MTSU welcomes officers Nov. 22 during Salute to Armed Services
by Randy Weiler
jweiler@mtsu.edu

A number of MTSU military science alumni who later became U.S. Army general officers will add spice to the 27th annual Salute to Armed Services/Veterans Day on Saturday, Nov. 22, Lt. Col. Mike Walsh said.

At least seven of the ROTC program’s alumni have accepted President Sidney A. McPhee’s invitation to attend a brunch, which will be hosted by McPhee and his wife, Elizabeth, and attend other Salute to Armed Services/Veterans Day events. The brunch will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the president’s home.

The returning alumni/general officers include Brig. Gens. Max Haston (1979 graduate), Robert D. Ogg (78), Stan Lillie (76) and Patrick W. Harrison (51); Maj. Gen. James Myles (74); and Lt. Gens. Horace “Pete” Taylor (60) and George Stotser (56).

The military science program has a number of events leading to and including MTSU’s 2:30 p.m. Sun Belt Conference football game against North Texas.

This spring, an MTSU student was sitting in her car when a man tried to force her way in.

“She came up, he opened the door and tried to get in the car, like he was going to push me over in the seat,” Elise recalls now.

Unfortunately for him, she was enrolled in the Rape Aggression Defense System program on campus. She’d taken only three sessions but was able to use the skills she’d already learned to stop the attack.

Elise yelled, “No, get away, what are you doing, get out of my car!” The man stopped, looked at her, then ran away.

She had been taught to yell instead of scream, because screams

Like a Diamond in the sky
by Drew Dunlop
news@mtsu.edu

The 13th annual Unity Luncheon, honoring unsung heroes who have devoted their lives to service for others, will be held Wednesday, Nov. 22 in the James Union Building’s Tennessee Room during Black History Month. Now is the time for nominations. Please visit www.mtsu.edu/aahm/unity_luncheon.shtml for nomination procedures and deadline information. For more information, contact 615-898-2718.

Tuesday, Feb. 3, in the James Union Building’s Tennessee Room during Black History Month. Now is the time for nominations. Please visit www.mtsu.edu/aahm/unity_luncheon.shtml for nomination procedures and deadline information. For more information, contact 615-898-2718.

S eeking a college degree provides a great experience in learning, but the reward most students anticipate is getting a job they enjoy. The degree earned to achieve that goal, however, may be worth nothing if the student can’t convince an employer that he’s the right person for the job.

So how does a new job seeker carry out a successful interview? Walking into an interview confidently and staying calm and collected in response to difficult questions requires preparation and practice.

That’s where people like Bill Fletcher, director of the Career and Employment Center at MTSU, come in. One of his responsibilities is helping students entering the job market prepare for the interviewing process. He draws on 18 years’ worth of experience in career development, student affairs and Greek life and has helped thousands of students with their interviewing skills.

One of the first things to keep in mind when interviewing, Fletcher tells students, is to maintain the same intensity that landed the interview. The candidate had to develop the resume, develop the cover letter, and practice.

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One of the first things to keep in mind when interviewing, Fletcher tells students, is to maintain the same intensity that landed the interview appointment. “The candidate had to develop the resume, develop the cover letter, develop and cultivate a network to

