‘Immersion 2010’ fast-tracks MBA

by Tom Tozer

tenrepreneurial-minded college graduates who are not business majors but realize the value of a Master of Business Administration degree should explore “Immersion 2010,” an accelerated course of study at MTSU. It allows a student to take the necessary pre-MBA courses during the summer and begin the MBA in the fall. The degree can then be completed in as little as one year.

“Given current and near-term economic prospects, the opportunity for growing your resume may never be brighter,” said Dr. Troy Festervand, director of the graduate division in the Jennings A. Jones College of Business. “Those non-business majors who are graduating this coming May should look long and hard at this as a way of getting a leg up on securing a good job.”

“Immersion 2010” is an interactive summer-school program designed especially for nonbusiness graduates who are interested in adding an MBA to their qualifications. The program makes it possible to satisfy several prerequisites during the summer.

“After completing ‘Immersion,’ students must submit an acceptable GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) score to be admitted into the MBA program,” Festervand explained. “Once they begin their MBA, they can finish in one year. MBA courses are available at night, on weekends and online.

“The MBA has several options for areas of concentration and can be combined with graduate courses from other disciplines—for example, recording industry, aerospace, foreign language, nursing and so on,” he continued. “As many students have found, regardless of the major, the language of business is spoken in most jobs.”

Those who are interested in exploring “Immersion 2010” should see ‘Immersion’ page 5.

‘Awe-inspiring’ Strickland is memorialized by scholarship

by Elizabeth Warren

T
	su’s School of Music has received a new scholarship to be distributed this fall—the Lucy Durham Strickland Memorial Endowed Scholarship. One full-time music student, chosen by the School of Music Scholarship Committee, will receive funding from the new scholarship. The student must maintain a 3.0 grade-point average and be involved in School of Music and university happenings.

The student beneficiaries of this scholarship can thank the children of Lucy Durham Strickland, who endowed the scholarship in honor of their mother and her dedication to MTSU.

Mrs. Strickland was born in Murfreesboro. She died at age 95 in January 2009, leaving Strickland Money Hardware in Murfreesboro. The Strickland family endowed the scholarship in her memory.

Mrs. Strickland was a member of the first graduating class of Murfreesboro High School in 1928. A member of the Murfreesboro Women’s Club, she was known for her support of music, arts, education and other causes.

For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~yelverto/guitfest.html or e-mail festival organizer Dr. William Yelverton, also a performer and instructor, at yelverto@mtsu.edu.

See ‘Strickland’ page 5.

MTSU plans candidates’ April forum

by Tom Tozer

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sU, in cooperation with the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, will host a gubernatorial candidates’ forum on Thursday, April 29, beginning promptly at 7 p.m. in Murphy Center.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. The free public event is being underwritten, in part, by Farmers Insurance Group. John Seigenthaler, chairman emeritus of The Tennessean and holder of MTSU’s Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies, will be the forum moderator. The participants will respond to prepared questions on a broad range of timely issues.

Tennessee’s gubernatorial primary will be held on Thursday, Aug. 5. The general election is set for Tuesday, Nov. 2.

“MTSU is pleased to host a forum initiated by Farmers Insurance Group that will help inform the public on the issues in Tennessee that affect all of us,” said Dr. Sidney A. McPhee, MTSU president. “It is important that we hear from those candidates who aspire to become the chief executive of our state. We welcome and encourage our students, faculty, staff and the entire community to participate.”

Farmers Insurance Group offered to partner with MTSU to provide an opportunity for Tennesseans to hear from the candidates for the 2010 governor’s race. Farmers officials noted that this is the company’s first partnership with a university.

“Farmers is proud to help support this governors’ forum with Middle Tennessee State University,” noted Farmers’ Seigenthaler.

See ‘Forum’ page 5.
Scholars Week focus: research!

Scholars Week 2010 is coming! To be held March 22-26, the event has become an anticipated campus event each spring.

“Scholars Week continues to be our annual forum to recognize the excellent research that our faculty and students do,” said Dr. Diane Miller, interim executive vice president and provost. The number and variety of research projects presented is always quite impressive. Many of the students who participate locally also report on their scholarship at regional and national meetings within their area of study.

MTSU scholars are eager to share their research findings as well as their enthusiasm for their research. That’s why Scholars Week organizers are making a special effort to solicit participation from MTSU and the surrounding community to attend and learn firsthand about university research.

