MTSU teams with NSCC for new dual admissions

A ny partnership between education institutions that benefits students and makes it easier to obtain a four-year degree would appear to be a winning ticket for the state of Tennessee, its workforce and economic health.

The newly formed Dual Admission Program between MTSU and Nashville State Community College is that ticket to attaining a bachelor’s degree for thousands of Tennesseans.

Imagine earning an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science or Associate of Science in Teaching degree from NSCC, then being guaranteed acceptance to MTSU to complete the work and walk across the platform on graduation day to receive your diploma.

“MTSU takes pride in developing and supporting programs and services that demonstrate our commitment to helping students achieve their academic and personal goals,” said MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee.

“This partnership is a huge step forward for new dual admissions and degree attainment among the citizens of this region.”

The program is another manifestation of MTSU’s commitment to helping students achieve their academic and personal goals, said MTSU Vice President for Academic Affairs Andrew Mc Manus.

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Stay connected to ITD news with ‘Communicator’

The 2009 summer edition of The Communicator, a publication for MTSU faculty and staff from the Information Technology Division, is now available online for your convenience.

Summertime is the season for warm air, lemonade, sandy beaches and pool parties. The summer months are also ripe for severe weather. In this issue, find out how RAVE Alerts can keep you aware in the event of a tornado or other emergencies to ensure your summer is a safe one.

In addition, see highlights of this year’s Instructional Technology Conference and read about a professor who uses the Web to pursue two of her life passions.

The Communicator, which is published five times a year, can be viewed online at www.mtsu.edu/communicator/Summer2009.pdf.

For more information, contact Dan Copp at 615-898-5065 or Robin Jones at 615-898-2214.

2008-09 Athletic Highlights

- Seven team conference championships
- Four Coach of the Year honors
- Eight All-Americans, including one consensus All-American
- Two National Player of the Week honors
- Eight Sun Belt Conference Players of the Year
- Two student-athletes led nation in statistical categories (Alysha Clark, women’s basketball; Brentz, baseball)
- 24 student-athletes named to post-season all-conference teams (does not include track/cross-country)
- 17 student-athletes won individual conference championships
- 24 student-athletes named to post-season all-conference teams (does not include track/cross-country)

MT Athletic Communications
www.goblueraiders.com

Landmark sports year concludes with high NACDA finish

Middle Tennessee capped off one of its best academic and athletic years in school history with a record finish in the 2008-09 Learfield Sports Directors’ Cup from the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics. The Blue Raiders placed 76th out of 348 Division I schools with 299 total points.

The top 100 schools are dominated by the Big Six conferences, and the Blue Raiders finished 15th nationally among the non-Big Six members.

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The legacy of MTSU’s working replica of an 18th-century printing press will be explained through photos and prints as part of an exhibit at the main branch of the Nashville Public Library, 615 Church St., through Sept. 27. The exhibit is entitled “Telling the Story: Letterpress Printing and Community.” The university’s segment will include the story of letterpress printing at MTSU. The works of current MTSU art students, alumni, visiting artists, faculty, and elementary, middle- and high-school students and teachers who printed on the James E. Walker Library’s unique device will be highlighted.

A reproduction of the English common press used by Benjamin Franklin in the early 1700s, the MTSU printing press was handcrafted in 2004 and 2005 by cabinetmaker Keith Jenkins and blacksmith Jeff Henderson. The chestnut and white oak wood came from a 100-year-old house in Virginia, and all the brass, iron and steel parts were forged by hand. Faculty and students donate their time working on the press, which is solely dependent on private support from individuals.

The construction of the press was made possible with grant money awarded to Walker Library faculty members Dr. Alan Boehm, director of special collections, and William Black, administrative services librarian, and Professor Janet Higgins of the Department of Art.

“STILL AT WORK—MTSU’s working replica of an 18th-century printing press stays busy round-year with demonstrations, classes and exhibits like the one on display now at the Nashville Public Library. In the photo at left, students Grant Eason, left, Kaitlyn Robertson and Chase Clements work on the “Franklin press” with Dr. Alan Boehm, director of special collections at MTSU’s James E. Walker Library in April 2009. And above, Administrative Services Librarian Bill Black stands by as student Mike Anderson and Kristen Keene, Walker Library external relations specialist, make a print of the Constitution on the press in September 2008 during MTSU’s observa-
tion of Constitution Day as part of the American Democracy Project.

donate their time working on the press, which is solely dependent on private support from individuals. The press project offers students and the community a dramatic and unforgettable experience through activities that integrate history, writing and letterpress printing. Activities include lectures to university and school students about historical printing, a visiting artist each semes-
ter, community print nights and printing demonstrations for community groups.

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“The planning committee is com-
posed of people from city government, the chamber of commerce and MTSU’s Jennings A. Jones College of Business. When I asked Roger if he would agree to be roasted, he said OK, as long as it benefited the university by earmark-
ing the proceeds from the event for the scholar-
ship established in honor of his longtime friend and former Murfreesboro Mayor Joe B. Jackson,” said Womack, who serves on the advisory board of the Jones College of Business. “We will respect his wishes and donate the proceeds from the roast to the Middle Tennessee State University Foundation to support the Joe B. Jackson Scholarship.”