Career center services are 1st step to job success
by Drew Dunlop
news@mtsu.edu

...
I started innocently enough: a group of geog-
raphers and historians trying to locate the site
of World War I’s most-decorated U.S. sol-
dier, Alvin York, conducted his fight in France’s
Forest of Argonne in 1918.
In hindsight, who could have guessed that
this research quest and its subsequent findings
would end up as a media and Internet blog battle
putting the U.S. Army against the Tennessee-based
research crew?
To predict the current situation, it is impor-
tant to explain that as a geographer, I have long
been interested in applying geographic informa-
tion science, or GIS, to the study of military histo-
y. And in 2003, I first toured the area where
Tennessee native York won his Medal of Honor.
At that time, I was armed with several books and
articles describing the fight and attempted to
reconstruct the engagement on the ground. After
several hours of climbing hills and wading
through briars, however, I was forced to conclu-
sion that the real landscape did not agree with the
maps and descriptions in my books..
From there, it occurred to me that this was a
wonderful opportunity to use GIS to uncover the
location of York’s exploits. So, when I got back to
Tennessee, I contacted a friend, Dr. Michael
Birdwell, who is the curator of the Alvin York
Papers and the foremost authority on York.
Together we decided it would be worth a try
conducting a surface archaeology survey of the site
with access to his wealth of information and I went to
The National Archives and Records Administra-
tion in College Park, Md., in search of maps and
spatial information to create a model of the World
War I landscape north of the modern forest.
In summer 2005, I also contacted a French
archaeologist, Yves Desfosses, to get permission to
conduct a surface archaeology survey of the battle
site in Châtel-Chéhéry, Plus, I contacted another
friend and colleague, Michael Kelly, a WWI battle-
field tour guide from the United Kingdom, who
volunteered to help with the logistics of doing
fieldwork in France.
In 2006, we made two trips to the battlefield
to recover and map artifacts relating to the battle.
It took several more months to analyze that data
and synthesize the artifact patterns with historic
maps and documents. In the end, we were able to
say that the preponderance of evidence indicated a
particular site as being where York fought, even
though we were unable to resolve all the contra-
dictions. However, we soon found that our con-
clusions deeply offended Lt. Col. Douglas
Mastriano, an army officer stationed in Germany
and a self-appointed expert on the York story.
Mastriano claimed support from the U.S.
Army Center of Military History and produced a report
marking the media coverage and faulty research
unto his claims. Mastriano based his claims on artifacts recovered in a
metal-detector survey conducted without official authorization from
the French regional archaeo-
ologist and in violation of
French law. He carefully orches-
trated the media coverage in
advance and his claims were published in The
New York Times and Stars and Stripes and featured
on the Armed Forces News Network.
In December 2007, a representative of the U.S
Army Center of Military History asked me to
write an article describing my research and con-
clusions for publication in the fall issue of its maga-
zine, Army History. Mastriano, too, was asked to
supply an article detailing his work for publica-
tion in the same issue. I was seeking an objective,
professional forum to debate Mastriano’s claims and
was glad to have an opportunity to respond
to all the media coverage. Subsequently, I submit-
ted my article in May 2008.
Unfortunately, prior to publication of the fall issue of Army History, I discovered a decision
had been made not to publish my article because
of “a lack of reader interest.” I also learned that
the director of the U.S. Army Center of Military
History previously had expressed Mastriano’s
research. I was left with no alternative but to find
another forum to present my research.
In the meantime, Mastriano had succeeded in
erecting a monument to York on the wrong spot
and constructing an interpretive trail to the monu-
ment. He celebrated his achievements by staging a
dedication ceremony in Châtel-Chéhéry on Oct. 4,
2008, with support from the United American
Battle Monuments Commission. I am indebted to Brad Posey, an accomplished military
historian and collector living in Germany for pro-
viding me with information about these develop-
ments.
Posey, as it turns out, had assisted Mastriano
with his metal-detector survey and has doubts
about the methods and results. Because of these
doubts, he contacted his friend, Jim Legg, an
archaeologist with the South Carolina Institute of
Archaeology and Anthropology, and expressed his
concerns. Posey and Legg eventually contacted
me, and I provided them with a copy of my research
results related to the York site. Both
agreed that the site I identified was almost cer-
tainly the scene of Sgt. York’s action and that
Mastriano’s efforts were a well-intentioned relic
hunt. Both men also have offered to help correct
the historical record.
This article, written on behalf of all the
Tennessee researchers who made the research
expeditions with me to France in 2006, represents
the first step in the process of discrediting
Mastriano’s claims and presenting an accurate
account of exactly where Alvin York won his
Medal of Honor. It is our sincere hope that well-
conducted, scholarly research eventually will pre-
vent future highly publicized but faulty amateur
efforts.
Dr. Tom Nolan, director of MTSU’s R.O.
Fuller Laboratory for Archaeological Science, led the interdisciplinary research team that located the York
battlefield site near Châtel-Chéhéry, France, in 2006.
Small change can make a BIG difference

That cup of premium coffee or rich hot cocoa can certainly warm you up on the way to work this winter. That warmth can stay with you year-round if you choose to join the university’s Employee Charitable Giving Program, because small change—the cost of that same cup of coffee—can make a big difference in the community. In fact, if each of MTSU’s 2,263 employees donates just $40 a year, or $3.33 a month, the effort can easily meet the university’s $90,000 fundraising goal for 2008.