“Our students are a great example of the educational and career benefits of research and creative activity,” said Dr. Kristine M. McCusker, associate professor of history and the organizing committee member in charge of publicity. “We have invited community members to visit the universitywide poster and multimedia event on Friday, March 26, the WCS[6] morning radio show, The Daily News Journal and Murfreesboro Post. When they come, they will see firsthand what the university can produce.”

A preliminary Scholars Week schedule is posted at www.mtsu.edu/research/scholars_week.shtml.

An appreciation luncheon for faculty mentors and presenters is set for Monday, March 22. This will be followed by the College of Business poster session at 12:30 p.m. in the Keathley Union Building and Aerospace Building’s south lobby. Other college showcases will follow throughout the week.

The peak of Scholars Week is the Universitywide Poster and Multimedia Exposition starting at 12:40 p.m. Friday, March 26, on the Murphy Center track area. A link to poster abstracts also is at the Scholars Week Web site; the online abstracts list will serve as a searchable written record of participation. Additional information, including ideas about how faculty can incorporate Scholars Week events into course activities and set posting and preparation guidelines, is also posted online.

Examples of the wide range of presentation titles for Scholars Week 2010 include:

• “Psych Pharm”;
• “The Evolution of the Industrial Food Complex: McDonaldization and Population Health”;
• “I’ll Keep On Singing”: The Southern Gospel Convention Tradition;
• “The Effects of Caffeine Supplementation on Multiple Bouts of Sprint Running”;
• “The New True Charlie Muffin”;
• “I Love My Job Even Though I Gave It Gasoline: Difficult Issues in Heritage Tourism”;
• “Just Joking, Seriously: Exploring Humor’s Role in Willingness to Speak Out.”

MTSU scholars are also accepting submissions of papers of up to 30 double-spaced typed pages for the peer-reviewed journal. Scholar Week organizers have set a June 1 priority deadline, but we’ll continue to accept them through Sept. 15 for the fall issue.

The journal will be another way for those writing a thesis to follow up with a published article, Vile said. For more information, call 615-898-2152 or 615-898-5759.
The Record March 22, 2010 page 3

Creativity around campus

Remember ‘Memoria’

by Lisa L. Rollins
lrollins@mtsu.edu

T he Todd Gallery in the Department of Art at MTSU will present “Memoria,” an exhibition of kinetic sculpture by John Douglas Powers, through Thursday, March 25.

Artist Powers grew up in Dickson, Tenn., and attended Vanderbilt University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history, and the University of Georgia, where he earned a Master of Fine Arts in sculpture.

Currently a resident of Alabama, Powers is the recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation Masters of Fine Arts Grant, the 2008 Southeastern College Art Conference Individual Artist Fellowship and the 2001 Margaret Stonewall Wooldridge Hamblet Award.

“For his artwork, Powers draws inspiration from such diverse areas as natural history, architecture and the history of technology,” said Eric Snyder, gallery coordinator.

Powers, an assistant professor of sculpture at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, recently saw his work featured in The New York Times and the Southeastern College Art Conference Review.

During his upcoming visit to MTSU, Powers is scheduled to lecture and spend time with the students in MTSU’s art department.

The Todd Art Gallery is free and open to the public. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each Monday through Friday, closing only on university and public holidays.

For more information or directions to the gallery, contact Snyder at 615-898-5653 or esnyder@mtsu.edu or MTSU art faculty member John Donovan at 615-898-2011 or jdonovan@mtsu.edu.

Photos go ‘Beneath the Surface’

from Staff Reports
news@mtsu.edu

P hotographer Karen Glaser’s exhibit, “Beneath the Surface,” will be on display until Thursday, April 15, in MTSU’s Baldwin Photographic Gallery.

Glaser became enthralled with underwater photography after she was given an Instamatic underwater camera as a birthday present in 1983. Her various underwater series, shot on tropical reefs and in pristine Florida springs, have been exhibited in prestigious museums and other venues around the nation and abroad.

Glaser’s underwater photographs of manatees are documented in the book Mysterious Manatees, published by the University Press of Florida.

The exhibition is free and open to the public. The Baldwin Gallery is located inside the McWherter Learning Resource Center on campus. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.


