Magazine names university as ‘military-friendly’

by Leslie Lynn

MTSU has landed in the top 15 percent of military-friendly schools in the United States, according to a recent survey by G.I. Jobs magazine.

Tennessee’s largest undergraduate university currently enrolls nearly 1,000 veterans. MTSU originally saw an increase in veteran students after the first G.I. Bill was passed in 1945. The higher-education veterans’ population doubled after passage of the Post 9-11 G.I. Bill, which allowed virtually unlimited funds for a veteran pursuing further education, said Dr. Derek Frisby, assistant professor of history and a veterans’ adviser at MTSU.

MTSU’s Military Center, established in 2009, is a major reason for the university’s top ranking in the magazine’s Military-Friendly Schools 2011 List.

Considered a “one-stop shop” in the University College for veteran students, its services help soldiers recall how to be students and to make the transition into the classroom. The center provides a support structure for veterans and military students and aims to create a positive and successful experience at MTSU, said Cathy Delametter, Military Center coordinator.

Some services offered to students are readjustment counseling, career direction, the Blue Raider American Veteran Organization or B.R.A.V.O., academic advising, assessment of military credit and processing educational benefits.

Veterans can choose degrees that maximize their specialized training. Students may choose beginning classes through veteran learning communities, which Delametter said can give them a more comfortable classroom setting and may increase their potential for success.

“We process the G.I. educational benefits and work very organized so that no one is forgotten in the filing process,” said Veterans Affairs Coordinator Ray Howell, who works in MTSU’s Records Office. “We never handle paperwork twice.”

Howell’s office even contacts veteran students if they begin classes through veteran learning communities.

See ‘Magazine’ page 5

MTSU RAD Instructor David Nunley Award on Saturday, Nov. 13, at 1 p.m.

A Veterans’ Memorial Service will be held outside the Tom H. Jackson Building starting at 11:30 a.m. The catered picnic will start at noon outside the Rose and Emmett Kennon Hall of Fame, and the Nunley Award presentation will begin at 1 p.m. In case of inclement weather, activities will be moved indoors.

Jones, born in 1923, is a native of McMinnville. He graduated from McMinnville High School and attended Tennessee Wesleyan College. He served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

MTSU Police training room, 1412 E. Main St. The RAD class is open to all female MTSU students, faculty and staff and the general public. Enrollment is limited; for more information or to enroll, call MTSU RAD Instructor David Smith at 615-903-2424.
Tanzania trip is unforgettable for senior ROTC cadet

by Erika Ortega
news@mtsu.edu

his past summer, I returned home from Tanzania, Africa, where I vol-
unteeried for three weeks with 25 other cadets from schools all over the
nation, all paid by university Reserve Officer Training Corps groups.
I saw a side of the world that maybe a quarter of Americans, if that many,
will ever experience. My volunteer work consisted of teaching little children,
ages 5 to 7, subjects such as math and English and, most importantly, nursery
rhymes.

Along with teaching, we were given opportunities to visit places like the
Ngorongoro Crater, The Serengeti ecosystem and geographical region in
northwest Tanzania, and the villages of the ancient Masai tribe.

Let me tell you, seeing the Serengeti and the Ngorongoro Crater live puts
National Geographic to shame! Having been to these places that are said to be “great” and “fantastic,” I have learned that such adjectives are an understate-
ment. The sights were breathtaking.

Most people would be terrified to travel to Africa, but I saw this as an
opportunity for adventure and a new perspective. Best part of the trip: It was free!

I couldn’t explain in one article how magnificent this country is and the
amount of generosity I was shown by their people, but I can say that I think
about that place every day, wondering what will be next for the Tanzanians.

Being in that country gave me the feeling that I had walked through a
time machine and landed where there were no washers and dryers, no clean
water and other luxuries we see as necessities, and I think of how far the
United States has come. I am and always will be extremely grateful for the
amount of generosity I was shown by their people, but I can say that I think
free!

opportunity for adventure and a new perspective. Best part of the trip: It was free!

