EMC Productions gets rolling
by Tom Tozer

totozer@mtsu.edu

“EMC Productions” is the official name of the student-run production company in the College of Mass Communication at MTSU, one more field where experiential learning—hands-on learning—is becoming a tradition.

An MTSU student can become an EXL Scholar and receive an EXL Scholar’s designation on his or her diploma, signifying for a prospective employer that the applicant has worked in the trenches of the real world and is job-ready.

“The purpose of the Fulbright is to foster cross-cultural understanding,” Pratt added in an email from Washington, D.C., where he has been serving as an intern with International Bridges to Justice. “As a Fulbright Fellow, I will have the dual responsibility of presenting a positive image of the United States and of learning and understanding other cultures. It is another way to increase mutual cultural understanding.”

Graduating senior Kim Yarborough of Murfreesboro was offered a Fulbright for an English-teaching assistantship at a high school in Spain’s Cantabria region.

“From a academic standpoint, what a fantastic way to end my college career,” said Owens, director of athletic communications. “The fact that ESPN has agreed to take these games is a strong statement of our students’ quality of work. The students have been tremendous, and it will only get better as we continue to grow the program.”

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Graduating senior Kim Yarborough, 21, who was scheduled to graduate on May 7, was offered a Fulbright for an English-teaching assistantship at a high school in Spain’s Cantabria region.

“We even call it the ‘truck class,’ but it’s really the Mobile TV Production class,” Oneal said. “We’ve always done some athletic events, but over the last few years, the Athletic Department really started to pay attention.

“They asked us if we would mind if they took our signal and put it on ESPN3. We couldn’t figure out a good reason why not, so we worked out a rate card,” Oneal said, explaining that the students needed some modest compensation. “It’s not a lot of money, but we’re already trying to put together a crew for next year.”

All the games produced by EMC Productions this year were either on ESPN3, Comcast Sports South or both, Oneal said.

“From an academic standpoint, what a fantastic experience for the students,” he said. “How many kids in college can say they have their class assignments on ESPN3?”

“It has been a very successful venture,” added Mark Owens, director of athletic communications. “The fact that ESPN has agreed to take these games is a strong statement of our students’ quality of work. The students have been tremendous, and it will only get better as we continue to grow the program.”

There are several open positions available in EMC.

See ‘EMC’ page 5

See ‘Fulbrights’ page 5
Men’s tennis takes down South Alabama for 3rd SBC title

Middle Tennessee cruisd past No. 5 seed Louisiana-Lafayette and upset No. 1 Denver in the semifinals to reach the championship match. MT’s Matt Langley was named the tournament’s Most Outstanding Player after winning all of his singles matches at the No. 3 position.

CEREMONIAL TREE PLANTING—Facilities Services Executive Director Joe Whitefield, left, Ground Services Supervisor Larry Sizemore and Dr. Heather Brown, right, Concrete Industry Management chair, observe as Sara Andon, a CIM alumna currently working on her MBA degree, finishes planting a ceremonial tree at the Keathley University Center Knoll. The tree, planted April 21 as part of MTSU’s Earth Day activities, is part of a purchase of 640 trees for Facilities Services, which received 240 of the trees, and the School of Agrabusiness and AgriSciences, which received 400 trees. Concrete-industry sponsors of the purchase include C&C Concrete Products, Irving Materials, Memphis Ready Mix, Sicalco and the MTSU CIM Patrons. The organizing committee for the project included the Tennessee Environmental Council and the Tennessee Concrete Association, Brown said.

MTSU Photographic Services photo by J. Intintoli

Making an environmental difference

High-schoolers get ‘concrete’ info

A lumna Samantha Hart brought five of her Cane Ridge High School students and a fellow faculty member for a return visit for another firsthand look at the Concrete Industry Management department.

After spending about an hour in Dr. Gerald Morton’s classroom on April 27, the Cane Ridge group spent nearly two hours in the CIM lab under the guidance of Jon Huddleston.

The students—sophomore Mario Ahumada and seniors Andreas Johnson, Juan Carreon, Francisco Martinez and Zavier Osborne—broke the concrete cylinders that they made in October 2010 when Huddleston, the lab manager, and Daniel Cook, a May 7 degree candidate, visited Cane Ridge.

