Mentoring effort has AVID fans

by Drew Dunlop and Tom Tozer
news@mtsu.edu

"My grades were low, F's and D's," says JaMicah Coley of Antioch High School. "Over the past nine weeks they've come up to C's and B's."

Coley credits MTSU and the Advancement Via Individual Determination initiative, or AVID, a college-readiness mentoring program that is designed to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges.

While serving all students, AVID focuses on underserved students who fall into the academic middle range. The program provides training for teachers, counselors and administrators who work with students on their study skills, help build their self-confidence and encourage them to continue their education.

And while AVID is active across the nation, it is more an exception than the rule when college students are a component in the program. The MTSU-AVID partnership is the first in Middle Tennessee and one of just a few in the state. In addition to Antioch High, the university has linked up with Glenciff High School, and East Literature Magnet School is considering a similar partnership with MTSU.

More than 40 MTSU students currently volunteer their time in these Davidson County high schools. They're even paying their own travel expenses.

"These students will be volunteering, including drive time, more than 1,800 hours during the spring semester," said Dwig Williams, MTSU’s executive director of marketing and communications, who, along with Mark Murphy in the

Regional higher-education center celebrates successful start

by Gina K. Logue
gklogue@mtsu.edu

MTSU and Motlow State Community College celebrated their new Middle Tennessee Education Center at 841 Union St. in Shelbyville with a Feb. 18 open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The center is a partnership between the two institutions and is designed to make access to higher-education classes more convenient for students from Bedford, Coffee, Lincoln, Marshall, Moore, Rutherford and Williamson counties.

"This is a great opportunity for people who never even thought about going to college," said Bedford County Mayor Eugene Kay. "Students can take classes to obtain college credit while in high school, and teachers can take classes necessary to earn their masters’ degrees, to name just two examples.”

Among the MTEC’s offerings are:
• an Adult Degree Completion Program for an accelerated path toward a bachelor’s degree at MTSU;
• a Degree Advancement Program to help students who have earned an associate’s degree from Motlow pursue a bachelor’s degree at MTSU; and
• Prior Learning Assessment, which will enable students to earn college credit for military training, previous certifications and professional development; and
• general education and developmental courses.

See ‘Regional’ page 7

In Brief

HISTORY OF PRAISE

The 10th MTSU Gospel Music Extravaganza will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at Stones River Church, located at 2313 Joe B. Jackson Parkway in Murfreesboro. Tickets are $10 per person, $5 for students and free for children under 6. For more information about the anticipated Black History Month event, call Mary Glass at 615-498-5145 or Lucille Wilcox at 615-498-5611.
Join hands with NPA to help MTSU shine on wider stage

by Tom Tozer
tozer@mtsu.edu

It’s a new day at MTSU, and departments are looking in the mirror and scrutinizing the way they do things. Many are implementing new ideas and strategies with fewer people and revamped missions. The Office of News and Public Affairs is undergoing that same process of introspection and evaluation.

We know, for example, that with increasing emphasis on global impact and influence, we have to help determine what exactly that means for us and how we plan to transport the university to a higher level. We need to look hard at who we are and what we have and find people and programs at MTSU to help sharpen and enhance our image. A well-aimed slogan of mine about MTSU is that we’re not afraid of heights; we’re reaching new ones every day. Now, however, we’re working even harder to pull the veil from the university’s “shining stars” and cast that light farther.

We need your partnership to do that. We need to get to know departments and faculty better. We must learn what you do and why you do it—be it teaching methods, classroom discoveries, research or special projects. We need you to explain, decipher and translate what you do into easy-to-understand language, and we need you to help us determine who ought to know about you and your work and why.

A necessary question in every news interview we do is, “Why should the public care about this?” If we can’t answer that question while we’re pitching a story—your story, which also is our story—to the media, why should they care? Getting your story out to the world requires a partnership with you and our office. You’re the experts. We’re the conveyors of information. You can help us find those story gems, and we can help you polish them for public consumption. This requires connection, cooperation and open communication.

