



New perspective
Photos in Baldwin Gallery
capture life in Mexico, Italy
 see page 2

Inside this edition:

Renovations under way for DSS, page 2
Warm up with Up 'Til Dawn chili, page 6
Mediation team takes national title, page 8



Building a dream, page 6

a publication for the Middle Tennessee State University community

Nov. 19, 2007 • Vol. 16/No. 11

the RECORD

Frist exhibit features MTSU students' work

by Danielle Harrell

Lights will be bright on Broadway for MTSU artists when the Frist Center for the Visual Arts opens its newest exhibit, "Mid-State Art Majors."



Anfinson

"I've been here four years and there's never been a show put together like this," said Erin Anfinson, assistant professor of art and liaison for the exhibit. "They came to us with the opportunity, and we were thrilled."

Anfinson explained that the Frist had the time and space between some of its major exhibits and decided to showcase students' work from across Tennessee.

Art professors at nine institutions nominated their students to be featured in the exhibit, and at MTSU, a faculty panel chose students to represent each of the concentrations of the

art department.

Dale Meier, a senior art education major, is one of the students whose work is featured at the center. Meier's piece is an Italian etching.

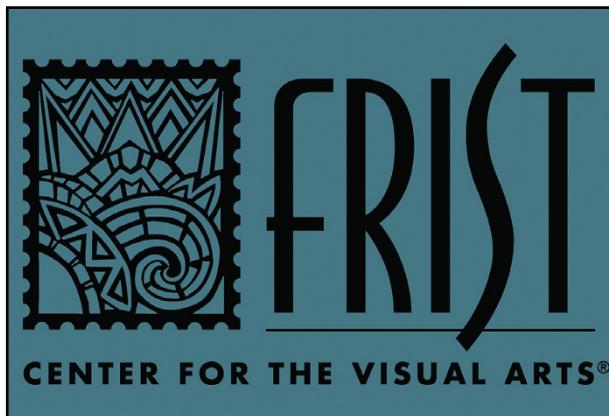
"I think it is awesome to get my name out there," said Meier, who participates in the National Art Education Association. After graduation, he plans to teach art at the high-school level.

"I definitely plan on doing art in my free time as well as teaching. My passion is teaching, but I love art as well," he added.

The exhibit's opening, which is free, was scheduled for 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, at the Frist, located at 919 Broadway in downtown Nashville. The exhibit runs through Dec. 31.



Meier



In addition to Meier's contribution, the exhibit features the work of:

- senior art major Rachel Bonham;
- senior art education major Beth Copley;
- August 2007 studio art graduate Danny Greene;
- May 2007 studio art graduate Brandon Morgan;
- senior art education major Caitlin Roston;
- senior art/graphic design major Michelle Small; and

See 'Frist' page 5

Health project 'very much a family focus'

by Bonnie Bailey

A four-month pilot program developed through the Discovery Center at Murfree Spring and a pair of MTSU faculty members, "Discovering Healthy Families," debuted well last year and will be offered again in spring 2008.

The program, which is also run in partnership with StoneCrest Medical Center, the American Heart Association and the HCA Foundation, encourages families to lead a healthier lifestyle by eating better and exercising more, said Rachel Anderson, development and communications director at the Discovery Center.



"We wanted to do a more comprehensive program that would involve the parents," Anderson said. "It was very much a family focus."

The participating families were assigned health coaches, who are MTSU students majoring in nutrition and food science, to assist them through the program and provide them with information on exercise and nutrition. Dr. Lisa Sheehan-Smith, assistant professor of human sciences, organized this part of the program.

"The students are very key to this program," Anderson said. "We wanted to get students involved, and it worked out well."

The students participated as part of MTSU's Experiential Learning Scholars Program, or EXL, which requires a hands-on learning project. Taking part in the program as a health coach allowed the students to fulfill the requirements for the dietetic

See 'Family' page 5

Geosciences class maps out success

by Claire Rogers

Dr. Tom Nolan, director of the Laboratory for Spatial Technology in MTSU's Department of Geosciences, is taking a new approach to his cartography course this semester.

Rather than memorizing abstract concepts, students are applying them in the field during a mapmaking project for Edgar Evins State Park in Silver Point, Tenn.

Bill Avant, technology manager of Tennessee's Geographic Information Systems, and Park Manager Carl

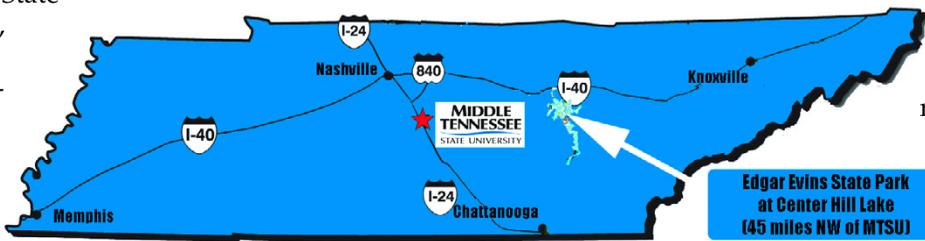
Halfacre approached Nolan to create more accurate maps for the park. These will include a visitor's map, specialized maps for hunting and camping, and a maintenance map to be used by park staff.

Nolan said he believed this project would give his cartography students real-life experience using the technology of a Global Positioning System and state GIS computer programs to create a map from scratch.