Later, Huddleston introduced them to a bit more interesting aspect of decorative concrete, making two vessel sinks and two bowls.

“The class we have been taking has been interesting,” Carreon said. “I’m thinking about making concrete my career choice, and I hope to attend MTSU. I haven’t visited the campus yet, but I hope to.”

“Cane Ridge has moved from the initial concept of replicating our Intro 3000 basics course to now adding a facility to do hands-on application and testing,” said Huddleston. “This gets them a little better prepared if they come here to pursue Concrete Industry Management.”

Cane Ridge art-department faculty member Lisa Wagner, who is interested in adding decorative concrete sculpture to her sculpture and ceramics classes, joined Hart on the trip, which was cut short because of bad weather.

Last summer, CIM Chair Heather Brown and her department joined a Nashville Public Schools’ The Academies of Nashville, which created specialized career- and theme-based academies that began classes last fall.

Employee-health screenings planned in Ingram Building

MTSU employees who need to complete their health-screening requirement for the PartNers for Health group-insurance plan will have another on-campus opportunity this month.

On-site screenings are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, May 10 and 11, from 7 to 11 a.m. on the first floor of the Sam Ingram Building. The health screenings can be completed in as little as 20 minutes and are free for all plan members, including dependent spouses.

Plan members must schedule an appointment for their screenings by calling APS Healthcare at 888-741-3390 or visiting www.partnersforhealthtn.gov. Walk-in screening appointments will be accepted as scheduling and staffing permit. Scheduled appointments will be seen first, however.

To prepare for the health screening, organizers say plan members:

• will need the member ID number included on each Caremark prescription card; and

• shouldn’t eat or drink anything, except water or black coffee, for nine hours before the health screening. Members may take any regular medications, however, before the appointment.

Please direct questions about the Partners for Health Wellness Program to APS Healthcare at 888-741-3390.
Professor's efforts net Read to Succeed honor

by Sydney Warneke
news@mtsu.edu

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t. Terri Tharp, professor of elementary and special education at MTSU, has been honored as Read to Succeed’s Volunteer of the Year Award for Family Literacy.

Read to Succeed is a community partnership that promotes literacy in Rutherford County. Incorporating the program into her curriculum, Tharp and her students travel to local schools to conduct a “family reading night.” The community gatherings include a reading of a selected book, craft-making, play-based activities, and a meal that allows families to sit down together.

“For most of these families, it’s just so nice to sit down and have a meal and spend time with their fami-

Ty,” Tharp says. Tharp and her students have worked with such schools as Smyrna Primary, Hobgood and Mitchell-Neilson Elementary to help children up to the fifth grade. The program not only encourages reading for the students but serves as a model for the parents as well, she says.

“It teaches the importance of conversation and discussion of books with your children, not just reading,” Tharp says. Each “family reading night” includes a number of events, all planned and coordinated by Tharp’s students. A book is chosen, and Tharp’s students are split into two teams. The “Materials Team” puts together everything that will be needed for the evening’s activities, while the “Room Team” prepares for the read-aloud session. This part of the process is principal according to Tharp.

At Smyrna Primary, for example, the book chosen was Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss. Following the read-aloud, student made egg-carton creatures and “slime” to go along with the book.

Tharp recalls the parents participating in a game of “pin the egg on the ham” that night, too, which supports the program’s drive to engage parents as well as children. “Parents can be so fun, and once you get them involved, the kids love it, because they have their parents’ attention,” she says.

At the end of each evening, everyone leaves with a book, says Tharp—including the parents and other children in the family, regardless of age. Tharp praises her students, saying that the program is a win-win situation for everyone.

“It really is so rewarding to see my students who are going to be teachers (working with families), and the students say that the program is one of the most productive activities in their program because it’s so hands-on,” she says.

Though Tharp received the award, she gives all the credit to her students. “They really are wonderful stu-

dents that do a great job. There’s no way I could do it all on my own. It’s definitely a team effort,” she says.