M

TSU’s Sunday Night Chinese Film Festival is
returning for the fall semester with cinema guaranteed to
intrigue, entertain and educate, organizers say.

All movies in the series have English subtitles and are free and
open to the public.

Co-sponsored by the College of
Mass Communication and the
Confucius Institute, the festival, now in its 11th semester, kicked off Oct. 24
and continues on Sunday, Nov. 7, with “Mountain Patrol,” the 2004
true story of volunteer
rangers fighting to
save the endangered Tibetan
antelope from a band of
ruthless poachers in the massive
Kekexili wildlife reserve.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, “Riding
Alone for Thousands of Miles” is
the feature, directed by Yinou Zhang and
telling the 2010 tale of a Japanese fish-
ner battle
language barriers and
government red tape to complete his
dying son’s unfinished documentary.

And on Sunday, Nov. 21, the festi-
vale’s fall 2010 semester will conclude with
“Go Lala Go!,” a 2010 romantic
comedy by actress/director/writer
Xu Jinglei about a white-collar work-
er’s joys and pains as she grows from
an office rookie into a human
resources manager.

Each movie will begin promptly
at 6 p.m. in COMM 103. Following
each movie, Liu Jue, a master’s
degree candidate in the College of
Mass Communication, will lead a
question-and-answer session.

Founded in 2004, the Confucius
Institute is a nonprofit organization
that seeks to strengthen educational
cooperation between
China and other
countries.

The Confucius
Institute at
MTSU was
established in
partners-

Photo By Jason King

LEARNING AND LAUGHING—MTSU senior Erika Ortega, center right, is joined by
attentive Tanzanian children as she teaches math, English and nursery rhymes during her
summer 2010 volunteer trip to the central east African nation.

photo courtesy of Erika Ortega

Sign up for Breckenridge ski trip

Have you been dreaming of
a white Christmas? Sign
up by Friday, Nov. 19, for a
Dec. 18-23 Skiing and Snowboard-
ing Trip to Breckenridge, Colo.,
with Campus Recreation.

This trip to Colorado’s premiere
resort will cost $285 for each stu-
dent, $580 for faculty and staff and
$875 for each guest, all with airfare
included. If you have your own
transportation, the cost is $485 each
for students, $510 for faculty and
staff and $535 for guests.

Get your snowshoes on and
don’t miss out on this once-in-a-
lifetime experience! If you are not an
experienced skier or snowboard-
er, don’t worry; instruction is avail-
able at the resort.

For more information about the
Skiing and Snowboarding Trip to
Breckenridge, contact Josh Stone at
615-898-2104 or visit www.mtsu.edu/
~camprec.

Distinguished Lecture deadline is Nov. 19

The deadline to submit appli-
cations for money from
MTSU’s Distinguished
Lecture Fund for spring 2011 speak-
er is Friday, Nov. 19.

The Distinguished Lecture
Committee seeks to promote
appearances by speakers who focus
on regional, national and global
issues in a variety of fields.

Through the Distinguished Lecture
Fund, the committee supports aca-
demic and other departments that
wish to bring recognized experts to
the MTSU campus.

Preference will be given to
funding visits from well-known
speakers who can bring educational
excellence to campus. Speakers may
include authors, lecturers, politi-
cians and other relevant individu-
als. Programs generally should be
open to students, faculty, staff and
community members without
charge.

Apply online at www.mtsu.edu/
nsfp/fund_nsfp.shtml. Applicants will receive
an e-mail confirmation from
committee member Gina Poff with
in three working days, and the
Distinguished Lectures Committee
will meet shortly after the deadline
to review the applications for fund-
ing.

For more information, visit the
website or contact Poff via e-mail at
gpoff@mtsu.edu.

Get noticed in The Record!