“We all know what the economy’s like and how it’s affecting all of us and our neighbors,” Dr. Gloria Bonner, 2008 campaign chair and special assistant to the president for the Office of Community Engagement and Support, said during the Nov. 6 campaign kickoff. “We can find creative ways to give, ways to give in small ways and in large ways, to help our community. It’s true that small change can make a big difference.”

Once again, donors can choose up to three different organizations from a roster of 10 independent charities and three federated charitable organizations. Those gifts can be given via one-time or monthly payroll deductions.

Pledge forms are available online at www.mtsu.edu/go/write and also can be filled out by hand; the donor keeps one copy and turns in the remaining four copies to the departmental campaign coordinator.

All pledge forms must be returned to campaign headquarters in Room 114 of the Cope Administration Building, via departmental coordinators or direct campus mail, by Friday, Nov. 21, at 4:30 p.m. Employees who return their forms by the deadline will be eligible for a campuswide drawing on Wednesday, Nov. 26, at 1:30 p.m. for dozens of prizes. A full listing is available at the “prizes” link at www.mtsu.edu/go/write. Donations are not required to enter drawings, but those who do give are eligible for even more fun prizes, including an airplane flight over Murfreesboro, dance lessons, an MTSU Theatre season subscription for two, an interior design consultation, an overnight stay at the Hastings House Bed & Breakfast in Murfreesboro and a private tour and wine tasting at Monteagle Winery.

“Our goal is ambitious,” said Bonner, “but we’re acclimated to striving for excellence at MTSU. And it really is simple: everyone helps in small ways to make a big change. We can think of our goal as helping just one program—for example, our own Project Help. The whole $90,000 could easily go to that program and do magnificent things! But, of course, our donors can choose any recipients they want for their hard-earned dollars.”

The annual effort at MTSU is conducted in unison with all Tennessee Board of Regents institutions. MTSU’s contributions increase every year, with the 2007 campaign netting a record $81,000-plus to serve the community.

For more information, contact Laurie Glenn at 615-494-7900.

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Society for International Affairs aims to aid students on campus and abroad

by Gina K. Logue
glogue@mtsu.edu

The Society for International Affairs will send its latest Model United Nations team to the Southeast Regional conference in Atlanta Nov. 20-22 with the attendees representing United Arab Emirates.

However, the organization is extending its mission and its methods. SIA will continue to learn about people in other parts of the world not only by portraying them but also by assisting them.

“The Society for International Affairs is unique in that our primary focus is on service and teaching students at this point in their lives to really value a service ethic,” says Dr. Karen Petersen, assistant professor of political science and faculty adviser to SIA. Many of the organization’s members learn about global poverty and inequality in class from Petersen and other MTSU professors and yearn to do something to help.

For example, last spring, SIA made loans to a farmer in Tajikistan, a group of Cambodian women subsistence farmers and a small Peruvian grocery store. All of those loans are being repaid gradually. When one SIA member, Rachel Peck of Rockvale, announced that she would be traveling to Uganda, the group provided her with more than $100 worth of school supplies to give to children there. Here at home, SIA gave $180 to the American Red Cross to help tornado victims, but the organization plans to use its fundraising efforts to help fellow MTSU students as well.

“What we would like to do, ideally, is to be able to provide financial assistance in emergency situations for international students, particularly students who have no family support, who are here in Murfreesboro ... without the infrastructure that typical students take for granted,” Petersen says.

She says small grants of $50 to $100 for these emergency expenses can help international students over the rough spots so they can stay in college and concentrate on their studies. Frequently, after graduation, they return to war-torn or impoverished countries to put what they learned at MTSU to use in solving those nations’ problems.