Alumnus Jackson (B.S. ’40), who died in 2008, served in the U.S. Marines in World War II and was a graduate of the Nashville School of Law. He was elected to the Murfreesboro City Council in 1968, became vice mayor in 1978 and served as mayor from 1982 to 1998.

“I’m pleased to serve as committee co-chair with Andy for this event,” added Dr. E. James Burton, dean of the Jones College, “because it will help establish a permanent endowment, and recipi-
ents will be business majors who will be known as Joe B. Jackson Scholars.”

Burton said the scholarship requires that recipi-
ents must be high-school graduates in Rutherford County, have a 3.0 grade-point average and demon-
strate financial need. The scholarship will be good for one academic year and will be awarded to a junior or senior.

“We appreciate Roger’s interest in supporting the Jones College, and we hope friends will help us pay tribute to his years of service,” Burton noted. For more information and to make reserva-
tions, contact Gina Harrison, event committee member, at 615-405-4735 or e-mail glarrison@ sec-civil.com. Reservations must be made by Friday, July 10.

Those who would like to make a donation to the Jackson Scholarship in Haley’s honor may send a check payable to the MTSU Foundation (for the Joe B. Jackson Scholarship Fund) to the MTSU Foundation, 1301 E. Main St., P.O. Box 109, Murfreesboro, Tenn. 37132.
To apply for dual admission, a student must plan on pursuing a bachelor’s degree, meet the admission criteria for NSCC, have 29 or fewer college-level semester hours and, if a transfer or current student at NSCC, have a GPA of 2.0. A student also must complete all required high-school courses to qualify for transfer to MTSU.

Once enrolled in the dual-admission program, a student must maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA and must have earned an A.A., A.S. or A.S.T. degree.

The dual-admission program is another step toward fulfilling one of MTSU’s major goals: to become even more student-centered. After meeting certain requirements, NSCC students will be guaranteed acceptance to MTSU, and at the outset, they will be able to map out their college career paths. Students will save money by being able to enroll in a community college their first two years at lower tuition and fees. They will get to know MTSU academic advisers and staff even before they come to the university, because they will receive advising from both institutions concurrently. Students ending their tenure at NSCC also will be able to register at MTSU during a priority time period.

“I plan on transferring to MTSU after I receive my Associate of Arts degree, and this will make the process so much easier,” said William Wheeler, an NSCC student.
Louisville native Baker selected as assistant soccer coach

Middle Tennessee Women’s Head Soccer Coach Aston Rhoden has added Michael Baker to his staff for the upcoming 2009 campaign.

“He is a great addition,” Rhoden said June 30. “We are really excited. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge. He will help us enhance the success we have had as a program.”

Baker recently completed his third year as an assistant coach at Northwestern State in Natchitoches, La., helping to lead the Demons to a 9-9-2 mark last fall and 29-25-6 overall record during his tenure with Jimmy Mitchell’s squad.

In 2006, the Demons’ goalkeepers posted their best goals against average (0.93), allowing just 19 goals in 20 matches. Six of the 19 goals came during Southland Conference action. The team again allowed only six goals in league play during the 2008 campaign.

“I’m excited about the opportunity Aston and the Middle Tennessee Athletic Department has given me,” Baker said. “I’m looking forward to continuing the winning tradition Aston has built in his program and keeping the Blue Raiders as one of the dominating teams in the Sun Belt Conference.”

Before arriving at NSU, Baker served two years as an assistant coach at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla., for both the Triton men’s and women’s programs. He served as interim head men’s coach in spring 2006 and also worked as the academic adviser for the athletic department and its game management coordinator for all sports.

In addition to his collegiate coaching duties, Baker was a member of a four-person selection group in 2004 that chose the U.S. Jewish National Soccer Team, which represented the United States in Israel at the July 2005 World Maccabi Games. The squad captured the gold medal without a loss.

A native of Louisville, Ky., Baker began his collegiate career with his hometown Cardinals before transferring and graduating from Western Kentucky in 2004.

Swinging into action

MARK YOUR CALENDARS—Members of the Friends of Music’s “Evening of Swing” organizing committee gather to discuss upcoming plans for the fourth annual event.

Working out the details are, seated from left, Shirley LaRoche, Jane Blakey, Liz Rhea, Conese Huddleston, and Bobbie Duke; standing are Robyn Kilpatrick, Linda Palmer, Brenda McFarlin, Claudette Northcutt, John Duke, Veronica Milnar and MTSU School of Music Director George Riordan. This year’s “Evening of Swing” will be held Friday, Oct. 30, in the James Union Building’s Tennessee Room, and proceeds will benefit students in the MTSU School of Music. For more details, contact Northcutt at 615-898-5924.

photo submitted

Get noticed in The Record!

Submit your Campus Calendar listings, Faculty/Staff Update items (including promotions and new hires) and other news tips to gfrank@mtsu.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday, July 15, for the July 27 Record, or by 3 p.m. Wednesday, July 29, for the Aug. 10 Record.