Get noticed in MTSU’s official university publication! Check out (and bookmark!) The Record’s 2010 deadline schedule at http://frank.mtsu.edu/~proffice/rec_deadlines.htm.
Campus Calendar
March 22-April 4, 2010

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.
Visit www.mtsunews.com for other cable-outlet airtimes or www.youtube.com/mtsunews for a complete show archive.

Radio Schedule

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

Through April 1
Walker Library Exhibit: “Artists’ Books from the Classroom: Student Work from the Book Arts Classes” 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Special Collections (fourth floor)
For information, contact: 615-904-8501.

Through April 15
Photo Exhibit: Karen Glaser, “Beneath the Surface” 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-
Friday, noon-4 p.m. Saturday Baldwin Photo Gallery, Learning Resources Center
For information, contact: 615-898-2085.

March 22
March 22-26 Scholars Week
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/research/scholars_week.shtml or contact: 615-898-2071.

Monday, March 22
Honors Lecture Series: Dr. Ron Messier, “Jihad and Holy War: Are They the Same?”
3 p.m., Room 106, Honors Amphitheatre
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~honors or contact: 615-898-2152.

March 24
Wednesday, March 24
MT Baseball vs. Belmont
6 p.m., Reese Smith Jr. Field
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

March 25
Thursday, March 25
Women’s Studies Research Series: Dr. Jennifer Marchant, “Daring Girls, Sensitive Boys and Everything In Between: Teaching Gender Construction in Children’s Literature”
3 p.m., Room 100, James Union Building
For information, contact: 615-904-8128.

March 26
Thursday, March 25
Free Legal Clinic
sponsored by the June Anderson Women’s Center 6:30-8 p.m., JUB 206
Appointments required For information, contact: 615-898-2193.

March 27
Saturday, March 27
Office of Admissions: Spring Preview Day
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/admissn or contact: 615-898-5670.

High School Clarinet Choir
Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

March 28
Monday, March 29
Spring Honors Lecture Series: Professor Leon Alligood, “They Were Young Once: An Examination of America’s Gen Y War Veterans” 3 p.m., Room 106, Honors Amphitheatre
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~honors.

Stones River Chamber Players 7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

March 31
Wednesday, March 31
MT Baseball vs. Lipscomb 6 p.m., Reese Smith Jr. Field
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

MTSU Jazz Combos 7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

April 2
April 2-3
MT Softball vs. Louisiana-Monroe 3 p.m. Friday, noon Saturday; Blue Raider Field
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

Friday, April 2
First Friday Star Party 6:30-8:30 p.m., Wiser-Patten Science Hall 102
For information, contact: 615-898-2483.

Staying safe takes practice.

Friday, March 26: Tornado drill @ 9 a.m.
Tuesday, April 13: Tornado siren testing, 12:20 p.m.

Please follow your building runner’s instructions.

For a list of “safe places” on campus, please visit www.mtsu.edu/alert4u/tornado_shelters.shtml.
Strickland

Atlanta, Ga., in 1925 at Emory University. A mother who was a pianist working as a teacher and a father who was dean of Emory’s Candler School of Theology,

She started out her life at a university, her family said. When Roscoe L. Strickland retired, this time she “yearned for those friendships and culture that had shaped her life in Murfreesboro.”

The couple sold the plantation in 1972, when the Stricklands moved to Buena Vista, Va., so Dr. Strickland could become president of Southern Seminary Junior College. Though sad about leaving her friends and life in Tennessee, Mrs. Strickland continued her education at the Law School of Washington and Lee University. In 1976, at the age of 50, she received a law degree and was honored with the United States Law Week Degree Award.

The Stricklands moved again when Dr. Strickland retired, this time to Hillsborough, N.C., to restore the historic Hardscrapble Plantation. Mrs. Strickland maintained her law career, opening her own practice and co-writing a book, The Law and the Elderly in North Carolina, in 1980.

During this time, said Robyn Kilpatrick, MTSU College of Liberal Arts development director, the couple created two scholarships for the school to honor their two late daughters, Alice and Tracy. Because of her husband’s dedication to history, after his death in 1997, the family developed the Strickland Visiting Scholar Program to help students in the MTSU history department.

Mrs. Strickland continued to serve the communities of Murfreesboro and Murfreesboro, working as a trustee and member of the executive committee of the MTSU Foundation from 1996 until 2002. She retired in 2004, eventually moving from her home right across the street from MTSU to Adams Place retirement community.