"This is our first time doing a project like this," Nolan said. "I'm not sure how effective it will be, but it seems more applicable than lecturing."

Students spent a few days at Edgar Evins collecting data with two different GPS systems to examine how precise each was. They measured every point of interest several times to ensure the maps' accuracy.

Data taken by the students was combined with information about the area's physical geography and park boundaries received from the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Their observations were then loaded into the computer and placed over an



aerial photo of the park to create the skeleton of their future maps. Students had to interpret what they were seeing and determine how to make changes to improve accuracy, the professor said.

In the process, Nolan's students are learning that GPS is not a perfect system, and some spots must be measured again and again. In places where the satellites cannot

See 'Geosciences' page 6

MIDDLE TENNESSEE
 STATE UNIVERSITY

www.mtsunews.com

IN BRIEF

BE A HOLLY JOLLY ANGEL

Join the Jolly Angels, an all-volunteer organization that assists children in rural areas without access to mainstream charities, in bringing holiday cheer to children

of parents at Fort Campbell. With a \$35 donation to the group's Nov. 21 Turkey Fry, you'll receive a 10- to 14-pound fried turkey for your Thanksgiving dinner, or you can donate the turkey to the troops. For more information, contact Joe Hugh at 615-898-5811 or 615-542-1211.

GIVE A BIT TO HELP A LOT

MTSU's final 2007 blood drive is set Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in KUC 322. You must weigh at least 110, feel healthy, and your last blood donation must have been more than 56 days ago. For more information, call 615-898-2590.

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New Web site features free college info, help

from Staff Reports

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation and the Tennessee Department of Education have launched a free Web site that is a comprehensive source for Tennessee higher education information, *CollegeforTN.org*.

"CollegeforTN.org is the online, one-stop college shop where students and parents can plan, prepare, pay and apply for college," said Richard Rhoda, executive director of THEC. "It provides students the ability to create academic plans, select Tennessee colleges, prepare for standardized tests, research financial aid opportunities, explore career fields, apply online and more."

CollegeforTN.org was created to make higher education information more easily accessible and

appealing to today's tech-savvy students.

"We want students to have the tools and guidance they need to make informed decisions about their future educational and career plans," said state Education Commissioner Lana Seivers. "On CollegeforTN.org, an eighth-grade student can learn which classes to take in high school if he wants to go to college. On the same site, a senior can search for scholarships and apply online to multiple Tennessee institutions."

CollegeforTN.org also permits electronic transmission of transcripts from high schools to colleges. While thousands of transcripts have been successfully uploaded, the agencies are still working with the appropriate high-school and postsecondary institution staff to make the process seamless.



"Once a student transcript is electronically uploaded to CollegeforTN.org, that student can then send his or her transcript to a selected university by the click of a button," said Robert Ruble, executive director of TSAC.

While most Tennessee high schools currently can upload transcripts to CollegeforTN.org, some high schools still can't. The state agencies say getting that access for all schools is the goal.

More than 60,000 student accounts have been created and more than 29,000 college applications have been submitted on CollegeforTN.org, officials noted.

"We are hopeful that by reducing many of the barriers students face during the admissions process, we will increase the number of students enrolling in college," Rhoda said.

Photos offer perspectives on daily life in Mexico, Italy

from Staff Reports

An exhibit featuring the work of photographer Harvey Stein, "MEXICO/ITALY: One Perspective/Two Countries," is on display through Thursday, Dec. 6, at MTSU's Baldwin Photographic Gallery.

Stein, a well-known photographer of people in the studio, on location and in the streets, was scheduled to present a slide show/lecture on his work at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 15, in Room 104 of the Bragg Mass Communication Building. A reception and book signing was to follow in the gallery, which is located in the McWherter Learning Resources Center.

The exhibit comprises 50 gelatine black-and-white prints by the widely published photographer, who currently teaches at the International Center of Photography and has been on the faculty of the New School University, the Rochester Institute of Technology, Drew University, Bridgeport University and Jersey City State College. His latest book is *Movimento: Glimpses of Italian Street Life*.

Hours for the exhibit, which is free and open to the public, are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 615-898-2085.



ONE PERSPECTIVE—Photographer Harvey Stein says his work in Mexico, such as in the photos of a young girl and three adults outside a church, above, and a masked reveler and brass band during a street festival, left, "highlight the country's unique relationship to death, myth, ritual and religion." These photos and more will be on display through Dec. 6 in the Baldwin Photographic Gallery in the McWherter Learning Resources Center.

photos submitted

Renovations under way for Disabled Student Services

from Staff Reports

The Office of Disabled Student Services will undergo renovations in Rooms 120 and 122 of the Keathley University Center through mid-January, but services for students will not be interrupted, officials said.

All e-mail and phone numbers will remain the same, according to Janet Norman, assistant director for DSS, who added that some staff offices will be temporarily relocated to the third floor of the KUC and to the Adaptive Technology Center in the James E. Walker Library.

"We apologize for any inconvenience," Norman said. "Testing will be coordinated through KUC 132, which is just down the hall from KUC 120 and 122."