Submit your behind-the-scenes “For the Record” columns, Campus Calendar items, Faculty/Staff Update news and other tips to
gfann@mtsu.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 3, for the Nov. 15 edition of The Record or 3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, for the Nov. 29 Record. The final edition for fall 2010 is Dec. 13, so submit your late December and early January 2011 items before 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1. Thanks!
Make a big blue difference by giving this year

T he MTSU Employee Charitable Giving Campaign is now under way in support of several local charities, said Dr. Gloria Bonner, campaign chair.

"Make a Big Blue Difference" is the 2010 theme, and the goal is to receive at least $85,000 in pledges this year. Pledge forms must be turned in by Tuesday, Nov. 30.

With slightly more than 2,200 employees at MTSU, this goal can be easily attained if each employee pledges $40 per year or just $3.33 per month. Brown-bagging your lunch for one workday a month can help you make that simple gift!

“The need continues and gets greater from those who benefit from our giving,” MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee said. “There are challenges every year, but we always step up to meet them. What you give doesn’t have to be a large gift; a dollar makes a difference in the lives of the people we help.”

Gifts may be designated to any charitable organization from a list of nine independent charities and three federated charitable organizations, including Community Health Charities, Community Shares and the local United Way.

The payroll-deduction option is provided and is a cost-effective way of making a gift. Employees also have the option of writing a personal check, made payable to ‘MTSU Employee Giving Campaign,” as a one-time payment method.

All campaign material, including the printable pledge form, is online at www.mtsu.edu/givemtsu. Submit pledge forms to your division’s team captain:

- Academic Affairs—Dr. Hilary Stallings, instalbbie@mtsu.edu, MTSU Box 546 or 615-898-5039
- Business and Finance—Janice Benson, benson@mtsu.edu, Cope Administration Building Room 119 or 615-898-2852
- Development and University Relations—Belinda Young, byoung@mtsu.edu, Box 109 or 615-898-5014
- Information Technology Division—Cassie Leyhew, cleyeh@mtsu.edu, CAB 217 or 615-898-5570;
- Student Affairs, Enrollment and Academic Services—Pat Grimes, pggrimes@mtsu.edu, Box 196 or 615-898-5342.

Team captains should submit all forms to Dr. Rosemary Owens in CAB 111 by Nov. 30, so employees should sign and submit their pledge forms to their captains before that date.

For more information, contact Allison McGoffin at 615-898-2953.

Counterinsurgency tactics by America are speaker’s topic

Dr. Conrad C. Crane, director of the U.S. Army Military History Institute, will speak at MTSU on Tuesday, Nov. 2, on “America’s Counterinsurgency War: Iraq and Afghani-
stan.”

Crane’s address is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. in the State Farm Lecture Hall of MTSU’s Business and Aerospace Building (Room SI02). The lecture is free and open to the public and will be followed by a question-and-answer period.

Crane is the lead author of the current Army-U.S. Marine Corps counterinsurgency field manual, released in December 2006. When the manual was released, Crane told Military.com that warring nations will continue resorting to insurgencies because they cannot take on the U.S. military in conventional warfare. “Enemies will make us fight these kinds of wars until we get them right,” Crane said. “Then they’ll switch.”

A published author and veteran of 26 years of military service, including nine years as a professor of history at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Crane holds a bachelor’s degree from West Point and master’s and doctoral degrees from Stanford University.

Crane’s lecture is part of the MTSU Distinguished Lecture Series and is presented under the joint sponsorship of the Departments of History and Political Science, the College of Liberal Arts and the Society for Military History.

For more information about the lecture, contact Dr. Robert Hunt, professor of history at MTSU, at 615-898-2536.

Happy birthday!

BFA candidates set late fall display

Support art scholarships at exhibit, sale

from Staff Reports

ncau@mtsu.edu

Editor’s note: The dates and times for the Seasonal Exhibit and Sale changed after the Oct. 18 edition of The Record, where this article was first published, went to press. The article below contains the new, correct dates and times for the event.