“Take a critical look at your future, the employment opportunities available to you, earnings potential or simply what you want out of life, and you will come to the conclusion that another year really isn’t that long—and it’s never too late to make a career change,” said Dr. John McDaniel, dean of MTSU’s College of Liberal Arts.

“Take a critical look at your future, the employment opportunities available to you, earnings potential or simply what you want out of life, and you will come to the conclusion that another year really isn’t that long—and it’s never too late to make a career change,” said Dr. John McDaniel, dean of MTSU’s College of Liberal Arts.

As was the case with the problems of global warming, overpopulation and sustainable land management, Dr. Brinkley shows audiences how this imposing leader’s stuntsolution to protect our environment is an inspiration and a contemporary call to arms for us all,” said Dr. John McDaniel, dean of MTSU’s College of Liberal Arts. MTSU students from freshmen to seniors are encouraged to learn more about the Fulbright U.S. Student Competition in a day of free workshops set for Wednesday, April 7.

The Fulbright Program aims to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries through the exchange of people, knowledge and skills. The grants allow U.S. students to live and study in a foreign country for a year. Workshop sessions at MTSU are scheduled from 9 to 10 a.m. in Room 202 of the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building and from 1 to 2 p.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. in Honors Room 106. Students may attend the workshop that best fits their own schedule and interests.

For more information, contact Laura Clippar, academic adviser and undergraduate fellowships coordinator, at lclippar@mtsu.edu or 615-898-5464.
Survey updates Tennesseans’ views on politics

A majority of Tennesseans disapprove of President Obama’s job performance for the first time since his inauguration, the latest MTSU Poll finds.

Other findings show nearly three-fourths of Tennesseans have no idea who’s running for governor, and while 29 percent approve of the Tea Party movement, just 9 percent consider themselves “far left.”

Survey participants were asked to name the most unknown gubernatorial candidates. Twenty-nine percent were able to name Republican Knoxville Mayor Matt K. Ragsdale, 10 percent of Tennesseans. The state’s adults recall the least unknown among a generally anonymous field of candidates. Behind Haslam, 32 percent approval rating and a 59 percent disapproval rating across Tennessee.

Tennessee adults can’t name a single gubernatorial candidate when asked to list as many as they can recall. Nineteen percent were able to name Republican Knoxville Mayor Matt K. Ragsdale, 10 percent of Tennesseans. The state’s adults recall four percent or fewer of the remaining candidates.

When even mentioned, a mention at one time by name, none of the candidates were recognized by a majority of Tennesseans, and no candidate has more than 12 percent support.

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“He’s in trouble for things he can’t control, as the wisdom goes, and that’s both good news and bad news for him. He’s still doing better than his predecessor, though,” Wyatt said, alluding to former President George W. Bush, who concluded his presidency with a 32 percent approval rating and a 59 percent disapproval rating across Tennessee.

Meanwhile, 23 percent of Tennesseans can’t name a single gubernatorial candidate when asked to list as many as they can recall. Nineteen percent were able to name Republican Knoxville Mayor Matt K. Ragsdale, 10 percent of Tennesseans. The state’s adults recall four percent or fewer of the remaining candidates.

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A little recognition

WISTEM speaker tackles careers for women in various sciences

by Randy Weiler
jweiler@mtsu.edu

Dr. Saeed Foroudastan (basic and Applied Sciences) and Sandi Hyde, a graduate candidate in biostatistics, presented their joint paper, “Facilitating Cultural Diffusion Through Collegiate Design Competition Teams,” at the fourth annual Conference on International Studies of the Tennessee Consortium for International Studies Feb. 11-12 at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville.

Dr. Kevin Smith (sociology and anthropology) delivered a speech about the ancient Indians of Sumner County at the Bledsoe’s Lick Historical Association’s Annual Dinner Meeting in Gallatin Feb. 18.

Students, potential employers can ‘speed network’ March 29

by Randy Weiler
jweiler@mtsu.edu

Organizers say it’s like speed dating, but the Employment Opportunities Exchange is more like MTSU’s “speed networking” with prospective employers.

The annual Employment Opportunities Exchange will be held from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 29, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building, said Dr. Katie Kemp, assistant professor in the MTSU Department of Management and Marketing.

