www.wmot.org anytime or call 615-898-2800 or 615-255-9071.

WMOT-JAZZ98, which is located on the FM dial at 89.5, is MTSU’s National Public Radio member station and can easily set up payroll deduction for MTSU employees who wish to contribute. Call the station for details.

Women’s from page 1

all-academic scholarships for women athletes, one for basketball and two for tennis. Sandra McMillan Neal, now a professor of health and human performance, received one of those first two tennis scholarships.

Neal remembers the days before financial assistance was available for women and the effects of Title IX while she was in school.

“Graduate students coached before the school could afford full-time women’s coaches,” Neal said.

Another well-known achievement in women’s sports is the recent success of much-accomplished women’s coach Pat Summit. In 2003, Summit became the first woman coach to reach her 800th victory. Just 19 wins later, she was named the “winningest coach” in NCAA history.

“She is truly one of the best coaches … one of the few women who could coach a men’s team,” Turnham said of Summit’s seven national championships.

“Everyone knew she was different, and she was highly respected,” Neal added.

Those women athletes were able to see Summit when she was just beginning. Now, the current generation is able to see her at her strongest, and by her own admission, she is nowhere close to finishing.

Turnham classified Summit as “one of the heroes in women’s sports.” And as far as the future of women’s sports, Turnham and Neal agree that it will continue to improve, thanks to larger salaries that are now available for female coaches and good, quality coaching—the latter noted by both women as something they like to see.

“Beating big-name schools brings bigger crowds,” said Neal, referring to the MTSU win over Louisiana State University last December.

Today, women athletes have more equality than ever before in regard to their opportunities, Turnham and Neal observed, citing as evidence of progress the 2007 announcement that Wimbledon would pay women players the same amount as men.

“I think that basically, 30 years after Title IX was begun, the opportunities for women athletes are visibly improved at all levels, including the local, collegiate and professional levels of play and competition,” Turnham said.

In short, sports—from the hometown field or court to the high-profile arena of professional contest—is no longer a boys-only club, thanks largely to Title IX.

“Women have shown, and will continue to show, that they have the ability to fill sports venues and provide a high level of athleticism that’s both competitive and entertaining for sports fans of all levels,” Turnham confirmed. “The playing field for women athletes is more level than it’s ever been, and that’s a win-win for all sports fans.”

Alesha Brown is a senior majoring in advertising/public relations.

Jazz from page 1

membership appeal and on-air fundraising campaign kicks off Wednesday, April 16, to help the station bolster its budget in tight economic times. Federal funds for WMOT are soon to be nonexistent, and operating dollars from the university continue to be flat.

Despite those factors, station Development Manager Keith Palmer says recent Arbitron ratings indicate that WMOT’s audience is showing a positive growth trend.

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Dr. Ron Messier to guide, promote international education and exchange
by Gina K. Logue

To enhance MTSU’s burgeoning integration of international education into its academic life, Dr. Ron Messier, senior lecturer in history at Vanderbilt University and former history professor at MTSU, will return to the Murfreesboro campus in his new role as director of international outreach starting July 1.

Messier will report to Dr. Kaylene Gebert, executive vice president and provost. However, his duties will include advising President Sidney A. McPhee on international initiatives, hosting international dignitaries who visit the campus and traveling outside the country with McPhee at the president’s request.

“The provost and I are very happy to have Dr. Messier back on campus and working with us,” says Dr. Anne Sloan, special assistant to the provost for international education and exchange. Communication with the broader university community, including the development of an international education newsletter, also will be part of Messier’s focus.

“What I hope to be able to do is work with every segment of campus to try to identify things that MTSU does particularly well that will be marketable overseas and then identify target groups overseas and then connect the two,” Messier says.