"Our testing coordinators, Katie Cripps and Caleb Paschall, will be

available in KUC 132 to assist faculty with delivery and pick-up of all exams. In KUC 132, Katie and Caleb will also assist students with disabilities that utilize our testing services. We're asking students and faculty to please call them at 615-904-8246 or e-mail dsstest@mtsu.edu if they have questions or need assistance."

Other temporary office relocations include:

- Director John Harris, who'll be working in KUC 317D (615-898-2783 or jlharris@mtsu.edu);
- Norman herself, who'll be next door to Harris in KUC 317E (615-904-8246 or jnorman@mtsu.edu);
- Secretary Shirley Travis, whose office will be located in KUC 317G (615-898-2783 or stravis@mtsu.edu);
- Janet Carlton, academic support coordinator, who'll be located in KUC 317H (615-904-8246 or jcarlton@mtsu.edu); and
- Diana Hague, vocational reha-

bilitation counselor, who will move temporarily into the ATC in Walker Library 174 (615-494-7673 or dhague@mtsu.edu).

ATC Coordinator Amy Burks will remain in her ATC office in the library and can still be reached at 615-904-8550 or aburks@mtsu.edu, Norman said.

"Due to the age of the elevator in the KUC, we prefer that individuals with physical disabilities contact Diana Hague at 615-494-7673 or 615-904-8550 when scheduling a visit," the assistant director added. "Diana will make arrangements with DSS staff to ensure services are not interrupted."

MTSU's DSS office serves as a liaison and an advocate for students with disabilities. The DSS office also serves as an information center for the university community by providing pertinent information for equal educational opportunities of individuals with disabilities.

Weather on the Web

Ice, snow closing classes? Check www.mtsu.edu/alert4u anytime!

Federal funding on track for nursing school

from Staff Reports

The U.S. House of Representatives has approved a measure that will enable MTSU to make improvements to its School of Nursing and work to combat obesity in children and teens.

U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon, an MTSU alumnus, said the funding is included in a compromise of House and Senate versions of an annual funding bill for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Senate is expected to approve the conference report soon, and it will then go to the president for his signature.

The conference report included \$250,000 for MTSU's School of Nursing. The funds will be used for equipment to enhance the education of nursing students.

"The students and faculty at MTSU are among the best in the country," Gordon said. "We have a shortage of nurses in Tennessee and across the country, and MTSU has a nursing school that can graduate talented professionals to address that shortage."

The Department of Health and Human Services predicts the United States will face a shortage of more than 1 million nurses by 2020.

"It's great news we're getting a quarter of a million dollars," said Dr. Lynn Parsons, nursing school director. "Nursing and health care are becoming more and more technology-driven, and the funds will be used in the School of Nursing to augment our clinical labs."

'Nursing and health care are becoming more and more technology-driven.'

*Dr. Lynn Parsons
Director, MTSU School of Nursing*



"We will be purchasing computerized mannequins and computerized programs for our nursing professors to use in teaching students prior to them going to the actual clinical experience and augmenting their actual clinical experience

throughout the entire semester."

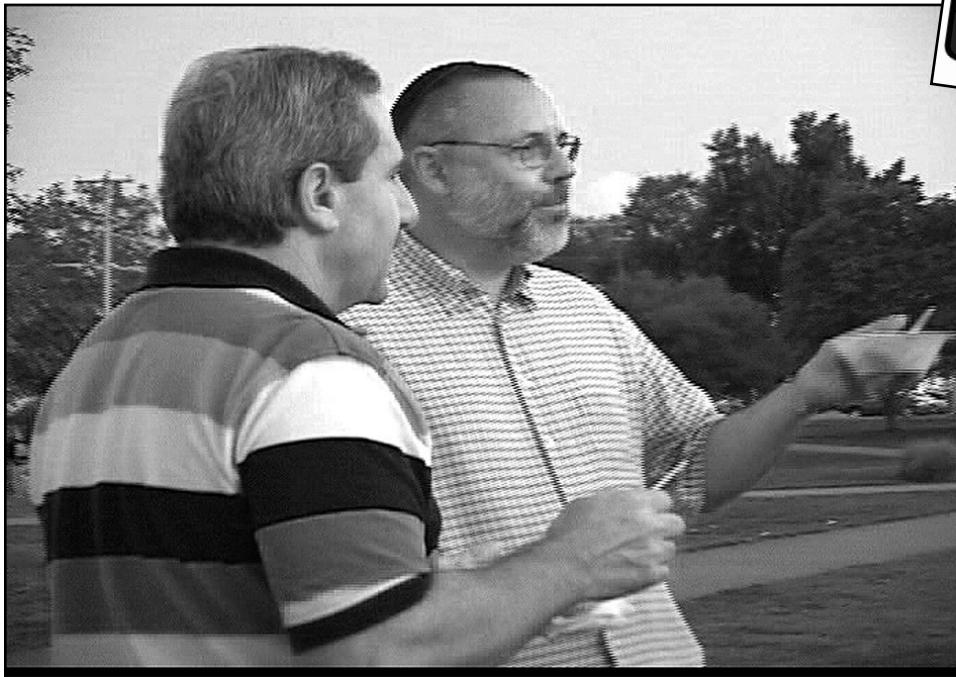
"There is no substitute for hands-on learning," added Joe Bales, MTSU's vice president for development and university relations. "With this funding, we can furnish labs with equipment that will greatly enhance the learning experience for our nursing students and further prepare them for their careers."