Petersen finds that young people are far less likely to hesitate when asked to get involved with individuals from other cultures. “I think that college students also have more opportunities to interact with people from other cultures in a campus environment.”

SIA is also helping to form an MTSU chapter of the international service club for young adults known as ROTARACT. Sponsored by the University Honors College, the College of Liberal Arts, the Department of Political Science and the Murfreesboro Breakfast Rotary, ROTARACT strives to promote international understanding through friendship and service. The program is for adults ages 18 to 30, and each chapter carries out at least one community service project and one international service project per year.

SIA meets on Mondays from 3 to 4 p.m. in Room 208 of Peck Hall. For information on how you can help or to join SIA, visit www.mtsu.edu/~sia or contact Petersen at 615-494-8662 or kpetersen@mtsu.edu.

Making a Difference—Members of MTSU’s Society for International Affairs gather, at right, with school supplies they’ve collected for children in Uganda. SIA member Rachel Peck, above left, poses with children in Uganda while delivering the supplies and distributing snacks.

photos submitted
Please note:
Event dates, times and locations may change after press time. Please verify specifics when making plans.

TV Schedule

“Middle Tennessee Record”
Cable Channel 9:
Monday-Sunday—7 a.m., 5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+
Sundays—1:30 p.m.

Through Dec. 4

Photo Exhibit: Tom Mallonee, “Evidence of Passing: Vanishing Points Along an American Road”
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; noon-4 p.m. Saturday; 6-9:45 p.m. Sunday Baldwin Photographic Gallery
For information, contact: 615-898-2085.

Nov. 17

Monday, Nov. 17
Fall Honors Lecture Series: Dr. John Omachonu, “Agenda-Setting Images in National Politics” 3-3:55 p.m., HONR 106
For information, visit http://honors.web.mtsu.edu/lecture_series.htm or contact: 615-898-2152.

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

Nov. 18

Nov. 18-19
Tennessee Undergraduate Social Science Symposium
8 a.m.-6 p.m., James Union Building
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/socsocsym/index.shtml or contact: 615-494-7628.

Tuesday, Nov. 18
Open Forum for Faculty, Staff and Administrators with Dr. Sidney A. McPhee 3-4 p.m., BAS State Farm Room
For information, contact: 615-898-5825.

Nov. 19

Wednesday, Nov. 19
Open Forum for Faculty, Staff and Administrators with Dr. Sidney A. McPhee 1:30-2:30 p.m., BAS State Farm Room
For information, contact: 615-898-5825.

Faculty Piano Recital: Leo Erice
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Nov. 20

Thursday, Nov. 20
Women’s Studies Research Lectures: Dr. Katie Foss, “Choice or Chance?: Gender, Victimization and Responsibility in ‘CSI: Crime Scene Investigation’” 3 p.m., BAS SunTrust Room
For information, contact: 615-898-5282.

Free Legal Clinic
7-9 p.m., JUB 206
Open to all MTSU personnel; appointments required
For information, contact: 615-898-2193.

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

Nov. 21

Friday, Nov. 21
Employee Charitable Giving Campaign Pledge-Card Deadline
4:30 p.m., Cope 114
For information, contact: 615-494-7900.

MT Men’s Basketball vs. Tennessee
7:30 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2450.

Nov. 22

Saturday, Nov. 22
Blue Raider Football vs. North Texas
7-9 p.m., Floyd Stadium
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2450.

Nov. 23

Sunday, Nov. 23
“MTSU On the Record—Encyclopedia of the First Amendment”
Drs. John Vile and David Hudson, two of the three editors of the Encyclopedia of the First Amendment, discuss the work to which 19 members of the MTSU community contributed.
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM

Nov. 24

Monday, Nov. 24
MTSU Flute Studio
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

MTSU Symphony Orchestra
4 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Nov. 25

Tuesday, Nov. 25
MT Women’s Basketball vs. Chattanooga
7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2450.