Additionally, Messier will advise the Office of International Programs and Services and the Middle East Center. “Ron’s expertise and contacts in the Middle East and North Africa are wide-ranging and extensive,” says Dr. Allen Hibbard, director of the Middle East Center. “I saw this firsthand when he visited me while I was teaching in Damascus and when the two of us recently traveled together in Morocco. He was a key moving force behind plans to create a Middle East Center on campus and has remained a strong, steadfast supporter of our work and activities. I have always relied on his counsel and will lean on him more heavily once he assumes his official position here.”

“A logical place for me to start, because of my own background and experience, will be in areas like public history (and) historic preservation,” Messier says. “I know there’s a market for that in the Middle East and North Africa, and I’ve already started unofficially to look at ways of making those connections.”

In fact, over a six-week period between the conclusion of his time at Vanderbilt and the start of his new job at MTSU, Messier will travel to Morocco to continue an excavation that began in 2004 of a medieval Islamic city just south of Marrakech.

Messier will remain at Vanderbilt until April. His new MTSU position is a part-time job for which he anticipates working 20 hours a week over three or four days, which will enable him to travel and conduct research.

A professor of Middle East history and historical archaeology at MTSU from 1972 to 2004, Messier won the university’s Outstanding Teacher Award in 1976, Outstanding Honors Faculty Award in 1978 and Outstanding Research Award in 1997, as well as the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education award as Tennessee Teacher of the Year in 1993. He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Rhode Island in 1966 and his master’s and doctorate from the University of Michigan in 1968 and 1972, respectively.

Naval Intelligence chief plans April 8 visit and lecture
by Bonnie Bailey

Rear Admiral Tony Cothron, director of naval intelligence and an MTSU alumnus, will visit the university Tuesday, April 8, to lecture on U.S. National Security Policy and Decision-Making: Insights on How and Why Our Nation is at War.”

The free lecture, sponsored by MTSU’s History Department and History Club, will be held at 10 a.m. in Peck Hall Room 227.

Cothron, director of intelligence for the chief of naval operations and the 62nd director of naval intelligence, is a veteran of military operations around the world, including Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield.

Cothron’s assignments most recently included responsibilities for transforming the intelligence community in response to the global war on terrorism and supporting combat operations against Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Cothron, a native of Greenbrier, Tenn., graduated from MTSU in 1977. For more information, contact 615-898-2536 or Dr. Derek Frisby at dfrisby@mtsu.edu.

Making every voter count

NOV. 4 IS COMING—Members of the MTSU chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, a music fraternity for women, help prepare voter registration forms for fellow student Chelsea Drumming during a three-day drive in the School of Music in March. Clockwise around the table in the photo above are, from left, Elizabeth Warren, Clarissa Moditz, Michael Turner, Nicole Fox, Raye Hunter and Drumming. In the photo at right are the information sheets prepared by SAI members to answer prospective voters’ questions, as well as a registration form. Voters must be registered before Monday, Oct. 6, to vote in the Nov. 4 presidential election. For more information, visit www.rutherfordcountytn.gov/election anytime.

photos submitted
A Traveler’s Guide to Rutherford County’s Log Architecture is the title of a new driving-tour brochure produced by the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, a statewide program administered by the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation.

Michael Thomas Gavin, preservation specialist with the Heritage Area and author of Building with Wood, Brick, and Stone: Vernacular Architecture in Tennessee, 1770-1900 (University of Tennessee Press, 2004), developed the free brochure, which contains a concise explanation of the origin and evolution of log buildings, accompanied by a brief driving tour of log homes across the county.

The illustrated brochure contains a map and photographs from local properties, including the Sam Davis birthplace house and slave dwellings at the Sam Davis Home in Smyrna, Cannonsburgh in Murfreesboro and the Akin House in Bicentennial Park in La Vergne.

“The brochure is intended to direct people to publicly accessible sites where they can examine and learn more about historic log buildings,” remarked Gavin, who also authored a Restoration Guide for Historic Log Houses, a 20-page pamphlet recently published by the TCWNHA and the CHP.