Sydney Warneke, a print-journalism major, was scheduled to graduate May 7 with a bachelor’s degree in mass communica-

tion. She has worked as a practicum student for the Office of News and Media Relations during spring 2011.

E

cucators who seek to help students with severe behavioral issues are slated to attend the fifth annual Positive Behavior Support and Inclusion Conference on Thursday, May 12, at MTSU.

“The primary goal of this conference will be to pro-

mote positive inclusive teaching and the quality of education services for students identified as having behavioral challenges in accordance with the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act,” says Dr. Zafrullah Khan, an assistant professor of elementary and special education at MTSU and the conference organizer.

Khan says PBSI encourages social competence and aca-

demic achievement through strategies, practices and interventions that have proven to be effective.

The featured speaker for the conference will be Dr. Rick Lavoie, who will address the gathering from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. in the James Union Building.

Lavoie is the author of The Motivation Breakthrough: Six Secrets to Turning On the Turned-Out Child (2007) and It’s So Much Work to Be Your Friend: Helping the Child with Learning Disabilities Find Social Success (2009). He has served as an administrator of residential programs for children with special needs since 1972. Lavoie also has served as a consultant for the National Center for Learning Disabilities, US4Today, the Girls Scouts of America and National Public Radio, among other agen-

cies and organizations.

Educators who have experience with PBSI are scheduled to participate in breakout sessions in the afternoon. Teachers from Bradley Academy in Murfreesboro, Elzie D. Patton Elementary School in Mt. Juliet, Tenn., and Decherd (Tenn.) Elementary School will discuss how they have implemented PBSI principles and supports in their classrooms. These and other sessions will take place in various classrooms in Peck Hall across the street from the James Union Building.

Seating for the conference is limited. To register, go to www.mtsu.edu/pbsi. For more information, contact Khan at 615-904-8429 or zkhan@mtsu.edu.

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SUS’ Project Help has added a new class designed for 3-year-olds, offering a new option for many Rutherford County par-

ents, including those whose children could not con-

tinue at Project Help after they turned 3.

The early-intervention program at MTSU, which offers services free to fami-

lies of very young children with develop-

mental delays or disabilities, provides play-based learning experiences in a nat-

ural environment alongside children who are developing typically.

Project Help is the only center-based program for very young children—ages 6 months to 3 years—with special needs in Rutherford County.

Children with developmental delays or disabilities can receive services from the local school system when they turn 3. Some children with delays and disabilities do not qualify for serv-

ices in the school system, however.

Now children who have or have had develop-

mental concerns, as well as those who are typically developing, are eligible to enroll in Project Help’s “pay to stay” 3-year-old class.

“Project Help staff has wanted to offer a pro-

gram for 3-year-olds since I became director,” Director Susan Waldrop explains. “I think it was the first goal in our first strategic plan. We are pleased to finally be able to offer an option for fam-

ilies when their children turn 3. Looking toward the future, we envision a program that provides a creative, highly individualized curriculum focusing on skill attainment, literacy and diversity.”

State funds don’t cover a program for 3-year-

olds, but with the assistance of funds generated from the Project Help Advisory Board’s annual “Saddle Up for Project Help,” Waldrop said Project Help was able to offer the new class at a modest tuition rate.

Classes will be held in the “Yellow Room” of Project Help’s Fairview Center, where teacher Amanda Kelley will lead the new program. The year-round program will hold classes Monday through Thursday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Families will be offered the choice of a two- or four-day plan. Two-day pro-

grams will consist of a Wednesday-Thursday option or a Tuesday-

Thursday option.

Program fees are $40 weekly for a two-day program and $65 weekly for a four-day program.

Class size is limited, so Waldrop is encouraging interested families to contact her at 615-898-2837 or at swaldrop@mtsu.edu.

For more information about the new class for 3-year-olds, visit the Project Help website at www.mtsu.edu/projecthelp and click on the “3-Year-Old Class” button.
**Event dates, times and locations may change after press time. Please verify specifics when making plans.**

**TV Schedule**

“MTSU Out of the Blue” Cable Channel 9: Monday-Sunday, 7 a.m., 5 p.m. NewsChannel 5+ (Comcast 250): Sundays, 1:30 p.m. Visit [www.mtsunews.com](http://www.mtsunews.com) for other airtimes or [www.youtube.com/user/MTSUOutoftheBlue](http://www.youtube.com/user/MTSUOutoftheBlue) for a complete show archive.