Having said that, we need to reach beyond our grasp. Yes, we want the community and region to know about MTSU. We will continue to share stories with local media, but we also need to tell our story to a national and international audience. To appear and shine on a national and international stage, we at MTSU must look deeply within and find those stories that shout, “You will not hear about this from any other institution of higher learning in the world! You are about to learn something special, unique and, perhaps, unforgettable! This is who we are, and that’s why we’re here among the major players!”

Gaining this higher profile, and maintaining it, will require us all to dig together. We’ve tweaked, refined and even expanded our “beat lists” in News and Public Affairs to put our best people in the best positions to tell your stories. Those lists—which let you know who’ll be contacting you and whom you should contact to tell your stories—are below and online at www.mtsunews.com.

In the NPA office, the university’s three main goals are our guideposts. We continue to tout student-centeredness, academic quality and university partnership with outside entities. And now we must use these guideposts to help us climb to greater heights. How are we student-centered at MTSU, and how does that set MTSU apart from every other university that puts students first? Where is that unique story? How is our commitment to academic quality prompting us to levels of distinction? Where are those stories? And while we are already involved in successful partnerships that have elevated many of our programs, what partnerships are we contemplating or might we contemplate that will remain only dreams at other institutions? That’s a story only MTSU can tell. Where is it?

On one level, we already have a firm grasp on our three goals. Now, as a university, as a faculty and staff and as your News and Public Affairs organization, we must ask ourselves: With who we are and what we have, how far can we reach? We look forward to that ascent with you.

Tom Tozer is director of the Office of News and Public Affairs. He can be reached at tozer@mtsu.edu or at 615-898-2919. You can find MTSU news anytime at www.mtsunews.com or by following “MTSUnews” on Twitter.

TSU’s Office of News and Public Affairs is ready to help you get noticed!

Gina Fann (615-898-5385 or gfann@mtsu.edu), is responsible for spreading news about:

• the College of Mass Communication and the Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies; and
• Academic Enrichment;
• Transfer Student Services;
• Dual Enrollment Programs and the Adult Degree Completion Program; and
• the English Language Institute; “The Record”; and
• social media and MTSU homepage updates.

Gina Logue (615-898-5081 or lrollins@mtsu.edu) handles:

• the Jones College of Business—Economics and Finance (including the Weatherford Chair of Finance), Business Communication and Entrepreneurship and the Business and Economic Research Center;
• the Academic Support Center; and
• the Middle Tennessee Education Center in Shelbyville; the Confucius Institute; the University Library; Student Life and sub-areas; Off-Campus Student Services, the Women’s Studies Program and National Women’s History Month; International Programs; the American Association of University Women, Commission on the Status of Women and Women in Action; the southern Girls Rock and Roll Camp; the Middle East Center; “Today’s Response”; media relations and experts; and
• the “MTSU On the Record” radio show, audio clips and podcasts.

Lisa Rollins (615-494-8857 or lrollins@mtsu.edu) covers news in:

• the College of Education;
• the College of Liberal Arts;
• the Center for Dysslexic Studies;
• the Academic Support Center;
• the Center for Historic Preservation;
• Project Help;
• the Holocaust Studies Conference and Black History Month;
• Counseling Services;
• Intercultural and Diversity Affairs;
• the Office of Equity and Compliance;
• hometown releases, graduation and dean’s lists announcements;
• Newswire postings;
• commencement; and
• the Governor’s School for the Arts and Girls State.