Nov. 26

Wednesday, Nov. 26
MTSU String Chamber Recital
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Nov. 27-29

Nov. 27-29
Thanksgiving holiday
No classes; university closed.

Nov. 28

Friday, Nov. 28
MT Volleyball vs. Connecticut
7 p.m., Alumni Memorial Gym
MT Women’s Basketball vs. Arizona
7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2450.

Nov. 29

Saturday, Nov. 29
WHOA Walking for the Children Charity Show
Tennessee Miller Coliseum
For information, visit www.walkinghorseowners.com.

Nov. 30

Sunday, Nov. 30
“MTSU On the Record—Literacy Ph.D.”
Dr. Diane Sawyer, director of MTSU’s Chair of Excellence in Dyslexic Studies, discusses the university’s new doctoral program in literacy studies.
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM

MT Volleyball vs. St. Louis
Noon, Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2450.

“Messiah”
3 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

’Twas the Brass Before Christmas
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Calendar Items Welcomed
If you have campus events planned between Dec. 1 and Jan. 11, 2009, submit them NOW to gfann@mtsu.edu to make sure they’re included in the Dec. 1 edition of The Record!
get to the interviewing process, so keep the momentum going,” he says. Fletcher also emphasizes the importance of research—“Research the employer, research the field, research the industry. (Students) need to be knowledgeable.” Making that effort, Fletcher says, gives a candidate a clear advantage over less-prepared applicants by allowing her to tailor her professional information to fit the employer’s needs. It also allows the candidate to ask intelligent, serious questions of the interviewer to make herself stand out.

“Practice interview questions,” the director advises. “They [students] need to prepare for the type of interview they think they will have. They can’t know every question that will be asked of them, but they can know themselves—their skills, abilities, and interests. And they can know what’s important for the potential employer in that industry.

He also believes in the importance of practicing the interview. “They need to do mock interviews. They need to stand in front of the mirror; they need to say their answers out loud,” Fletcher explains, adding that preparation helps with presentation, too.

Many candidates can be ready by knowing “how they present themselves in the interview, how they do their handshake, dressing for success, arriving to the interview early, knowing what the traffic patterns are so that they are not running late and making excuses,” he says. “It’s the overall total package of looking knowledgeable, being knowledgeable and presenting your best foot forward in the interview process.”

A candidate also can do things that can hurt his job chances. Fletcher says he’s observed two major mistakes made by job applicants: not taking credit for their achievements and not preparing.

An employer needs to know what you are capable of, he says, and communicating your accomplishments is an important part of that knowledge. Fletcher says he has more problems trying to get candidates to take credit than trying to get them to prepare. “Mocking is the process of asking the candidates to talk about their accomplishments and the skills that were used and then drawing connections to how those skills would benefit the employer now.

A lack of preparation also comes up frequently as a problem for the students who work with “Life gets busy bay at certain times, and sometimes they will think that they will, like on a test, walk it into cold and see how they do,” he says. “It takes a lot of preparation and a lot of practice to come out of it with flying colors.”

Another problem for students is a lack of experience to combine with their degrees on the resumes, but proactive students can prevent it. “Students who are graduating from a college or university should have some experience,” Fletcher notes. “It doesn’t necessarily have to be a co-op or an internship; it can be a job-shadowing experience, volunteer experience, doing informational interviews with alums or people in the field.”

A candidate cannot know how the interview will go, Fletcher says, “You’re providing important nonverbal clues, too. Fletcher says students “should always sit more on the edge of the seat leaning toward the interviewer, making eye contact with the interviewer, (with a) good firm handshake.” He also recommends that students “I see nervousness in mock interviews, and that can come across by what I call ‘happy foot’ or the foot that bounces up and down. It is nervousness” can come across with not very good eye contact, maybe no motion at all or too much hand motion.

Fletcher’s final piece of advice is to remember the most important rule of interviewing for a job: “It’s not necessarily the best candidate who gets the position—it’s the best prepared.”

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Drew Dunlop

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Sexual assault reaction tips

• Talk with a counselor who has specialized training in this area. MTSU’s Domestic Violence Program and Sexual Assault Services offers counseling at no cost to the victim by calling 615-494-9881.