**Radio Schedule**

“MTSU On the Record” 8 a.m. Sundays, WMOT 89.5-FM Podcasts available anytime at [www.mtsunews.com](http://www.mtsunews.com).

**Sports @ Home**

May 13-15: Track and Cross Country Sun Belt Outdoor Championships

May 19-21: MTSU Baseball vs. Western Kentucky (6, 6 and 1 p.m.)

For information, visit [www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com).

**May 12**

Thursday, May 12

Fifth Annual Positive Behavior Support Initiative and Inclusion Conference

James Union Building

For information, visit [www.mtsu.edu/pbsi](http://www.mtsu.edu/pbsi), email zkhan@mtsu.edu or contact: 615-904-8429.

**May 14**

Saturday, May 14

See Spot Run 5K Run/Walk

6:30 a.m. registration, Peck Hall; 8 a.m. start

Entry fee: $20 before May 8; $25 up to and on race day


**May 15**

Saturday, May 14

Inaugural MTSU Walking Horse Instructional Show

9 a.m. clinic, 1:30 p.m. show

For information, email pkayser@mtsu.edu or contact: 615-494-8849.

**May 16**

May 16-17

“Shots Fired” Video Presentations

9-10 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. daily, Keathley University Center Theater

For information, contact: 615-898-2424 or 898-2919.

Monday, May 16

Summer 2011 Full-Term and May Term Classes Begin

**Clarification**

An article in the April 25 print editions of The Record, “Grad student’s work helps kids fight obesity,” misstated grad student Debbie Goddard’s initial role in the “BAM! Body and Mind” program in the Murfreesboro City Schools and Rutherford County Schools systems. She requested permission to become involved with the 12-week pilot program and used her research from it to earn her master’s degree. Read the full Record article online at [http://bit.ly/MTGoddardResearch](http://bit.ly/MTGoddardResearch).

**May 19**

Thursday, May 19

Retired Faculty/Staff Coffee

9:30 a.m., Foundation House

For information, contact: 615-898-2922.

**May 11**

May 11-13

2011 Ethnic Organized Gangs Crime Symposium

sponsored by the Forensic Institute for Research and Education at MTSU

8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, State Farm Lecture Hall (Room S102), Business and Aerospace Building

For information, visit [www.mtsu.edu/fire/workshops.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/fire/workshops.shtml) or contact: 615-494-7713.

Wednesday, May 11

Tornado Siren Test Date

(no action needed)

11:15 a.m., campuswide

For information, contact: 615-898-2424.

**Campus Calendar**

May 9-22, 2011

**Event dates, times and locations may change after press time. Please verify specifics when making plans.**

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**Clean up Time**—Robert Adcock, center, of the Anything Outdoors tree-surgery company in Murfreesboro joins two crew members in Walnut Grove to inspect a 40-foot tulip poplar felled by windstorms on April 27. Winds damaged several neighborhoods in Murfreesboro as well as trees on the MTSU campus, including a huge oak near Peck Hall and another tree alongside the Old Main Circle-Normal Way fork at Jones Hall. The tulip poplar claimed by the storm has been estimated at more than 70 years old and grew at the southwest corner of Walnut Grove. Walnut Grove was created in 1930, when custodian J.H. Bayer brought home walnuts from Mount Vernon, George Washington’s Virginia estate, and planted them between what was then the Middle Tennessee Normal School library (now the site of Peck Hall) and the southern edge of the school’s property. When it fell, the tulip poplar damaged the sidewalk north of the Cope Administration Building (built in 1965). “When you get as much rain as we have lately to saturate the ground, and then have relatively small root systems for these big trees, you see many of them turned over,” Adcock explained. “We’ve been working with MTSU for more than 10 years, and this is some pretty big damage.” In the photo at top, Adcock uses a chainsaw on a tulip-poplar limb to cut it into manageable pieces. University officials are considering possible uses for the fallen trees.