The conference report also includes \$350,000 for MTSU to establish a Center for Physical Activity and Health in Youth, which will work to combat childhood obesity.

The center would help to enhance understanding of childhood obesity, encourage physical activity among youth and advocate healthy lifestyles. The center would work with schools and community agencies and operate through MTSU's Department of Health and Human Performance.

"The center will partner with the Middle Tennessee community to tackle childhood obesity across many disciplines," Bales said. "The statistics show that this is a serious national health problem, but it's one that MTSU can help to address here in Tennessee."

Meeting of the minds



TUNE IN TODAY—

Dr. Saleh Sbenaty, left, professor of engineering technology and adviser to MTSU's Muslim Student Association, and Rabbi Rami Shapiro, philosophy professor and director of the Center of Science and Spirituality, watch Muslim and Jewish students feasting at a joint observation of Ramadan and Sukkot on the Knoll in a story in the November edition of "Middle Tennessee Record." Watch this story and more on local Cable Channel 9 daily at 5 p.m., Sundays at 1:30 p.m. on NewsChannel5+, or anytime via www.mtsunews.com on YouTube.

photo by News and Public Affairs

Correction

In the Nov. 5, 2007, edition of *The Record*, a story on page 3, "Songspeak merges music, TV at MTSU," omitted two contributors to the efforts, Pat Jackson and Jeff Nokes of Audio-Visual Services produce the program. The photo accompanying the article also misidentified the location; it should have read, "Participants in some of the initial tapings of 'Songspeak' pose for a photo in MTSU's Forgette Studio in the Learning Resources Center." To see the corrected article, visit the *Record* archives at www.mtsunews.com and click on the Nov. 5 edition link.

Beat the rush: apply now for Alternative Spring Break 2008

The Office of Leadership and Service at MTSU is currently accepting applications for the 2008 Alternative Spring Break, a life-changing program that has grown quickly at universities across the country.

The ASB program involves a group of MTSU students traveling during spring break to learn more about themselves and the world around them by volunteering for those less fortunate. The intense service-learning experience is free, excluding some meals.

Past trips have included Washington, D.C., the Florida Everglades, and the Gulf Coast for Hurricane Katrina relief. The 2008 site is still being finalized.

Applications are available in Room 326-S of the Keathley University Center or online at www.mtsu.edu/~mtleader/service/breaks.htm and are due by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21. Interviews will be held Nov. 27-28.

Please call 615-898-5812 for more information.

MTSU presenters, judges network at TLSAMP event

Thirty Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation members represented MTSU at the fifth annual TLSAMP Research Symposium held at Vanderbilt University in October.

The symposium gives participants an opportunity to present research and network with other members, said Mimi Thomas, director of the MTSU TLSAMP program.

Students presenting posters included Eejay Enekwa, chemistry; Eugene Seibert, engineering technology and

industrial studies; and Emphrem Dimmewsew and Tamara Augustine, biology.

Julie Paige, computer science/ computer information; and Nancy Joseph and Leonela Carriedo, biology, made oral presentations.

Drs. Terry Quinn, mathematical sciences; Sandra Johnson, biology; and Tom Cheatham, dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, served as competition judges.



Have an event or other newsworthy item happening on campus between Dec. 3 and Jan. 14? Send your information to gfann@mtsu.edu by Wednesday, Nov. 21, to get it into the last edition of *The Record* for 2007!



Campus Calendar

Nov. 19-Dec. 2

TV Schedule

"Middle Tennessee Record"

Cable Channel 9:
Monday-Sunday, 5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+:
Sunday, 1:30 p.m.
Visit www.mtsunews.com for other cable outlet airtimes.

Every Wednesday

Gender Circles

Conversations on diversity with emphasis on gender issues
1-3 p.m., JUB 206
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

Through Dec. 6

"MEXICO/ITALY: One Perspective/Two Countries"

Photo exhibit by Harvey Stein
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, noon-4 p.m. Saturday
Baldwin Photo Gallery, LRC
For information, contact:
615-898-2085.

Nov. 19

Monday, Nov. 19

Honors Lecture Series: Jonathan Parris, "You Are NOT Special" digital film project

3 p.m., HONR 106
For information, contact:
615-898-2152.

Monday, Nov. 19

Stones River Chamber Players

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

Nov. 20

Tuesday, Nov. 20

Blue Raider Football @ Troy

6 p.m., Troy, Ala.
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2103.

Nov. 22

Nov. 22-24

Thanksgiving holidays

No classes; university offices closed.

Nov. 23

Friday, Nov. 23

Men's Basketball vs. Tennessee Wesleyan

7 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2103.

MT Volleyball vs. UAB

7 p.m., Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-904-8115.

Nov. 25

Sunday, Nov. 25

"MTSU On the Record—The Bite and the Blood"

Guest: Student and shark-bite survivor Craig Hutto
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at www.mtsunews.com.

Nov. 27

Tuesday, Nov. 27

Red Cross Blood Drive

10 a.m.-4 p.m., KUC 322
For information, contact:
615-898-2590.

Nov. 28

Wednesday, Nov. 28

Jazz Pedagogy Concert

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

Nov. 29

Nov. 29-Dec. 1

MTSU Dance Theatre: Fall Dance Concert

7:30 p.m., Tucker Theatre
For information, contact:
615-898-2640.