Randi Weiler (615-898-5616 or jweiler@mtsu.edu) gathers news for:

• the College of Basic and Applied Sciences and Chairs of Excellence (Adams Chairs);
• the College of Business—Martin Chair of Insurance and the Departments of Management and Marketing, Accounting, and Computer Information Systems, along with the Free Enterprise Chair, Economic Outlook Conference and Urban and Regional Planning Chair;
• the University Honors College; the Division of Student Affairs, Student Services and sub-areas;
• the Information Technology Division;
• the Admissions, Financial Aid and Enrollment Services offices;
• the Instructional Media Support Center;
• the Tennessee Math, Science and Technology Education Center;
• Scholars Week;
• the McNair Scholars; the Baldwin Gallery;
• Institutional Effectiveness and Research;
• Athletic Communications;
• Expanding Your Horizons;
• the Miller Coliseum; and
• the Alanai Record.

John Lynch (615-898-5591 or jlynch@mtsu.edu) takes care of the “Middle Tennessee Record” monthly video program, Web page production and design for the NPA office, and computer issues.

Paula Morton (615-898-2919 or pmorton@mtsu.edu) is the department’s office manager, works with The Record and “Middle Tennessee Record” and also supervises student workers.

And Tom Tozer (615-898-5131 or tozer@mtsu.edu) handles media relations and gets out the news for:

• the College of Graduate Studies and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs;
• the president’s office, the Office of Community Engagement and Support and the executive vice president and provost’s office;
• the Division of Business and Finance and the university legal office;
• emergency notification and preparedness;
• Community Engagement and Support;
• Campus Planning, Construction Administration and Facilities Services;
• Public Safety, Housing and Residential Life and Parking Services;
• community partnerships, institutional diversity and the Contracts Office;

Find your department and your news partner in NPA, then contact us with your news soon. We look forward to hearing from you!

News and Public Affairs: Who covers what across campus?

Tozer

Fann

Logue

Rollins

Lynch

Morton

Page 2 The Record Feb. 22, 2010
on Saturday, Feb. 27, MTSU once again will host the regional competition of the Science Olympiad, when 14 high-school and 10 middle-school teams will participate in 25 different events located across the university’s campus.

“Science Olympiad is the best competitive program out there for science, technology, engineering and mathematics, because it’s not just a test of memory,” said Dr. Patricia Patterson, MTSU chemistry professor and Science Olympiad coordinator.

“The kids get to build things, and they have to apply their knowledge.”

Events include:
• “Road Scholar,” where students work with various types of maps;
• “Shock Value,” which deals with circuits, electricity and magnets;
• “Wright Stuff,” where teams will design and build a propelled aerodynamic device;
• “Battery Buggy,” which features construction of an electric vehicle; and
• “Mousetrap Vehicle,” where teams must create vehicles that meet specifications and use two mousetraps as the only means of propulsion.

“People are beginning to realize this is where it’s at. This competition is the best I’ve ever worked with,” said Patterson. “It’s for all ages, all grades. No matter what your skill set, you’ve got an opportunity.

Students with a background in Science Olympiad often benefit from their experiences far into the future, as well.

“I’ve heard stories of kids who are applying to schools and other programs, and if Science Olympiad is on their application, it can often lead to that student being preferred over another,” Patterson said.

MTSU also will host the Science Olympiad Elementary School competition this April.

Anyone interested in volunteering with the Science Olympiad should contact Patterson at jppatterson@mtsu.edu.
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.
Visit www.mtsunews.com for other cable-outlet airtimes.

Radio Schedule

“MTSU On the Record” 8 a.m. Sundays,
WMOT 89.5-FM

Through March 4

Art Exhibit: “PRINTS: Through the Collector’s Eyes”
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday,
9 a.m.-noon Friday, Todd Gallery
For information, contact: 615-898-5653.

Feb. 22

Monday, Feb. 22
Spring Honors Lecture—
Dr. Amy Sayward, “Main Themes in American Foreign Relations Toward the Middle East Since World War II”
3-3:35 p.m., Room 106, Honors Amphitheatre
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~honors or contact: 615-898-2152.