photos by News and Media Relations
Employees of the Year

EXEMPLARY WORK—MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee, left, joins winners of the 2010-11 Employee of the Year Awards during the April 27 celebration in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. Displaying their awards are, from left, Technical Employee of the Year Annette Merriman, Information Technology Division; Administrative Employee of the Year Marsha Powers, University Honors College; Secretarial/Clerical Employee of the Year Betty Weigant, Construction/Renovation Services; and All-Classified Employee of the Year Mary Evelyn Winsett, Admissions and Enrollment Services. The winners, who received engraved crystal awards and monetary gifts for their commitment to MTSU’s success, were chosen from nominations made during the 2010-11 academic year. The committee regularly salutes staffers who make outstanding contributions and demonstrate excellence in their roles. To nominate an administrative, secretarial/clerical, classified or technical/service co-worker for an award, go to www.mtsu.edu/hr/relations/recog.shtml.

MTSU Photographic Services photo by J. Intintoli

Fullbrights

“Kim and Patrick are perfect examples of the types of students I have the pleasure of working with in our program. “Kim is a hard-working, intelligent student with a welcoming personality. Patrick is the ideal scholar. He is intelligent, thoughtful and dedicated—always one of the best students in my classes.”

MTSU Fulbright applications are handled through the Undergraduate Fellowships Office in the Honors College. They work under the direction of Laura Clippard, who noted that two MTSU students, Kaitlin Howell and Eric Little, currently are serving as Fulbright Scholars in Germany and Portugal, respectively. Another MTSU student, Christopher Watkins, is awaiting word about his Fulbright award. Fulbright Scholars serve in 135 different countries, Vile noted. “One of the greatest goals of the Honors College is to see that MTSU students compete for national scholarships,” Vile said. “MTSU’s increased emphasis on foreign languages, multiculturalism and study-abroad programs all have made students more competitive for national and international awards.”

Kim Yarborough has been an Honors College participant with a double major in international relations and Spanish and a minor in economics. She received the Outstanding Student in Spanish Award from the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures during the College of Liberal Arts Awards Day on April 18.

In spring 2010, Yarborough spent a semester interning at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C., where she worked on the White House initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. In fall 2008, she spent an additional semester in Argentina, where she further developed her love for the Spanish language, Vile said.

Pratt, who earned an associate’s degree in psychology from Motlow State Community College in Tullahoma, earned MTSU degrees in international relations and political science. He previously received the David L. Boren Scholarship for study in Kenya. At MTSU, he received the Meritorious Service Award from the Department of Political Science and participated in the Society for International Affairs and Rotaract International.

“The MTSU international-relations program attracts exceptional students,” said Dr. Karen Petersen, an associate professor of political science at MTSU.

Appreciating Tanzanian culture.

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Fullbrights for next fall, Oneal noted. They will be accepting applications for jobs ranging from producer and director to camera operator and grip.

“We’ll come up with job descriptions and minimum requirements,” he said. “We want to make something where students aspire to be part of this team.”

“There are several universities starting to use production students in their sports production,” added Marc Parrish, director of EMC’s technical systems. “I believe we’re different in that our students fill all production positions except announcers. Other universities have professional producers and directors.”

Sarah Fryar, a senior from McMinnville, Tenn., can vouch for the hands-on experience that she is gaining through her work with EMC Productions. She already works as the sideline reporter for the Blue Raiders and hosts her own sports show on Athlon Sports.

“Producing is my strong suit because that’s what I spend the most time doing,” said Fryar, a double major in electronic media journalism and business administration. “I can run a camera, and I can run the board. Graphics, maybe not so much, and stats—I usually hire someone to do that. I don’t have a problem making decisions, but it can be very intimidating.”

With the anticipated arrival of a new mobile production truck, Fryar said she wants to familiarize herself with the entire range of equipment.

“You’ll be in the last class that will get to use the old truck and the first to use the new truck,” she said.

Fryar said that experiential learning is a key part of mass comm.

“There are book-learners, and there are doers. We’re fortunate here at MTSU. We’ll get a degree in doing it, not a degree in book-learning.”