Thursday, Nov. 29

MTSU Wind Ensemble

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

Nov. 30

Friday, Nov. 30

MTSU Women's Chorale

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

Dec. 1

Saturday, Dec. 1

MTSU Flute Studio Recital

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

Dec. 2

Sunday, Dec. 2

"MTSU On The Record—Uninterested Consumers"

Guest: Dr. Tim Graeff
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at www.mtsunews.com.

Women's Basketball vs. Western Carolina

2 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2103.

Handel's "Messiah"

3 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
Admission: \$10 general public, \$8 senior citizens
For information, contact:
615-898-2493.

In service to diversity



OPEN AT LAST—Dr. Sharon Shaw-McEwen, left, assistant to the senior vice provost for institutional diversity, makes sure the ribbon cooperates as Rinaud Matthews, a junior public relations major; Arlene Wilson, a junior social work and nursing major; Dr. Jack Thomas, senior vice provost for academic affairs; President Sidney A. McPhee; and Dr. Kaylene Gebert, executive vice president and provost, wield the scissors to celebrate the grand opening of MTSU's Office of Institutional Diversity in Peck Hall 107. The OID's goal is to keep diversity concerns in the forefront to ensure equity for all faculty, staff and students. For more information about the OID and its services, call 615-898-5975 or e-mail Shaw-McEwen at sshaw@mtsu.edu.

photo by Andy Heidt

• senior studio art major Sarah Sullivan.
Printmaking, paintings, ceramics, sculpture and graphic design are the concentration areas of art that represent the eight MTSU students. Portions of their work are shown in the compilation at right.

The exhibit also includes work by students from The Appalachian Center for Craft/Tennessee Tech, Belmont University, Austin Peay State University, Fisk University, Lipscomb University, Tennessee State University, Vanderbilt University and Watkins College of Art.

The Frist is open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Saturdays 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sundays 1-5:30 p.m.

Admission is \$6.50 for college students with ID and \$8.50 for adults. Anyone who brings a canned food

item for Second Harvest Food Bank on Mondays through Dec. 31 will receive free admission to the Frist.

For more information about the exhibit, please visit www.fristcenter.org.



INTO THE FUTURE—Work by MTSU students and recent graduates is featured in a new exhibit through Dec. 31 at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in Nashville, "Future Now: Mid-State Art Majors." The artists represented in the compilation at left are, clockwise from upper left, art education majors Caitlin Roston and Dale Meier, studio art alumnus Danny Greene, graphic design major Michelle Small, art major Rachel Bonham, studio art major Sarah Sullivan, May studio art graduate Brandon Morgan and art education major Beth Copley. A free opening was set for Friday, Nov. 16, from 7 to 9 p.m.; regular admission is \$6.50 for students with ID and \$8.50 for adults. Admission on Mondays through Dec. 31 will be free with a canned food item. For more information, please visit www.fristcenter.org.

artwork courtesy of the artists and MTSU Department of Art; photo illustration by News and Public Affairs

practicum, a course they must have to graduate with a concentration in dietetics, Sheehan-Smith said.

"There were about two or three families per coach," said Dr. Tom Brinthaup, psychology professor at MTSU and a member of the Advisory Board at the Discovery Center at Murfree Spring. "It was great for the students because I don't think they really understood what was involved with health coaching."

At the start of the program, Brinthaup said, the families were measured on their eating habits, exercise habits, attitudes, body mass index, blood pressure, heart rate and living habits, such as amount of time spent watching television or using the computer.

"The program isn't a diet; it's lifestyle changes," Brinthaup said. "Our goal was to decrease things like television watching, increase family time and ... get the families to eat better, and they reported doing that."

Out of the 35 families who signed up for the program, which ran from September 2006 through December 2006, 25 completed it.

The most common suggestion from the families was getting more time with their health coaches, Anderson said.

"We plan on increasing hands-on activity, increasing interaction with health coaches and possibly doing blood work for the next program," Brinthaup said.

The program received an honorable mention for the 2007 MetLife Foundation and Association of Children's Museums Promising Practice Award and was awarded with a complimentary registration scholarship to next year's InterActivity conference in Denver, Colo.

"We were really happy to receive the honorable mention and very proud of the program," Anderson said. "We definitely plan to do it again."

The Discovery Center at Murfree Spring is located at 502 S.E. Broad St. in Murfreesboro, less than two miles west of the MTSU campus, and is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Learn more about it at www.discoverycenteronline.org.



SUGAR SHOCK—Cathy Delameter of the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, left, holds up a container of yogurt to show "Discovering Healthy Families" program participants that even the healthiest-appearing foods can contain too much sugar.

photo submitted

Winter getaways on the agenda for MT travelers

from Campus Recreation

Would you like to do something unique around the holidays? Think about a Campus Recreation trip, because we have the details taken care of!

If a holiday adventure in the snow and mountains sounds intriguing, skiing and snowboarding in Lake Tahoe Dec. 16-21 may be the trip for you. Cost of the trip, with airfare, transfers, four-day lift pass and a five-night condo stay is \$825 for students, \$850 for MTSU affiliates or \$875 for guests. The cost for meeting the group there is \$440 for students, \$465 for MTSU affiliates or \$490 for guests; call Josh Stone at 615-898-2104.