MTSU’s Department of Art is continuing its suc-

cessful Art Scholarship Seasonal Exhibit and Sale with another fundraising event set for Nov. 10-13.

The exhibit and sale, held in fall 2008 as a effort to raise funds for various scholarships within the depart-

ment, will be held from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wed-

nesday and Thursday, Nov. 10 and 11.

The works included in the exhibit and sale have been collected from art-department faculty members, staff, students, alumni and friends in the community, organizers said.

“This is our third annual sale to promote Department of Art scholarships. It promises to be our best yet,” said Dr. Jean Nagy, department chair.

Continuing in the original vein of donors’ choice, funds from the sale of each piece will go to a scholarship fund designated by each artwork’s donor.

Current art scholarships include:

- the Charles Massey Scholarship for second-

semester studio-art majors;
- the Dr. Charles Brandon Scholarship for studio-

art majors;
- the John and Elva Griffin Scholarship for incoming freshmen majoring in art;
- the Jill Montgomery Scholarship for art-history majors;
- the David LeDoux Scholarship for studio-art majors;
- the Ollie Fancher Scholarship for graphic-design majors;
- the Lon Nuell Scholarship for incoming freshmen majoring in art; and
- Department of Art Scholarships for art majors.

The department also will feature exhibitions of work by Bachelor of Fine Arts degree candidates throughout November and December in the Todd Gallery. BFA Studio 1 artists will be exhibit Nov. 8-12, while BFA Studio 2 artists will exhibit their work Nov. 15-19 and BFA Studio 3 artists will be on exhibit Nov. 29-Dec. 3.

Opening receptions for the three exhibits are planned on each exhibit’s opening day (Nov. 8, 15 and 29) from 6 to 8 p.m. All the BFA exhibits will be open during the Todd Gallery’s regular operating hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

For more information on the scholarship exhibit and sale or the BFA degree candidates’ exhibits, call 615-898-2455.

SEE HOW WE’VE CROWNED—MTSU Human Sciences Professor Nancy Oxford, left, shows stu-

dent work to State Sens. Bill Ketron, center, and Jim Tracy dur-

ing a tour of the Ellington Human Sciences Building during an open house celebrating “100 Years of Human Sciences” on Oct. 14. The event also featured interactive cooking demonstrations, student displays and a pumpkin-carving contest. Students majoring in human sciences may choose emphases in textiles, merchandising and design, family and con-

sumer studies, nutrition and food sciences, and interior design.

MTSU Photographic Services photo by Andy Heidt

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For more information about the lecture, contact Dr. Robert Hunt, professor of history at MTSU, at 615-898-2536.
Please note: Event dates, times and locations may change after press time. Please verify specifics when making plans.

Radio Schedule

“MTSU On the Record” 8 a.m. Sundays, WMOT 89.5-FM Podcasts available anytime at www.mtsunews.com.

Sports @ Home

Nov. 4: Women’s Basketball vs. Lincoln Memorial, 5:30 p.m.; Men’s Basketball vs. Lincoln Memorial, 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 5: Volleyball vs. South Alabama, 7 p.m.
Nov. 6: Volleyball vs. Troy, 7 p.m.
Nov. 9: Women’s Basketball vs. Alabama-Huntsville, 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 12: Men’s Basketball vs. Tennessee Temple, 7 p.m.
Nov. 13: Football vs. North Alabama, 3 p.m., Todd Gallery

Through Nov. 2

“HYPE Design Show” Graphic-Design Student Juried Art Exhibition 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Todd Gallery

Nov. 1

Monday, Nov. 1
Fall Honors Lecture Series—Dr. Jun Da, “Language Policy and Language Use in China” 3-3:55 p.m., Room 106, Honors Amphitheatre
For information, visit www.mtsunews.com.