Composition Studio Recital: Paul Osterfield
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

Feb. 23

Tuesday, Feb. 23
MT Men’s Tennis vs. Brown;
Men’s Tennis vs. Tenn. Tech
Time TBA, Nashboro Village
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

Feb. 24

Wednesday, Feb. 24
West Point Woodwind Quintet
(U.S. Military Academy Band)
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

Feb. 25

Thursday, Feb. 25
18th Annual Invention Convention
for Midstate fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade students
Murphy Center
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/elementary/invention_convention.shtml or contact: 615-898-5500.

Teaching Excellence Webinar:
Dr. Brian Palfrey (Harvard Law School), “Born Digital”
11:40 a.m.-1 p.m., Room 475, Walker Library
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/landitc/events.shtml or contact: 615-494-7671.

Feb. 26-28

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

MT Baseball vs. Ohio
3 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. Saturday,
1 p.m. Sunday
Reese Smith Jr. Field
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

Friday, Feb. 26
Faculty and Guests Recital:
Laura Ann Ross, oboe,
William Sauerland, counter-
tenor, and Leah Bowes, piano
6 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~honors.

Feb. 27

Feb. 27-28
MT Track: Sun Belt Indoor Championships
Murphy Center
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

Saturday, Feb. 27
MTSU School of Music Audition Day No. 3
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

Regional Science Olympiad
for Midstate middle- and high-school students
For information, contact: 615-898-5085.

MT Women’s Tennis vs. Marshall
1 p.m., Nashboro Village
MT Men’s Tennis vs. Vanderbilt
Time TBA, Nashboro Village
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

March 1

Monday, March 1
Red Cross Blood Drive
10 a.m.-4 p.m., Room 322,
Keathley University Center
For information, contact: 615-898-2590.

Spring Honors Lecture—
Dr. Andrei Korobkov, “Chechnya: Statehood, Religion and Nationalism”
3-3:35 p.m., HONR 106
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~honors.

Faculty Recital: Deanna Little,
flute; Wendell Little, piano
6 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

March 2

Tuesday, March 2
First Tuesday Series on Experiential Learning:
Lauri Clippard, Judy Campbell and Ronald Kates,
“Developing Effective Service Learning Projects”
11:40 a.m.-1 p.m., JUB 100
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/landitc/events.shtml.

National Women’s History Month: Gloria Steinem
4:30 p.m., Tennessee Room, JUB
For information, contact: 615-898-2193.

MTSU Symphonic Band and Brass Ensemble
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

March 3

Wednesday, March 3
World Percussion Concert
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

March 4

Thursday, March 4
MTSU Wind Ensemble
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

March 5

March 5-7
Orpheus Vocal Competition
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com or contact: 615-898-2493.

Friday, March 5
First Friday Star Party:
Dr. Eric Klumpe, “Kepler Telescope: Finding Earth-Like Exoplanets”
6:30-8:30 p.m., Wiser-Patten Science Hall 102
For information, contact: 615-898-2483.

Get noticed in MTSU’s official publication!
Check out (and bookmark!)
The Record’s 2010 deadline schedule at http://frank.mtsu.edu/~proffice/rec_deadlines.htm.
CELEBRATING SERVICE—MTSU’s Black History Month observance always recognizes those whose service and dedication set an example for every member of the university community. The month launched with the 2010 Unity Luncheon on Feb. 3. Shown above left with their awards are, from left, Unity Luncheon honorees Mary McKnight Wade, chair of the Murfreesboro City School Board; Bedford County Mayor Eugene Ray; and community activist and longtime foster parent Nora L. Clark Waters.

“I’m looking to go to one of the big schools—Vanderbilt, Duke, Harvard or Yale,” said Christopher Adereti, an Antioch ninth-grader who wants to be a doctor.

AVID should help improve his chances. In 2007, 100 percent of all AVID seniors in Metro Nashville Public Schools graduated from high school, and 100 percent completed their college-entrance requirements. In addition, 98 percent of MNPS AVID seniors applied to a four-year college; 92 percent of MNPS AVID graduates are attending two- or four-year colleges.