Fellow senior Sabrina Tucker from Chattanooga, Tenn., prefers the EMC Productions editing room.

Tucker graduated from UT-Chattanooga with a bachelor’s degree in marketing and worked in hotel sales for two years. Her work with marketing and sales videos reinforced her dream of being a film editor. She came to MTSU and was set to graduate May 7 with a degree in media production.

“It’s basically playing God,” Tucker said of the editing process. “You can shoot as much footage as you want, but it’s how you actually piece it together that makes the show—and where you make the cuts to portray the director’s vision.”

Tucker’s first internship was with rootsHQ in Nashville. She worked for State Sen. Jim Tracy’s video when he was running for the Tennessee General Assembly. She’s currently interning at Ground Zero in Nashville.

“I love the EMC department here, because you pretty much get your hands on everything as far as doing concerts, truck work, single-camera, music videos, short features—it’s so diverse. I also like the fact that we have to take media law. You get to explore every aspect of media,” Tucker said.

“In ten years, I hope to be editing Quentin Tarantino movies. If I can’t find an editing job, I want to be director of continuity. It’s all about continuity.”

appreciating Tanzanian culture.

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Pratt, who earned an associate’s degree in psychology from Motlow State Community College in Tullahoma, earned MTSU degrees in international relations and political science. He previously received the David L. Boren Scholarship for study in Kenya. At MTSU, he received the Meritorious Service Award from the Department of Political Science and participated in the Society for International Affairs and Rotaract International.

“The MTSU international-relations program attracts exceptional students,” said Dr. Karen Petersen, an associate professor of political science at MTSU.

“Kim and Patrick are perfect examples of the types of students I have the pleasure of working with in our program. “Kim is a hard-working, intelligent student with a welcoming personality. Patrick is the ideal scholar. He is intelligent, thoughtful and dedicated—always one of the best students in my classes.”

MTSU Fulbright applications are handled through the Undergraduate Fellowships Office in the Honors College. They work under the direction of Laura Clippard, who noted that two MTSU students, Kaitlin Howell and Eric Little, currently are serving as Fulbright Scholars in Germany and Portugal, respectively. Another MTSU student, Christopher Watkins, is awaiting word about his Fulbright award.

Fulbright Scholars serve in 135 different countries, Vile noted. “One of the greatest goals of the Honors College is to see that MTSU students compete for national scholarships,” Vile said. “MTSU’s increased emphasis on foreign languages, multiculturalism and study-abroad programs all have made students more competitive for national and international awards.”
BIG PLANS—MTSU has made plenty of plans this spring to expand its offerings to students from Chattanooga to China. In the photo at left, President Sidney A. McPhee and Li Ruiyi, CEO of China Flying-Dragon Ltd. Co. of Harbin, China, shake hands after signing a memorandum of understanding on April 8 to bring qualified flight students from China Flying-Dragon to participate in flight training activities with MTSU’s aerospace department. The agreement also commits the University and the company to develop cooperative endeavors in flight education and other aviation-related education and to exchange educational and cultural materials. China Flying-Dragon was to supply a cohort of at least 20 students to be trained at MTSU within 60 days of the approval of the MOU.

In the photo at right, McPhee joins Chattanooga State Community College President James Catanazzo in signing a dual-admission agreement on April 13. That memorandum of understanding laid the groundwork for a shared curriculum plan for CSCC students who also wish to pursue a bachelor’s degree at MTSU. Under the agreement, Chattanooga students who meet specific eligibility requirements will qualify for dual admission at both the community college and MTSU. Students in the program will be guaranteed acceptance into MTSU, will have access to MTSU faculty and staff while attending Chattanooga State and can take advantage of enhanced advising and transition services offered at the Murfreesboro campus.

MTSU Photographic Services photos by J. Intintoli (above) and Andy Heidt (right)

Military Science commissions 21 into service


by Randy Weiler
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wenty-one MTSU seniors and degree candidates were scheduled to take part in the annual spring ROTC Commissioning ceremony on Friday, May 6, in the Military Memorial area outside the Tom H. Jackson Building.