Nov. 2

Nov. 2-3
Tennessee Room, James Union Building

Tuesday, Nov. 2
General Elections including gubernatorial, Congressional and state legislative races
For information, visit www.rutherfordcountytn.gov/vote or contact: 615-898-7743.

Nov. 3

Wednesday, Nov. 3
Faculty Trumpet Recital: Dan Whaley
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsunews.com.

Nov. 4

Thursday, Nov. 4
MTSU Jazz Ensemble I
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsunews.com.

Nov. 5

Friday, Nov. 5
Guest Artist Recital: Traverso Colore
6 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit www.mtsunews.com.

Nov. 6

Saturday, Nov. 6
MTSU School of Music “Evening of Swing”
6:15 p.m., Stones River Country Club, 1830 N.W. Broad St.
Tickets: $100 per person
For information, visit http://bit.ly/MTJazz or contact: 615-898-5924.

Nov. 7

Sunday, Nov. 7
Daylight Savings Time ends (set clocks back one hour)

Nov. 8

Nov. 8-12
Art Exhibit: Bachelor of Fine Arts Candidates—Studio 1
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Todd Gallery (opening reception 6-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 8)

Friday, Nov. 5
First Friday Star Party:
Dr. Eric Klumpe, “The Cosmic Microwave Background”
6:30 p.m. lecture, Room 102, Wiser-Patten Science Building; followed by telescope viewing at the MTSU Observatory (weather permitting)
For information, contact: 615-898-2483.

Nov. 9

Monday, Nov. 8
Fall Honors Lecture Series—Steve Saunders, “The Effect of China’s Ascendancy on U.S. Foreign Policy”
3-3:55 p.m., HONR 106
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~honors

Nov. 10

Nov. 10-11
Art Exhibit: Art Scholarship Seasonal Exhibit and Sale
10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Todd Gallery
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/art or contact: 615-898-2455.

Wednesday, Nov. 10
Tornado Siren Test Date
(no action needed)
11:15 a.m., campuswide
For information: 615-898-2424.

Nov. 11

Thursday, Nov. 11
Retired Faculty/Staff Coffee
9:30 a.m., Foundation House
For information, contact: 615-898-2922.

MTSU Jazz Artist Series: Trombonist Steve Davis
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
Tickets: $15 per person; students and staff free with ID

Nov. 12

Nov. 12-13
MTSU Opera: “The Marriage of Figaro”
7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
Tickets: $10 per person at door
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

Nov. 14

Sunday, Nov. 14
MTSU Opera: “The Marriage of Figaro”
3 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
Tickets: $10 per person at door
For information, visit www.mtsumusic.com.

Get noticed in The Record!
Submit Campus Calendar items and other news tips to gfann@mtsu.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 3, for the Nov. 15 edition of The Record or 3 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, for the Nov. 29 Record. The final edition for fall 2010 is Dec. 13, so submit your late December and early January 2011 items before 3 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1. Thanks!
MTSU student-athletes, student ambassadors, fraternities and sororities will check in donors and hand out juice and cookies after donations have been made.

Donors must be 17 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in general good health. They also are required to provide identification. Blood donors may park in the gravel lot on MTSU Boulevard or at the Recreation Center.

Appointments aren’t required, but donors can make an appointment to donate by visiting www.redcrossblood.org, clicking on the dark-blue “Make a Blood Donation Appointment” box on the right and entering the sponsor code of MTSU19. Appointments may be made until Sunday, Nov. 14, the day before the competition begins.

The donor clinic is noon to 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 15, and Wednesday, Nov. 17; Tuesday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m.–7 p.m.; and 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 18.

Nov. 13
Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville.

Inducted into the U.S. Army at age 20 in 1943, Jones served until December 1945, said Harriett L. Howard, a sister serving as Jones’ VA representative. Jones was elected state adjutant-quartermaster for the Tennessee VFW Post 178 in Cookeville.