Antioch High Assistant Principal Retonia Moore said she believes the positive effect on attitudes is reaching more than just the students.

“The teachers’ optimism is rising because they see that the students who used to just hang out in the classes are getting help and becoming better students,” Moore said.

Antioch AVID teacher Laura Wiseman reflects that spirited attitude.

“I have been overwhelmed by the caliber of the MTSU students who have helped our children,” she said. “The response from both our AVID students and MTSU tutors has been extremely positive, and relationships and leadership qualities are developing and being strengthened.”

Williams credited MTSU’s Dr. Ron Kates, associate professor of English, and Dr. Jill Austin, chair of the Department of Management and Marketing, for their help in creating the new EXL 3010 AVID Mentoring class, which several MTSU students are taking this spring.

To learn more about AVID, visit www.avid.org.
Gloria Steinem will keynote Women’s History Month

by Gina K. Logue

Writer and lecturer Gloria Steinem, whose pivotal role in the women’s rights movement has resulted in great strides toward equality, will deliver the keynote address for MTSU’s National Women’s History Month celebration at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 2, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building.

This event is free and open to the public and will be followed with a reception and book signing. Steinem, a co-founder of Ms. magazine in 1972, raised the public profile of feminism with her writing, lectures and public appearances.

“Gloria Steinem is an icon!” says Terri Johnson, chair of MTSU’s Women’s History Month Committee and director of the Jane Anderson Women’s Center. “Her place in the women’s movement is one that will always be respected and honored. She opened doors when so many were closed for women. She stood up, spoke out and fought for the cause! She fought behind the scenes and on a public platform, using her voice and pen to raise consciousness to a new level for women.”

Among Steinem’s other accomplishments is her tenure as the founding president of the Ms. Foundation for Women, which funds grassroots projects, and as co-founder of “The Women’s Revolution: Our Daughters to Work Day.”

Steinem’s work also has been essential to the progress of the pro-choice movement. She co-founded and served as president of Voters for Choice, a political action committee that merged with the Planned Parenthood Action Fund for the 2004 elections. In addition, Steinem co-founded Choice USA, a national group that supports young pro-choice leaders and comprehensive sex education in schools.

“I admire her individuality, intelligence, bravery and her ability to place women in the forefront of society,” Johnson says. “Gloria Steinem asks the tough questions about women’s importance and value as individuals in society.”

For more information, contact the Women’s Center at 615-898-2903 or visit www.mtsu.edu/jawc/ wmn.htm. The “MTSU On the Record” radio show with Gloria Steinem will air at 8 a.m. CST on Sunday, Feb. 28, on WMOT-FM (89.5) and wmot.org.

‘Managing Music’ workshop set in March

SA arts Tennessee and MTSU’s Department of Recording Industry will conduct a “Managing Your Music” workshop on Saturday, March 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Bragg Mass Communication Building.

“Managing Your Music” will be an interactive day for teens and young musicians, with and without disabilities, to provide information on the scope of opportunities in the recording industry and how to prepare for such a career. Participants also will have an opportunity to work in groups with professional songwriters and participate in sessions with professional musicians. Selected participants may be invited to perform at the Ryman for VSA arts Tennessee on Monday, May 24.

“One of the goals of VSA arts is to provide professional development opportunities for young people, with and without disabilities, who would like to make a career in the arts,” said Lori Kissing, executive director for VSA arts Tennessee. “Gloria Steinem is an icon!”

Distinguished Lecture Fund bringing Fisher to campus

Distinguished Lecture Fund speaker Matt Fisher of Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa., will keep a busy schedule when he visits MTSU March 3-4. Fisher, associate professor of chemistry and department chair at Saint Vincent, will be speaking to students, faculty and administrators during his time here.

Fisher’s voyage around campus will begin with an 11:30 a.m. physical science class on Wednesday, March 3, in Room 115 of the Alumni Memorial Gym.