• Get immediate help if you have thoughts of harming yourself or others as a result of the attack and accompanying feelings.

• Contact the June Anderson Women’s Center on campus at 615-888-2193 for help in finding the services you need. The center works with women who have been assault candidates. “I see nervousness in mock interviews, and that can come across by what I call ‘happy foot’ or the foot that bounces up and down. It is nervousness” can come across with not very good eye contact, maybe no motion at all or too much hand motion.

• Consider taking the Rape Aggression Defense Program to gain a sense of safety. Call 615-692-2424 to sign up, or visit http://police.mtsu.edu for more information.

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The Record Nov. 17, 2008 page 5
Anime aficionados gather monthly for ‘All-Day Anime’ events

by Brian Estes
news@mtsu.edu

A

nim

es fans unite! The MTSU Anime Club hosts a monthly gathering of friends and enthusiasts known as the All-Day Anime, perhaps better known as an ADA.

This month’s set is for Saturday, Nov. 22. Anime Club President Nicholas Qualls said this month’s ADA will have a Shojo theme, which is characterized as a romantic, soap-opera type of anime. Club officers select the monthly themes with input from club members.

Things will get started at 11 a.m. in Room S213 in the Business and Aerospace Building, which is designated as the anime room. Then, around 12:30 p.m., the group usually migrates to a local Chinese restaurant for lunch. Qualls said the destination was not final-ized at press time.

Afterward, anime based on a particular theme will start show-
ing in the anime room. There also will be a game room set up next door in Room S208. The Anime Club, which was organized in spring 2005, holds every Wednesday night in the Bragg Mass Communication Building in Room 101 from 6 to 9 p.m., but Qualls said that ADA gives members and their friends a chance to get together for an extended period of time.

Qualls said that one of the best times he had at an ADA was when he was organizing the event and began to implement themes.

“We had a Mecha theme, and a lot of people were really interested,” Qualls said. “That made me very happy.”

Anime Club member Angelo Diamante said this month’s meeting is set for Saturday, Nov. 22, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building starting at 6 p.m. with admission $30 per person for the meal and evening of entertainment; MTSU student admission is $17.

To order feast tickets, visit the Tennessee Room at 6:30 p.m. sharp. Admission is $30 per person for the meal and evening of entertainment; MTSU student admission is $17.

To order feast tickets, visit the MTSU School of Music Web site at www.mtsumusic.com. Admission is $30 per person for the meal and evening of entertainment; MTSU student admission is $17.

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For more information about the MTSU Anime Club, visit the group’s Web site at www.mtsuac.com.

B

eth Ann Fenelly will teach the Spring 2009 Visiting Artist’s Seminar (UH 3200), a one-week, one-credit class open to MTSU honors students with upper-
division standing. This year’s seminar is “The Art and Craft of Poetry.”

“We’ll seek to discover the pleasures of poetry through music and rhythm and learn why poetry can contribute to a life rich in joy and understanding,” Fenelly says of the class. “Our goal will be to become better readers and analytical listeners of poetry and to learn some skills from the writing of poetry that we can apply to other types of writing, so we can become better writers in general.”

This course will include intensive, interactive craft classes combined with workshops so students can learn by doing. Students (at all levels of experience) will be intro-
duced to various aspects of craft with the goal of helping them better understand how poems create mean-
ing.

Fenelly is the author of three books of poetry—Unmentionables (Norton, 2008), Tender Hooks (Norton, 2004) and Open House (Zoo Press, 2002)—and a book of letters Great with Child (Norton, 2007). Her poems have appeared in such promi-
nent journals as Ploughshares, TriQuarterly and Shenandoah and also in Best American Poetry 2005 and Best American Poetry 2006. She has won the Kenyon Review Prize for a First Book, a Pushcart Prize and numer-
ous other awards. She has attended the Sewanee Writers’ Conference and the Breadloaf Writers’ Conference on fellowship and has conducted more than 100 readings and presentations of her poetry over the past eight years. She is an associate professor of English at the University of Mississippi.