The “exchange” aims to help current and recent graduates position themselves effectively for opportunities with small to medium-sized employers.

The “exchange” begins. Recruiters will rotate from table to table in timed sessions of approximately 15 minutes each, brieﬂy sharing career opportunities with small groups of students seated at tables.

When the bell rings, the recruiters move to another table.

Kemp said the recruiters will be trying “to sell their companies to the students and entice them to choose their recruiting table during Exchange Part II.”

At 2 p.m., the Exchange Part II begins: “Students choose the companies in which they’re interested, present resumes and have one-on-one time with recruiters, ‘selling’ themselves to recruiters,” Kemp said.

For more information, call Kemp at 615-904-8253 or e-mail her at kemp@mtsu.edu.

OFFICIALLY HONORED—The MTSU Blue Raider football team stands on the ﬂoor of the Tennessee Senate Chambers March 1 as legis- lators honor the team’s 2009 season achieve- ments with a formal resolution of recognition. The Blue Raiders were 10-3 overall and won the New Orleans Bowl. Officials joining the team and Coach Rick Stockstill (center left, in beige) are, clockwise from top, Tennessee Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey, MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee, State Sen. Jim Tracy and State Sen. Bill Ketron. Tracy and Ketron co-sponsored the resolution with State Reps. Joe Carr and Josh Evans, who are not pictured. Also accepting the resolution for MTSU was Director of Athletics Chris Massaro.

photo submitted

Get noticed in The Record!

Submit your Faculty/Staff Update items, Campus News and other contributions and other news tips to gfann@mtsu.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, for the April 3 edition of The Record or 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 7, for the April 19 Record.
Faculty in Residence making music @ Monohan

by Claire Rogers
news@mtsu.edu

Students in one of MTSU’s Living Learning Communities, Music at Middle in Monohan Hall, have had the benefit of living and respectful of her presence. They are also serious about learning while students certainly have fun, was pleasantly surprised to find that DeBoer invited students, faculty and staff to her apartment at the beginning of fall 2009 to welcome them to Monohan and encourage their participation in Music at Middle activities, such as the opportunity to see live performances of opera and the Nashville Symphony.

In addition to leading extracurricular trips, DeBoer has welcomed students to her apartment for informal recitals on her piano and to help them rehearse performance pieces. Faculty also have been invited to interact with students after their formal recital exams and provide feedback on their performances in a more relaxed setting.

“At first, it’s a new idea, a new concept for students,” DeBoer said, “but once they get to participate in some of these events, they get excited about having those opportunities that they wouldn’t otherwise.”

Sophomore Gabrielle Molina said that DeBoer’s presence in Monohan has had a positive impact.

“I did feel more included because Ms. DeBoer lived in the apartment and frequently invited us over for games or food,” Molina said.

Housing and Residential Life conducts an outside survey each fall to evaluate how the communities meet student expectations and which areas need adjustment. It consistently finds that students appreciate the opportunities provided by participation in our Living Learning Communities,” Bickers said.

“Housing is confident that by providing quality facilities and unique programs like our Living Learning Communities, we will have a positive impact on student success.”

As MTSU moves forward with the Faculty in Residence Program, the apartment will rotate among faculty involved in each of the Living Learning Communities. “Ideally, I think they would like to have a different faculty member from each of the communities in Monohan each year, so they all have the opportunity of being represented by a Faculty in Residence,” DeBoer said.

“The Faculty in Residence Program has been piloted wonderful- ly by Professor DeBoer,” Bickers added, “And we look forward to continuing the successful interaction she has fostered and are hopeful that her participation leads the way for future faculty involvement.”

For more information on MTSU’s Living Learning Communities and how to apply, visit www.mtsu.edu/housing/livelearn.shtml.

Alumni and Friends

Benjamin F. Lyle, President, described his personal support for the University’s annual fundraising program. “I believe our students are the future of our University,” he said. “The work they do is truly remarkable and it is important that we provide the resources they need to be successful.”

The Record, March 22, 2010

People Around Campus

Jim and Lucy Whitehouse, of Murfreesboro, announced their recent gift to the University. “We are proud to support MTSU because of the great things that are happening here,” said Jim Whitehouse. “We want to ensure that MTSU continues to have the resources it needs to be successful.”

DeBoer.