Jones was employed by First National Bank of McMinnville for more than 20 years. In 1965, Jones was elected state adjutant-quartermaster for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Tennessee. In this role, he accounted for funds of 142 VFW posts from North Africa to Italy and to the Brenner Pass in Austria.

After the war, Jones was employed by First National Bank of McMinnville for more than 20 years. In 1965, Jones was elected state adjutant-quartermaster for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Tennessee. In this role, he accounted for funds of 142 VFW posts from North Africa to Italy and to the Brenner Pass in Austria.

“Andrew Oppmann, president and publisher of The Daily News Journal in Murfreesboro, will become associate vice president of marketing and communications at MTSU, President Sidney A. McPhee announced.

Oppmann will assume his new role in early November.

“We’re pleased to have found a strong communicator with national experience—but also so close to home—to lead our efforts,” McPhee said. “We’re excited to have a very competitive search, and we feel very fortunate to have found Andrew.”

The new associate vice president will oversee communications and marketing as well as printing, publications and graphics, and web operations.

“One of Andrew’s unique skills is his adrenaline,” Oppmann said. “But I’m just as excited to begin this new chapter of my life in service to an institution so vital to all of Tennessee.”

The associate vice president will oversee communications and marketing as well as printing, publications and graphics, and web operations.

“We are excited to have Andrew on board,” said Joe Bales, vice president for the Division of Development and University Relations. “This was a very competitive search, and we feel very fortunate to have a very competitive search, and we feel very fortunate to have Andrew’s unique skill set.”

During Oppmann’s tenure, the Daily News Journal received top honors from the Tennessee Press Association for its coverage of the 2009 Good Friday tornadoes that struck Murfreesboro. He led efforts to build a stronger multimedia operation at the 162-year-old newspaper, and his formation of the DNJ Media Group expanded digital communications and created several audience-targeted websites.

He is chairman-elect of the United Way of Rutherford and Cannon Counties and led its $2.3 million fundraising effort in 2009. Oppmann also serves on the advisory board for MTSU’s College of Media Communication and on the board of the TPA, and he is a vice president of the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Oppmann, a University of Kentucky graduate and Hope Scholar, currently lives in Murfreesboro with his wife, Elise, and their three daughters, Emily, 11; Sarah, 9; and Rachel, 5.

Associate VP for marketing, communications named

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two University Honors College publications, Honors Edition and Collage, A Journal of Creative Expression, received awards in September, Dean John Vile said.

Honors Edition, the Honors College newsletter/magazine, earned second place in the National Collegiate Honors Council Publications Board Newsletter Competition.

Honors Edition, which was one of 12 entries in the Faculty/Administrator/Student Published category, is a two-color magazine. Regular features include honors faculty news and profiles; student study-abroad stories, theses, student news, Buchanan Fellowship updates and scholarship and award winners; and alumni news and profiles.

May 24
Honors Edition editor.

Collage, the arts and literary magazine of the Honors College, received an overall Gold Medalist Certificate, the highest rating given by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association, a program affiliated with the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University in New York City.

The fall 2009 and spring 2010 issues of Collage also received the Gold Medalist Certificate. The magazine received All-Columbia Honors for special merit in the organization and design categories. All-Columbia Honors are given only when a publication is in the 95th percentile or higher in one or more of three categories.

Vile noted that honors publications continue to underscore the excellence of MTSU’s programs and that Powers has done an extraordinary job supervising the publications. He added that the college soon will be publishing Scientia et Humanitas, a journal of undergraduate research.
After two excursions to the South Pacific to expose students to some of the critical sites of World War II, an MTSU historian is preparing to embark on a tour of some of the pivotal sites of the European Theater of Operations for his “World War II Public Memory in Western Europe” class.

Dr. Derek Frisby, an associate professor of history, will escort students across the continent May 19-June 3, 2011, in tracing the war’s “Great Crusade” for HIST 3070. The 16-day tour will include an examination of Normandy, Bastogne and Dachau as well as Operation Market Garden, a campaign fought in Germany and the Netherlands, and the “Eagle’s Nest,” Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler’s retreat in the mountains above Berchtesgaden.