If tropical venues are more enticing, then join us on a scuba excursion to Roatan, Honduras, Jan. 5-12. Space is limited but your \$300 deposit will hold a spot for you. Cost is \$1,675 for students, \$1,750 for MTSU affiliates and \$1,800 for guests.

Prices include airfare and transfers, five days of twice-daily diving, all meals, exit and reef fees, and hotel accommodations. Tanks and weights are provided; a passport and scuba C card are necessary. If you're ready to dive in, contact Ray Wiley at 615-898-2104.

CBAS helps draw \$870,000 in NSF grants to university

from Staff Reports

The College of Basic and Applied Sciences recently received notification from the National Science Foundation that the college and various faculty members have been awarded \$870,000 in NSF grants.

The college was awarded a \$600,000 NSF S-STEM (scholarship in science, technology, engineering and mathematics) grant, said Dr. Saeed Foroudastan, associate dean for basic and applied sciences.

The program will provide up to \$10,000 in scholarships for those STEM students who are pursuing a

master's in biology, chemistry or professional science (with concentrations in biostatistics or biotechnology), Foroudastan said.

The main objective of this S-STEM project is to provide graduate students with the opportunity to enroll full-time and to provide the student support services that increase the rate of graduation and opportunities for career placement, he added.

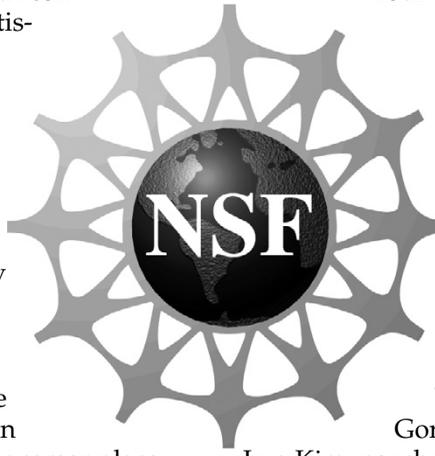
On average, 13 graduate scholar-

ships will be provided per year for four years.

Dr. Rebecca Seipelt, associate professor in biology, will be the principal investigator, with Foroudastan serving as the co-principal investigator.

Foroudastan said a special thanks go to Drs. Ginger Rowell, math; Gary Wulfsberg, chemistry; Gore Ervin, biology; and

Jwa Kim, psychology, "for their continuous support and dedication to this grant."



Dr. Jungsoon Yoo and her computer science colleagues received preliminary notification from NSF-Course Curriculum Laboratory Instruction of a \$150,000 grant to fund an "Intelligent Algorithm Tutoring" system for their first-year computer science majors.

Drs. Judith Iriarte-Gross, chemistry, and Mari Weller, physics and astronomy, received preliminary notification for a two-year, \$120,000 NSF-CCLI grant to design a new interdisciplinary science course at the freshman level. They already have piloted a similar course through their SEN-SOR work.

Warm your heart, tummy with chili for Up 'Til Dawn

from Staff Reports

A chili luncheon for all faculty and staff will be held Tuesday, Nov. 20, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Room 322 of the Keathley University Center to raise funds for Up 'Til Dawn.

The luncheon will be free, but generous donations will be appreciated. Both meat and vegetarian chili will be available,

The annual event supports the St. Jude Research Hospital and is the largest MTSU student-run philanthropy. Last year, the MTSU Up 'Til Dawn campaign raised more than \$95,000; this year's goal is \$105,000.

The grand finale event will be held Feb. 1-2. For more information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~uptildawn.

Building a foundation



GET YOUR BACK INTO IT—Students raise a wall at the latest Habitat for Humanity home construction site sponsored by an MTSU organization. More than 300 student volunteers worked for two weeks on a "Blitz Build" to provide a home on State Street for the Bautista family. The university's Student Government Association spent two years working to raise the \$50,000 needed to build the home, which was presented to the family in a Nov. 8 dedication ceremony.

photo by Seth Alder

Geosciences

from page 1

reach, such as deep hollows, the students must rely on the physical landscape and topographic maps to help them mark map features.

Another benefit of the project is the application of GIS software, to which geosciences majors are exposed in other courses. With these programs, students can easily isolate elements in their data and measure variation in GPS readings.

Once the basic structure has been completed, Nolan said, the art of cartography will be applied to the maps as students learn how text, font and symbol placement can make or break a map.

Students said they enjoyed their time outside the classroom on this experiential learning project as well. Amy Bonin and Clint Lusk are geosciences majors who were impressed with the project.

"It's better than just playing with GPS, because there's an actual purpose for doing it," Bonin said.

Lusk noted that theories learned in earlier courses are applied in the project to create a usable map. He also is excited about park visitors using the finished maps.

"I will definitely put it on a resume, because I mapped one entire trail," Lusk said. "It's my map."

Nolan's class is a senior-level course, but it's the students' first exposure to cartography. Experiential learning projects, which involve hands-on work outside the classroom, are one way MTSU continues to strive for academic excellence.



Nolan



READY FOR WORK—Dr. Tom Nolan, second from right, and his cartography students look ahead on the trail at Edgar Evins State Park on Center Hill Lake as they prepare to collect data with Global Positioning System equipment to create a new visitor's map, specialized maps for hunting and camping, and a maintenance map for park staff.

photo submitted

Conference aims to strengthen ties with Russian universities

by Claire Rogers

MTSU will serve as host Nov. 19 for a Bilateral Conference on Urban Land Use as part of an ongoing connection with several Russian universities.