The Visiting Artist’s Seminar, an interdisciplinary course taught by an established artist, is offered every spring by the Honors College. While speakers frequently visit campus to speak to students, the Visiting Artist’s Seminar couples that inspira-
tional experience with a hands-on component that lasts an entire week and requires intensive student par-
ticipation. It’s taught at an introductory level so that students from any field of study can participate, it’s limited to 15 students, and the only prerequisites are upper-division standing and a 3.25 GPA.

The 2008 seminar will meet daily from 3 to 5 p.m. Feb. 2-6. It will culminate in a free public reading by Fenelly and her students on Friday, Feb. 6, at 4 p.m. The Honors College will host a reception after the read-
ing so the audience may meet infor-
mally with the artist and the stu-
dents.

The 2008 Visiting Artist’s Seminar is supported by the University Honors College, the Distinguished Lectures Committee, the Virginia Peck Trust Fund Committee and the English Department.

For more information, contact the program coordinator, Dr. Claudia Barnett, at cbarnett@mtsu.edu or 615-898-2887.

‘Victorian Holiday Feast’ planned

T

he MTSU Women’s Chorale will present its first Victorian Holiday Feast on Friday, Dec. 5, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

Attendees will be able to travel back in time and usher in the holidays with the beautiful singing and carol-
ing of the MTSU Women’s Chorale and MTSU Bel Canto, as well as piano, string and brass music throughout the evening.

The feast will feature chicken cor-
don bleu with spiced hollandaise sauce accompanied by Caesar salad, green beans almandine, au gratin potatoes, dinner rolls with butter, and a choice of water, tea or coffee, topped off with chocolate cake for dessert.

The event begins with the assem-
blage of guests in the lobby of the James Union Building starting at 6 p.m. with entrance into the dining area of the Tennessee Room at 6:30 p.m. sharp. Admission is $30 per person for the meal and evening of entertainment; MTSU student admission is $17.

To order feast tickets, visit the MTSU School of Music Web site at www.mtsumusic.com and click on the “Victorian Holiday Feast” link. Fill out the ticket order form, print it, enclose a check made out to the MTSU School of Music and mail it to Victorian Holiday Feast, MTSU School of Music, MTSU Box 47, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 37132. Off-campus ticket buyers should enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

No tickets will be available at the door, so attendees should reserve their seats early. For more information, call 615-898-5922.

H

onors ’09 Visiting Artist’s Seminar features poet

reprinted from ‘Honors Edition,’ the Honors College Newsletter

Where’s your sign? Bring it to Gore Center

from Staff Reports
news@mtsu.edu

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don’t put those political yard signs in the trash—donate them to the Albert Gore Research Center at MTSU!

The center collects politi-
cal signs for exhibits and educational purposes. If you have regular-sized signs (2 feet square) for a candidate or election issue from this or previous elections and would like to make contributions, please drop them off at the Gore Center in Room 129 of the Todd Building. (The center can’t pick up signs from your home or office.)

The center also collects bumper stickers, buttons, fans and other political memorabilia. Samples are on display in the hall outside the center.

For more information, contact Dr. Jim Williams, director of the Gore Center, at 615-898-2887 or jimwillia@mtsu.edu.
Get on firm ground at TERRA conference

by Brian Estes
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S tudents and faculty who have an interest or involvement in the labor-relations market will have a chance to further themselves in the field starting Wednesday, Nov. 19, when the 11th annual Tennessee Employment Relations Research Association, or TERRA, conference begins at Arnold Air Force Base in Tullahoma. MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee and sociology professor Dr. Carl Canak said that the conference’s main purpose is to provide seminars that will present informational material and also will allow those working in labor management fields to network with one another.

“It serves as a forum for different constituents to learn from each other and for experts to address hot topics,” Canak said.

Canak pointed out that several former TERRA attendees said that people working in labor industry-related fields typically attend the TERRA conference, including union officials, management consultants, researchers, attorneys, and arbitrators and mediators.

The content of the workshops and speakers is of the highest quality and is relevant to the interests of careers in the labor field,” Canak said. “It is also a wonderful opportunity to off-campus and establish a network or interpersonal communication with people well-established in the field.”