Retired Brig. Gen. Les Fuller, a 1973 alumnus of MTSU, was to serve as guest speaker.

Of the new second lieutenants, 10 will move to active duty, two will join the Army Reserves and nine will be a part of the National Guard.

The spring 2011 commissionees include:

• Brandon G. Albritten of Milton, Tenn., who was to receive his Bachelor of Science in concrete industry management at MTSU’s May 7 commencement and will be serving in the Engineer Corps of the Tennessee National Guard.

• Matthew K. Popejoy of Clarksville, Tenn., who was to receive her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing before reporting for duty with the Army Reserves’ Nurse Corps;

• Johnathon C. Schlesicher of Murfreesboro, who has earned his bachelor’s degree in liberal studies before reporting for active Ordnance Corps duty in Korea;

• Justin T. McQueen of Spring Hill, Tenn., who has earned his MBA and will report for duty in the TNG’s Adjutant General Corps;

• Daniel L. Ervin of Hendersonville, who received his bachelor’s degree in exercise science and then report to the Medical Service Corps in the Tennessee National Guard;

• Byron D. Gothard of Whitwell, Tenn., a criminal-justice degree candidate who will be reporting to Fort Campbell’s Quartermaster Corps;

• Cody L. Hammond of McDonald, Tenn., a criminal-justice degree candidate who will be reporting to Fort Campbell’s Quartermaster Corps;

• Rachael N. Lezon of Cleveland, Tenn., who has earned her MBA and will report to the Army Reserve for duty with the Signal Corps;

• Darren J. Maples of Smyrna, Tenn., who will receive his bachelor’s degree in liberal studies before reporting for active Ordnance Corps duty in Korea;

• Trenton B. Wiggins of Brentwood, Tenn., who has earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing and will be on active duty with the Nurse Corps;

• Johnathon C. Schlesicher of Murfreesboro, who has earned his bachelor’s degree in journalism and will report for reserve duty in the Guard’s Engineer Corps;

• Johnathon C. Schlesicher of Murfreesboro, who has earned his bachelor’s degree in liberal studies before reporting for active Ordnance Corps duty in Korea;

• Andrew T. McQue of Chattanooga, who was to receive her bachelor’s degree in psychology and will report to Fort Stewart, Ga., for active duty in the Signal Corps;

• Koekhamphet P. Sourinho of Murfreesboro, who has earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in finance and will serve with the Guard’s finance branch;

• Johnathon C. Schlesicher of Murfreesboro, who has earned his bachelor’s degree in journalism and will report for reserve duty in the Guard’s Engineer Corps;

• Johnathon C. Schlesicher of Murfreesboro, who has earned his bachelor’s degree in liberal studies before reporting for active Ordnance Corps duty in Korea;

• Andrew T. McQue of Chattanooga, who was to receive her bachelor’s degree in psychology and will report to Fort Stewart, Ga., for active duty in the Signal Corps;

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“It is the core function of the Gore Center to collect these papers,” said Dr. Jim Williams, director of the research facility, who noted that the Gordon addition will double the amount of information available at the center.

“The possibilities are endless to find out about federal and local politics,” he added. MTSU’s Department of Political Science offered a class that incorporates the Gordon papers into the curriculum. Taught by Kent Syler, another MTSU alumnus, the “Political Campaign Management” class makes use of Syler’s former position as Gordon’s district chief of staff to use the papers, according to Williams. Syler also will use the papers in the two new classes he will be teaching this fall: “Advanced Studies in American Government: American Politics in the Information Age” and “Advanced Studies in American Government: Advertising in Modern American Politics.”

“I have shown students Gordon campaign ads from the Gore Center to help teach them how to make TV ads,” Syler explained. “I have also incorporated donated polling data into the class to help students understand which issues voters think are important.”

The papers currently are not open to the public and won’t be for up to 11 years. Williams said the deed of gift often restricts access to donated papers for a period of time. “There are also parts of the papers that have sensitive personal information from constituents that we are legally bound to protect until the person’s death,” Williams said.

During the restricted time, Williams said, the Gore Center will process and analyze the papers to make them research-ready for students, faculty and other researchers. “It takes time for archives to arrange and prepare finding aids for collections, especially ones of this size—almost 650 boxes,” said Williams.