On March 3, from 2:30 until 4:30 p.m. in Room 100 in the James Union Building, Fisher will headline a faculty workshop on the scholarship of “Teaching and Learning in STEM” (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). The workshop is open to all faculty.

At 7 that night, Fisher will talk to students, the MTSU community and general public in Wilson-Patten Room 102.

On Thursday, March 4, Fisher will address faculty and students at the monthly chemistry seminar at 11:30 a.m. in Room 100 of the Davis Science Building.

“Matt is a fantastic speaker and gave one of three truly outstanding talks that I remember in my chemistry career,” said Dr. Judith Irisato-Cross, a professor in MTSU’s chemistry department.

Fisher teaches general chemistry, biochemistry and courses for non-science majors. He is a member of the college’s Biotechnology Advisory Committee and served seven years as director of the college’s teaching enhancement and mentoring program.

For more information, call 615-904-8233.

MTSU Student Ambassadors sought for 2010-11

Would one of your students or a friend or family member attending MTSU make a perfect ambassador for the university? Nominate him or her—or encourage the student to submit an application—by Friday, Feb. 26.

MTSU Student Ambassadors are university leaders who welcome guests, provide tours and support presidential, alumni, donor, academic and athletic events across campus.

“Serving as a student ambassador is a great honor and offers students excellent opportunities to make connections within their field of study and with alumni from across the country,” said Molly Cochran, assistant director of alumni relations. Potential student ambassadors must participate in a detailed selection process that includes applications and interviews. The students selected for the 2010-11 school year will be announced on the MTSU Alumni Web site, www.mtsualumni.com, at 4 p.m. Friday, March 26.

For more information about the MTSU Student Ambassador program, or if you know a student whom you’d recommend to serve as one of the official hosts of MTSU, please visit the Web site or contact Cochran at 615-898-2923 or mcochran@mtsu.edu.
The spring 2010 schedule includes MTSU Master of Education degree classes through the Department of Educational Leadership as well as graduate courses leading to a Master of Science degree in teaching mathematics. MTSU’s offerings include undergraduate classes in Principles of Economics, Introduction to Sociology, Early Childhood Curriculum, Family Dynamics and Community Involvement as well as a developmental course in Beginning Algebra.

With 42,000 square feet of space in Shelbyville’s former Medical Arts Building, the center has room to expand its curriculum and its student population. Classes are slated with starting times ranging from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. to accommodate adult learners’ work schedules.

Each classroom currently in use is Wi-Fi ready for students to use laptop computers and other devices. One classroom has been outfitted to facilitate instruction via videoconference.

“This is a boon to students seeking employment in these tough economic times,” Ray said. “We will be helping to provide degree opportunities needed to put students to work. It should result in a substantial impact on the regional economy.”

The Middle Tennessee Education Center is an important part of MTSU’s continuing commitment to serve the needs of the region and the state,” said MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee. “We are delighted to join with Motlow State Community College in this partnership, which is a major step forward in enhancing access to higher education.”

“Motlow College is extremely excited about the grand opening of the Middle Tennessee Education Center and the new partnership with MTSU,” added Dr. Mary Lou Apple, president of Motlow State. “The Middle Tennessee Education Center is a ‘win-win’ for the citizens of Bedford County and will improve access by providing another learning pathway for our students.

For more information about MTEC, contact Molly Culbreath, coordinator and adviser, at 931-655-4444 or mculbrea@mtsu.edu, or visit the Web site at www.mteducationcenter.com.

The spring-break safety focus begins Tuesday, March 2. Guest speaker Mark Sterner will share his emotional, life-altering experience when he brings the message “DUI—A Powerful Lesson” at 7:30 p.m. in the James Union Building’s Tennessee Room, said Schrader, Health Promotion director. The event is open to students, faculty and staff.