He said that people working in labor-industry-related fields typically attend the TERRA conference, including union officials, management consultants, researchers, attorneys, and arbitrators and mediators.

The event will take place over three days, so hotel accommodations have been made. The Wingo Inn will accommodate guests traveling in for the conference. The rate will be $37.90 per night. The number to register is 931-454-3051.

There also is a contingent of students that makes the trip every year. Canak pointed out that several former MTSU students have attended the conference in years past and made great leaps in their professional lives. An example he cited is Craig Neel, who now serves as the southeast district director for the U.S. Department of Labor’s Office of Labor Management.

“Neel attended the TERRA conference while he was a student at MTSU,” Canak said. “That’s a very big job.”

Neel, who attended the TERRA conference while he was a student at MTSU, said that the networking opportunities he received directly to an internship. From there, Neel said, he was much more prepared to break into the professional world and was able to show employers that he had a good understanding of unions and how they work.

“That’s what they really Adams were interested in,” he said.

Randall Adams, now a sociology professor at Tennessee Tech, also said that the benefit he received from attending the TERRA conference while he was a student at MTSU was still a student at MTSU, said the networking opportunities he received led directly to an internship. From there, Neel said, he was much more prepared to break into the professional world and was able to show employers that he had a good understanding of unions and how they work.

“There are a wide variety of people there who can offer insight into the interactions between workers and corporations and between labor leaders and the people they work with,” Adams said.

Canak said attending conferences like the TERRA event is important for students because they can meet employers who are in a position to fund internships and provide entry-level jobs. Many students don’t think about their careers until they’re almost ready to graduate, he said.

“If you’ve established a connection, the transition to a career is smooth,” Canak said.

TERRA, a nonprofit membership organization, encourages research, open discussion, and publication of data to ensure its members keep abreast of current practices and innovations in the field and to strengthen the community and workplace. It was founded at MTSU in 1997 as a state chapter of the Labor and Employment Relations Association, or LERA.

For more information about TERRA and the conference, contact the organization’s Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~terra.
MTSU team flies to 3rd in region, lands berth at national event

by Randy Weiler
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MTSU’s Flying Raiders competitive flight team is bringing national recognition to the university’s aerospace program after placing third in the National Intercollegiate Flying Association 2008 Region VIII competition in Carbondale, Ill., Oct. 29-Nov. 2.

That means the Flying Raiders have earned a berth in the nationals, which will be open to the Saint Louis University’s Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology next May. The top three teams from each region comprise the 30-team field competing for the national title.

“This is a huge deal,” Mosey said of the accomplishment. “They’re fired up and already planning through merit in more than 25 years, said Paul Mosey, coach and chief flight instructor.

“We were pumped, very pumped,” added Carl Roby, a senior aerospace major and team co-captain. “We were very happy. We went out and celebrated. I believe we were more excited about winning third than the other two teams winning first and second.”

Perennial region power Southern Illinois again dominated the field with a final total of 152 points. The University of Illinois was second with 112, and MTSU earned its third-place finish with 46 points.

Mosey said a committed group of Blue Raiders have led the charge. “This group started together three to four years ago,” he said. “Three years ago, we started to go to the region. I said, ‘We’re not ready.’ We weren’t prepared. That seemed to put a fire under a core group. We’ve reached a point where we’re very competitive. It’s a year-round commitment.”

The team members also earned individual recognition for their work. Roby earned first place in aircraft recognition. Erin Wadlington earned second place in the simulated comprehensive aircraft navigation ranking. He placed third in the Top Pilot Award individual competition, third in the Top-Scored Male division and third in the ground-trainer ranking.

Co-captain Eric Christiansen placed in the top 10 in four separate events. Cole Merrick placed in two events, and James Taylor and Kevin Jones each earned a top-10 finish in their individual events.

The regional competition is composed of five ground events—aircraft identification, flight simulator, manual flight computer, simulated comprehensive air navigation and pre-flight—and four flying events, including power-off landings, short field landings, message drop and flight navigation.