Sydney Warneke, a print-journalism major, was scheduled to graduate May 7 with a bachelor’s degree in mass communication. She has worked as a practicum student for the Office of News and Media Relations during spring 2011.

Rule effective July 1 for all new students

TBR requiring chickenpox-vaccine proof

Effective July 1, 2011, the Tennessee Board of Regents is requiring all new and full-time college and university students to obtain and provide documentation that they have received two doses of the Varicella, or chickenpox, immunization or show proof of immunity to the disease.

In addition, all health-science students who expect to have contact with patients will be required to show proof of protection against hepatitis B before pursuing their work in this field. Students who are currently enrolled are exempt from the new requirements. Other conditions for exemption include students enrolled only in online courses and those born before Jan. 1, 1980.

The newer requirements are additions to the standard immunizations for measles, mumps and rubella that have already been in effect.

Specifically, any new full-time student who attends an institution enrolling 200 or more students must receive and provide proof of two doses of Varicella or provide laboratory evidence of immunity. If a student has a family history of Varicella disease, a health practitioner also may offer documentation to that effect as proof.

The Varicella vaccinations are available for new students at MTSU’s Student Health Services. For more information, contact Health Services at 615-898-2988.
Senior’s research tops homeland-security summit
by Tom Tozer
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Jeanie Stubblefield, a senior biology major at MTSU, won first place for her poster research at the Fifth Annual U.S. Department of Homeland Security University Network Summit in Washington, D.C., March 28-April 1. Her research was conducted under a $161,000 Forensic Institute for Research and Education grant funded by the Department of Homeland Security and managed through Oak Ridge National Laboratory’s Southeast Region Research Initiative. “I was shocked and surprised—that’s about all I can say,” Stubblefield said. “I really didn’t think my project had a chance of winning, because I was up against so many master’s- and doctorate-level research projects. Everyone’s work was so impressive. I’m extremely honored.”

Stubblefield, who is originally from Hickman County and now resides in Murfreesboro, was working “Aerobic Decomposition—Alternative Methods for Managing Large-Scale Animal Fatalities.” Dr. Hugh Berryman, MTSU professor of sociology and anthropology and director of IFLR, and Dr. John Hafner, MTSU assistant professor of agribusiness and agriscience, served as project leaders.

The grant focused on alternatives for managing animal remains in mass fatalities. The official title of Stubblefield’s research was “Potential Use of Chlorine Dioxide to Decontaminate Skin Surfaces in an Animal Mass Casualty Response.” MTSU biology professor Dr. Anthony Newsome worked with Stubblefield as her faculty adviser.

“What impressed me so much about Jeanie’s work was that she carried out her research with a minimum of supervision,” Newsome noted. “She worked independently, remained focused on the task, and she made us all very proud. There is no greater delight than to have a student excel at such a high level.”

Homeland-security officials were so impressed with Stubblefield’s presentation that they have asked to meet with her, Newsome added.

Jeanie represents what our Forensic Institute is all about,” Berryman said. “She is a prime example of a student who utilizes the knowledge she has acquired and shows what she can do—especially by virtue of the fact that she was competing against graduate-level researchers. We are extremely proud of her. She represents our department, college and university with distinction.”

The conference is DHS’ flagship research meeting and brings together university researchers working on DHS projects with others linked to the department, including first responders, lawmakers and policymakers.

The theme of the conference was “Disasters and Complex Systems,” focusing on how transportation systems help prevent, mitigate and respond to natural and man-made disasters.

In addition to her first-place honor, Stubblefield was one of 74 university students out of more than 700 applicants invited to present their research at the Posters on the Hill event on April 13 in the Rayburn Office Building, in Washington, D.C. Stubblefield was scheduled to graduate from MTSU on May 7. She said she plans to pursue a doctorate in molecular sciences.

Stubblefield’s mother, Deane Stern, is an MTSU alumna (B.S. ’87), and her son, Michael Batty, is a sophomore at MTSU majoring in global studies. Stubblefield’s father is Michael Moore of Donelson, Tenn.