The Sternor program is co-sponsored by the Office of Greek Affairs, Health Services, the Student Athlete Enhancement Center, Student Programming Council and Tau Kappa Epsilon.

From 4 until 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3, in Room 313 of the Keathley University Center, students can attend TIPS—Training for Intervention Procedures—“to help students learn how to intervene when they see their friends or peers use alcohol irresponsibly,” Schrader said.

The TIPS training is co-sponsored by the Community Anti-Drug Coalition of Rutherford County. For more information about the event, contact Schrader at 615-494-8704 or thomasor@mtsu.edu.

Faculty from page 8


Drs. Debra Rose Wilson and Carolyn Hix (nursing) have published a review in the December 2009 Journal of the National Medical Association of the book Face to Face with Katrina Survivors: A First Responder’s Tribute, written by J.A. Mose (2006). The book was dedicated to New Orleans evacuees and volunteers.

Health fair, alcohol awareness events scheduled

by Randy Weiler

jweiler@mtsu.edu

MTSU Health Promotion, joined by several other campus offices and organizations, will offer a health fair on Monday, Feb. 22, and two spring-break safety programs on alcohol awareness March 2-3.

The health fair, with most activities scheduled from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Student Health, Wellness and Recreation Center, coincides with National Recreational Sports, Fitness and Wellness Day, said event organizer Lisa Thomason Schrader, who is Health Promotion director.

Activities will include fitness assessments, personal nutrition plans, chair massages, spinal screenings, a faculty-staff dodgeball challenge, martial arts self-defense clinics and volleyball demonstrations. There also will be a department and organizational fair featuring representation from Campus Recreation, Student Health Services, the Student Dietetic Association, Middle Tennessee Eating Disorder Support Group, Al-Anon and Counseling Services.

Dr. Wendy Windsor, associate director of intramural sports, sport clubs and wellness, is co-coordinator with Schrader.

Correction

The date for College Goal Sunday was incorrect in the Campus Calendar on page 4 of the print edition of the Feb. 8 Record. The correct date, Feb. 14, was included in the online version of The Record, the online Campus Events listings and on the MTSU home page.

Get noticed in The Record!

Submit your Faculty/Staff Update items, Campus Calendar contributions and other news tips to gfann@mtsu.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, for the March 8 edition of The Record or 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, for the March 22 Record. Bookmark The Record’s 2010 deadline schedule at http://frank.mtsu.edu/~profrec/deadlines.htm.

Young creators warming up for Invention Convention

by Lisa L. Rollins

rollins@mtsu.edu

The spirit of invention will once more lead area grade schoolers to brainstorm and create at this year’s Invention Convention, an annual event set for Thursday, Feb. 25, in MTSU’s Murray Center.

Now in its 18th year under the direction of event founder Dr. Tracey Ring, professor of elementary education at MTSU, the event traces its roots back to Ring’s own mom.

“My mother did this when she taught fifth grade at a private school,” Ring said of the impetus for the child-centered endeavor. “(And) after she retired, I decided to do it on a bigger scale.”

Today, she said, the Invention Convention draws nearly 300 young participants from schools across middle Tennessee. The MTSU contest is one of the only events that recognize inventions and ideas as area students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades from public and private schools as well as those in local home schools.

Ring said news about her child-fueled invention event has spread over time beyond the region, including a several years ago from talk-show host Jay Leno’s national broadcast.

“Every year, we videotape what goes on, and they were interested in that,” she explained.

During the yearly convention, young inventors compete against others in their grade level in two contest categories: “Games” and “Something to Make Life Easier.” Division winners are given awards for first through third place.

Beyond developing a presentation, participants also must create working models of their inventions. Ring said the pressure to develop functioning prototypes pushes children to stretch their creativity and makes their final products impressive.

“You find that most kids make games, usually ones that help them learn what they’re studying in school,” she noted. “Also, in recent years I’ve seen a shift to more technological inventions.