Free copies of the brochure—as well as the pamphlet—are available at the Downtown Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County at 225 W. College St.; the Sam Davis Home in Smyrna; La Vergne City Hall; Cannonsburgh; and the Heritage Area headquarters, 1417 E. Main St., and the Center for Historic Preservation office at 1416 E. Main St. in Murfreesboro.

For more information about the brochure, please contact the CHP by calling 615-898-2947.

Honoring a cedar-glade pioneer by Randy Weiler

Vanderbilt University professor emeritus Dr. Elsie Quarterman, 96, will be honored during the April 11-13 Wildflower Weekend at Cedars of Lebanon State Park.

The 31st annual event is being renamed Elsie Quarterman Wildflower Weekend, said Dr. Kim Cleary Sadler, associate professor of biology and director of the MTSU Center for Cedar Glade Studies, who is co-sponsoring the event along with Tennessee State Parks.

“Dr. Quarterman and her students have spent the last 60 years studying the unique ecology of the limestone glades, home to plant species not found anywhere in the world,” Sadler said. “Dr. Quarterman’s work has not only brought worldwide attention to the glades but also informed the public about the need for protection and appreciation of the limestone glades.”

A dedication to Dr. Quarterman will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, April 11, in the Huddleston Cedar Forest Lodge, Sadler said. Tennessee Department of Conservation naturalist Mack Pritchard will be the guest speaker.

The Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glade, a 185-acre natural area that is part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Percy Priest Reservoir near La Vergne, already is named in her honor.

The festivities will continue Saturday, April 12, starting at 7 a.m. with a full day of hikes, lectures, workshops and field trips into the unique Lebanon Limestone Glades at the Cedar Basin, Sadler added. All events are free and open to the public.

“Leaders for all the events represent the finest group of ecologists, botanists and naturalists from numerous professional organizations,” Sadler said. MTSU faculty and alumni will participate and lead caravans and talks, including Dr. Tom Hemmerly, a biology professor from 1964-2007; biology professor Dr. Kurt Blum; and alumni Landon McKinney, Danny Bryan, Melissa Torrentine, Terri Hogan and Mike Berkley.

For more information, please call Cedars of Lebanon State Park at 615-443-2769. For a tentative schedule of events, visit www.tennessee.gov/environment/parks/Cedars/features/festival_april_11_2008.shtml.

Cathy Lower (publications) has her second book, Haunted Florida: Ghosts and Strange Phenomena of the Sunshine State, released by Stackpole Books in July 2008. This is the second book for Lower and co-author Cindy Thuma.

Dr. Kris McCusker (history) has published Lonesome Cowgirls and Honky-Tonk Angels: The Women of Barn Dance Radio with the University of Illinois Press.


Dr. Maria Smith Revell (nursing) has published “Antibiotic Use in Interventional Radiology: A Nursing Perspective,” in the Journal of Radiology Nursing (Vol. 26, No. 2; June 2007).

Dr. Rong Luo (mathematical sciences) conducted research with Yue Zhao March 14-16 at the University of Central Florida in Orlando.


Dr. Kong Kong (mathematical sciences) attended the 2008 Workshop on Sparsity in High Dimensional Statistics and Learning Theory in Atlanta March 20-22.
Cao is currently studying electronic media communication in the College of Mass Communication, a field much different than what she was learning at Hunan Normal and one that is not offered at her home university.

In China, Cao studied broadcast and host- ing, which is an art major that trains students to speak up, to participate, so you wouldn’t be the ‘shame of the university,' Cao says.

As she approaches the end of her year abroad, Cao is currently studying electronic media communica- tion in the College of Mass Communication, a field much different than what she was learning at Hunan Normal and one that is not offered at her home university. In China, Cao studied broadcasting and host- ing, which is an art major that trains students to speak up, to participate, so you wouldn’t be the ‘shame of the university,' Cao says.

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