Don’t forget to include the specifics—who, what, where, when and why, plus contact information—with your contributions, so we can make sure your news gets noticed!

Check The Record’s 2009 deadline schedule anytime at http://frank.mtsu.edu/~proffice/rec_deadlines.htm.
Approximately 170 Tennessee teachers participated in the Tennessee Mathematics, Science and Technology Education Center Math-Science Partnership Teacher Excellence and UMAHT Institute workshops this summer at MTSU and four other campuses statewide, event organizers said.

The three-year, nearly $4 million MSP Teacher Excellence Grant, co-authored by Drs. Dovie Kimmins and Martin of TMSTEC, ends in December.

“For three years, you could triple that number (of Teacher Excellence participants),” Kimmins said, adding that this program reached “two-thirds of the school districts across the state.”

The newer, three-year, $2.3 million MSP UMAHT Grant, also co-authored by Martin and Kimmins, will run through December 2011.

“The UMAHT Summer 1 Institute focused on number/operation and algebra,” Kimmins said. “The activities deal with number sense and modeling of rational numbers and operations with rational numbers.

“Next summer, the focus is on geometry/measurement and problems/statistics.”

For other teachers, TMSTEC’s Dr. Richard Audet coordinated training for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) academics at three sites across the state through the MSP Teacher Excellence Grant, Kimmins said.

“The MSP grant (for teacher excellence) will be ensuring teacher excellence to ensure student competitiveness,” said Dr. Ron Henderson, interim chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, who coordinated a science component in June.

In addition to MTSU events, TMSTEC held workshops in Clarksville, Chattanooga, Memphis and Knoxville. For more information, call 615-904-8973 or visit http://frank.mtsu.edu/~mscenter/.
Program’s members to be honored by U.S. Department of the Interior

by Gina K. Logue

M TSU sophomore Terrance Adams and his fellow representatives of the Diving with a Purpose program will travel to Washington, D.C., July 16-17 to accept the “Take Pride in America” award in the Public-Private Partnership category from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The “Take Pride in America” awards were authorized by Congress “to promote the appreciation and stewardship of public lands, including parks, forests, historic sites and schools,” states an Interior Department news release.

Diving with a Purpose, or DWP, is a marine archeological training program developed by the late archaeologist Brenda Lanzendorf of Florida’s Biscayne National Park in collaboration with Kenneth Stewart and Eric Denson of the National Association of Black Scuba Divers’ Southern region.

More than 13 African-American divers have trained through the program to become marine archaeologist instructors’ advocates and 41 more trained as archaeologists’ advocates with basic mapping and documenting skills. The DWP page defines underwater archaeology as “the study of past human life, behaviors and cultures using the physical remains found in salt or fresh water or buried beneath waterlogged sediment.”

Stewart says divers in DWP have helped the National Park Service, a division of the Interior Department, to identify and research a number of archeological sites in Biscayne National Park.

“For the first couple of days, Terrance and (fellow diver) Marcus Johnson didn’t know what they were doing,” Stewart says. “But by the time they finished the program, they had mastered it completely.”

In addition to his work with NABS, Stewart is a co-founder of the Tennessee Aquatic Project, which is described on its Web site as “a nonprofit organization established to expose young people to various aquatic, community, social, recreational, etc., activities they might not otherwise encounter.” It is designed for youths ages 8 to 18.

“I went to a party one time, and everybody knew how to swim except me,” Adams says. “I’ve been told by my peers that ‘black people don’t scuba dive or swim.’ But how can you let a color determine who you are?”

Adams says most of the equipment he uses is donated or rented. He admits that he was reluctant to remain with the program when he was younger, but his mother prevailed, much to his subsequent delight.

“It was really ecstatic when I learned about the award,” Adams says. “I thought it was time that Diving with a Purpose received some recognition.”

The journalism major from Madison says he content to stay with mass communication for now, but he says he has been told that the absence of a scientific degree will not necessarily impede his progress if he later chooses a career with, for example, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association.

Adams will be joined in Washington by Stewart as well as fellow divers Jerald Jones, Marcus Johnson, Kwadjo Tillman and representatives of the Tennessee Aquatic Project. To learn more about the organization, visit www.tennesseeaquaticproject.org.

For more information, contact Gina Logue at glogue@mtsu.edu.

Undersea exploration nets kudos for student

DEEP AMBITIONS—MTSU sophomores Terrance Adams and Jerald Jones were recently honored by the National Association of Black Scuba Divers, based in Washington, D.C., at the “Take Pride in America” awards ceremony.

Dr. Mark Allan Jackson (English) presented his essay “Black Blues and White Recorders: The Racial Divide Between African-American Musicians and White Producers/Collectors” at the conference “Region, Class, and Culture: New Perspectives on the American South” held June 12 at Rhodes College in Memphis.

The following MTSU staff members recently earned Certified Professional Secretary designations: Eileen Chalmers (telecommunications services), Linda Copciak (elementary and special education), Kari Janetvily (alumni relations), Deborah Nichols (construction administration and facilities services), Penny Nichols (Center for Student Involvement and Leadership), Theresa Toy (parking and transportation services) and Cathy Vaughn (athletics).

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