The conference, sponsored by the Jennings A. Jones Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise and the Jennings and Rebecca Jones Chair of Excellence in Urban and Regional Planning, will include discussions on topics like the development of public housing, population migrations to and from cities and the structure of the city economy.

A Russian delegation of about 10 representatives, including city officials, is scheduled to make the trip to Murfreesboro for the conference.

MTSU representatives will include the dean of the College of Business, Dr. Jim Burton, as well as faculty from areas like political science, economics and sociology.

Other Americans attending will be leading authorities on urban status such as Dr. Eric Kelly, professor of urban planning at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., and Nashville architect Earl Swensson, who holds MTSU's Chair of Excellence

in Urban and Regional Planning.

The information discussed at the conference will be beneficial for both Middle Tennessee and Russia as private business in cities begins to grow, organizers said.

MTSU political science professor Dr. Andrei Korobkov said he believes the conference will provide insights not only for research but also for practical application in developing cities.

"Russia is going through an economic boom because of rising oil prices worldwide, and they have shown a high rate of growth," Korobkov said, adding that information gained in the conference will help in planning the development of emerging Russian cities such as Sochi, host of the 2014 Olympic Games.

University representatives met with the New Eurasia Foundation, a group dedicated to using outside expertise to increase growth and development in Russia. Many of the New Eurasia Foundation's goals will be topics for discussion at the conference.

The conference also will touch on certain issues in Murfreesboro, such as how small businesses fit into the economy and the government's right to use private space and transfer property.

While in the country, the participants will experience local government and business firsthand during a tour of the Murfreesboro City Hall, Jack Daniel's Distillery in nearby Lynchburg, and Murfreesboro construction sites. They also will meet with representatives of local government and the Chamber of Commerce.

Organizers say this meeting will help to strengthen and expand our ongoing relationship with Russian schools. In July 2006, agreements were signed with both public universities and private liberal arts colleges throughout Russia based on the specific strengths of each school.

The benefits of the partnership were seen immediately, when graduate students from Moscow State University of Management arrived this fall for a semester in the master's degree in music management program in the Department of Recording Industry.

MTSU students will have the opportunity to study abroad in Moscow and St. Petersburg this summer. Korobkov said MTSU hopes to reach similar agreements with Russian universities outside major cities to benefit from their expertise in the social sciences and humanities.

Celebrate autumn and the arts with Fall Dance Concert

by Catie Broadwater

MTSU Dance Theatre's 40-member cast will bring new life to the stage through innovative and classical choreography in its Fall Dance Concert at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 29 through Dec. 1 in Tucker Theatre.

This year's concert will feature "Crossing Ground," choreographed by Michelle Ikle, a specialist in jazz who works with Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and the Travis D. Gatling-choreographed "Freedom Riders," which is a celebration of individuals who had the courage to take a stand on racial issues in the 1960s.

The concert also will deliver a contemporary ballet using classical jazz music choreographed by Thomas Shoemaker.

"MTSU's guest artists match those of larger universities or more established programs," said Kim Nofsinger, director of dance. "Exposure to the artists provides students with a variety of insights and experiences within dance."

Nofsinger said the fall dance event demonstrates the growth and development of the dance program and its ability to celebrate traditional dance forms and integrate contemporary ones.

"For example," he explained, "'Snowball's Chance' is a lighthearted romp poking fun at formalism and contemporary proms, while 'Holding Patterns' is an intense dance using seven bodies exploring intimacy in times of crisis."

The concert also will feature student-created works, including "Pink Elephant" by MTSU senior Kaleena DeVar, whose selection will be presented



FADING LIGHT—MTSU Dance Theatre members Hilary Walker, foreground, and Tiffany Philpot, Jessica Cavendar and Mary Catherine Musick perform in "Stones in the Pocket: A Meditation on Virginia Woolf," which was selected for the spring 2007 Gala Concert at the American College Dance Festival. These dancers will join their colleagues for MTSU's annual Fall Dance Concert, set nightly at 7:30 Nov. 29-Dec. 1.

photo submitted

at the American College Dance Festival in Florida in spring 2008.

Tickets for the Fall Dance Concert may be purchased at the door on the evening of the performance. Ticket prices range from \$5 to \$10. MTSU students will be admitted free with a valid ID.

For more information, please call 615-494-8810 or visit the department's Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~theatre.

Catie Broadwater is a junior majoring in speech and theatre at MTSU.



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Mediation — from page 8

invitational tournament at Eastern Kentucky University Oct. 27-28, an MTSU team captured the "Spirit of AMTA (American Mock Trial Association) Award" for good sportsmanship.

Also at ECU, Rachel Harmon of Spencer and Stella Mitchell of Sparta won witness awards. Nichole Roehrich of Murfreesboro received a best attorney honor at an invitational tournament Oct. 27-28 at Ohio State University. Mock trial teams are coached by Dr. John R. Vile, Professor Patrick Chinnery, attorney Brandi Snow Bozarth and Jamie Bowers Kidd; Chinnery, Bozarth and Kidd are alumni of MTSU's undergraduate mock trial program.