Aside from the children’s featured inventions, Ring said, “Each year, I pick an everyday object of interest and feature it. We make a poster about it, so people can learn about its background. This year we’re featuring the kewlchain.”

Robert L. “Hoot” Gibson, a former NASA astronaut, will be the special guest speaker at the Feb. 25 event. Following his college graduation, Gibson enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he received primary and basic flight training and completed advanced flight training at the Naval Air Station at Kingsville, Texas.

Graduate of the Naval Fighter Weapons School, Gibson became a NASA astronaut in 1979, flying on five space missions from 1984 to 1995 to spend a total of 36.5 days in space. He also served as deputy director of flight-crew operations from March to November 1996, among other NASA responsibilities.

For more information about Invention Convention, contact Ring at 615-898-5300 or e-mail at bring@mtsu.edu.
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‘PRINTS’ exhibit in Todd Gallery through March 4

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‘PRINTS: Through the Collector’s Eyes,’ an exhibition that brings together a wide variety of original prints, is on display now through Thursday, March 4, in MTSU’s Todd Art Gallery.

Among the works featured in the exhibit are wood engraving, etchings, lithographs and screen prints, all of which primarily come from collectors in the middle Tennessee area.

“The common theme is that they have never been acquired by individuals, rather than by museum curators,” noted exhibit curator Christie Nuell, an MTSU art professor.

“Included (in the exhibit) are prints from the 17th to the 21st centuries, with work by famous artists as well as those who are less well known.”

Several of the artists are known primarily for work in other media, Nuell added, including Rembrandt, Renoir, Manet, Warhol, Christo, Tom Wesselman and Red Grooms.

“Whereas a painting is a unique piece of art, an original print is usually part of an edition, and so there are a finite number of identical copies,” she explained.

“But with printmaking, the artist creates the image, which is then inked and printed over and over to produce a number of proofs which form the edition.”

“Prints are not the same as reproductions, which are photographic copies of work in another medium,” Nuell continued. “Prints by famous artists are generally much more affordable than their paintings, and the print collector can benefit from this and build up a collection which includes artists of significance.”

The relationship of printmaking to commercial printing has a rich history, exhibit organizers noted.

“Two of the Bewick prints have been taken out of books, and the careful observer will see telltale signs of the printing on the reverse side of the paper, Nuell said.

“Eric Snyder, gallery liaison, said artists such as Seymour Haden, Geoffrey Wedgwood, John Taylor Arms and Mark Hosford are printmakers first and foremost.”

“They are masters of the print medium,” he said, “and their ability to communicate through their deep understanding and love of printmaking is obvious.”

The exhibit is free and open to the public. The gallery is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday–Thursday and 9 a.m.-noon on Fridays, closing on university and public holidays.

For more information, please call Snyder at 615-898-5653.

ON EXHIBIT—The flier at right lists the artists whose work will be on display at Todd Gallery during the “PRINTS” exhibit through March 4.

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Dr. Yuan-ling Chao (history) was invited to give two talks in Taiwan in December. The first, “Medicine in the Law: Cases from the ‘Xingan huilan’ (Conspicuit of Penal Cases),” was made at National Chengchi University, and the second, at The Academia Sinica, was “Is He a Physician or Confucian Scholar? An Examination of Physicians in the Ming and Qing Dynasties.” The latter was a presentation of her book, Medicine and Society in Late Imperial China: A Study of Physicians in Suzhou, published in 2009.

Dr. Lynn Parsons (nursing) made a presentation on “Nurse Delegation Decision-Making: Placing the Evidence into Nurse Practice” to faculty and senior Bachelor of Science in Nursing students at South College in Knoxville on Jan. 26.

Honors

Rick Insell (women’s basketball) will receive the 2010 Morgan Wootten Award for Lifetime Achievement on March 30 from the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame for his 29-year tenure (1978–2003) as head coach at Shelbyville (Tenn.) Central High School.