Mediation masters defeat 32 teams to take national title

by Gina K. Logue

MTSU's mediation team members are celebrating their new status as the 2007 National Intercollegiate Mediation Champions following their performance in an Oct. 26-27 tournament at the John Marshall School of Law in Chicago.

MTSU defeated a field of 32 teams, including Boston University (second place), the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (third place) and the University of Toledo (fourth place).

The goal in mock mediation is the resolution of legal disputes outside the parameters of a courtroom trial. Competition in mock mediation helps students hone their public speaking skills, critical and analytical thinking and peacemaking talents.

Sarah Farthing of Jefferson City and Ryan Richards of Sweetwater were awarded All-American honors as mediators. Farthing was selected by her teammates to represent the school in the championship round because she had the highest individual mediation scores of the group in regular competition.

Other members of the national champion mediation team are: Edward Alsobrook, Murfreesboro; Pete Frech, Murfreesboro; Logan Grant, Chattanooga; Aleece McKnight, Memphis; Kristin Pegram, La Vergne; Candes Prewitt, Antioch; Loren Sanderson, Jacksonville, N.C.; Carlissa Shaw, Memphis; Jerry Strait, Woodbury; Courtney Williams, Memphis; and Clay Wood, Nashville.

Dr. Clyde Willis, a professor of political science, is the director of the student mediation program, including the intercollegiate competition. He said MTSU has placed teams in the championship round in six of the last eight years. The national title marks the second time MTSU has won the round; the previous win came in 2000.

The National Intercollegiate Mediation Tournament was co-sponsored by



CONVINCING WIN—Members of the MTSU Mediation Group celebrate their new status as 2007 National Intercollegiate Mediation Champions. Team members are, from left on the front row, Logan Grant, Jerry Strait, Sarah Farthing, Candes Prewitt, Kristin Pegram; second row, team adviser Dr. Clyde Willis, Courtney Williams, Ryan Richards, Loren Sanderson and Clay Wood; and, back row, Carlissa Shaw, Aleese McKnight, Pete Frech and Edward Alsobrook.

photo submitted

the International Academy of Dispute Resolution and the American Mock Trial Association. The MTSU team is funded by the College of Liberal Arts and from student activity fees.

By contrast with mock mediation, mock trial contests give students basic facts about a case intended for adjudication in a pretend courtroom. Contenders portray prosecuting and defense attorneys and witnesses as they try to convince the judges of the superiority of their respective positions.

In mock trial contests this semester, Lani Lester of Memphis won a witness award at an invitational tournament at St. Louis University Oct. 13-14. At an

See 'Mediation' page 7

the RECORD

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Faculty/Staff Update

Presentations

Dr. Bob Petersen (English) presented "George Eliot's Seaside Holidays: Tourism with a Scientific Twist" at the 12th annual meeting of the Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States in Boulder, Colo., Oct. 26.

C. Daniel Prather and **Joe Hawkins** (aerospace) presented their study, "The Impact of Very Light Jets on Tennessee Airports: A Case Study," at the University Aviation Association's Fall Education Conference Oct. 18 in San Jose, Calif. They also published their co-authored paper of the same name in the Fall 2007 *Collegiate Aviation Review*.

David Walker (speech and theatre) presented a paper, "The Rhetoric of Cloning," to the Tennessee Communication Association in September.

Publications

Dr. Tim Graeff (management and marketing) and colleagues published "Reducing uninformed responses: The effects of product-class familiarity and measuring brand knowledge on surveys" in *Psychology & Marketing*, 2007; 24(8):681-702.

Dr. Bichaka Fayissa (economics and finance) and co-authors **Wassie Berhanu** and **David Colman** of the University of Manchester published "Diversification and livelihood sustainability in a semi-arid environment: A case study from southern Ethiopia" in the *Journal of Development Studies*, Institute for Development Studies at the University of Sussex, Brighton, England.

Dr. Robert J. Lahm (business communication and entrepreneurship) published "Entrepreneurial startups and the importance of bootstrap marketing" in the *Proceedings of the Allied Academies International Internet Conference*, July 17-31, available online at www.alliedacademies.org.

Dr. Andrei Korobkov (political science) authored "Migration trends in Central Eurasia: Politics versus economics," which was published in *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, Volume 40 Number 2 (June 2007) 169-189, and is available online at www.sciencedirect.com.

Dr. Dennis Walsh (mathematical sciences) wrote "A Curious Way to Test for Primes," published in *Mathematics Magazine*, Vol. 80, No. 4, October 2007, a quarterly publication of the Mathematics Association of America.

Workshops

Dr. Don Hong (mathematics) gave an invited presentation, "Applications of Multiscale Tools in Medical Research," and participated in a workshop on the Trends of Applied Harmonic Analysis held at the Banff International Research Station, Banff, Canada, Sept. 23-28.

Dr. Paul Lee (physics and astronomy) led a two-week summer institute for the Mathematics and Science Partnership in St. Landry Parish, Opelousas, La., in during July. The partnership is continuing through 2007-08.

See yourself in The Record!

E-mail your faculty/staff accomplishments to gfann@mtsu.edu. Please note that publication of printed or hand-written contributions may be delayed.

Calendar Items Welcomed

Need your event publicized on the Campus Calendar (page 4)? Submit your campus calendar items at least three weeks in advance of the event to gfann@mtsu.edu.