Students also will follow the route of the 101st Airborne Division’s “Band of Brothers.” Tours of Omaha and Utah beaches, Arnhem and the “Battle of the Bulge” site are on the itinerary as well as the Bayeux Tapestry, Paris, Verdun and Waterloo.

“Being in Europe and so close to many other historical sites, we’re able to sprinkle in a broader type of conflict,” says Frisby, a retired U.S. Marine and a veteran of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Frisby says he anticipates that a diverse mix of students will accompany him on this study-abroad experience, including pre-law and interior-design majors joining the expected history majors.

Students who went to Iwo Jima, Okinawa and Peleliu with Frisby two summers ago, while benefitting educationally, endured a grueling physical experience marked by scorching heat, crawling through caves, battling insects and discovering human remains and explosives. He believes closer proximity to traditional Western amenities will make the European excursion more attractive.

“We’ve begun to recruit some people who’ve never seen the ocean before and yet are motivated enough by this trip to go with us to Europe,” Frisby says. “I think we’ve got a much broader range of students lined up for the European trip.”

Another difference in the Asian and European journeys is the educational emphasis. Instead of just analyzing individual battles, Frisby says students will be able to look at the fighting in the larger context of a campaign and to dissect the nature and culture of warfare itself, in addition to studying the way today’s Europeans frame the conflict for public consumption.

“Are they geared more toward American tourists?” Frisby says his students will be asking. “Are they geared toward a European perspective? How do the Europeans promote this as a tourist industry?”

Frisby, who has performed painstaking research for MTSU’s Veterans Memorial Committee on students and employees who perished in military conflict, plans to visit the sites of some fallen MTSU alumni, including Robert J. Sarvis (’41). A Canadian attached to the U.S. Army Air Corps in Europe, Sarvis was killed on July 25, 1944, when his B-25 bomber reportedly was strafed by a German fighter near Carquebut, France.

“The village there has found wreckage over the years, including the remains of Robert Sarvis,” Frisby says. “So even today, that incident continues to play a role in that village’s collective memory.”

Scholarships for up to 50 percent of the program cost will be available through the MTSU Office of Education Abroad and Student Exchange. Pell Grants and other financial aid also may be available, and Honors College students may be eligible for additional scholarships or grants.

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Journalist, activist and political analyst Bakari Kitwana will lead a town hall meeting on the intersection of Islam, hip-hop and identity among a new generation of American youth Wednesday, Nov. 10, in Room 221 of MTSU’s Learning Resources Center.

The panel discussion and viewing of the documentary “The New Muslim Cool” will begin at 7 p.m. The 2009 film, which has been screened at the Sundance Film Festival and aired nationally on the Public Broadcasting System, follows Puerto Rican rapper Hamza Perez as he steers away from his former life as a drug dealer and embraces Islam. As he rebuilt his life with a message of faith through hip-hop music, the FBI raided Perez’s mosque, challenging him to embark on an even deeper exploration of his religion, profiling, tolerance and American identity.

“This New Muslim Cool” was an Official Selection of the Rooftop Film Festival and Lincoln Center Independents Night and the winner of the Freedom Award at the Al Jazeera International Film Festival. Following the screening, Kitwana will moderate an interactive panel discussion about the film with documentary subject Perez and attorney Nura Maznavi of Muslim Advocates, a San Francisco-based nonprofit sister organization of the National Association of Muslim Lawyers and counsel for its Program to Combat Racial and Religious Profiling.

Perez is an artist, community activist and educator who works for a national nonprofit organization as a youth and jail counselor and as the vice principal of a private Islamic elementary school. He performs with his brother, Juan Suliman Perez, as part of the hip-hop group M-Team and the interfaith poetry project Crossing Limits. Kitwana is senior media fellow at The Jamestown Project, a think tank based at Harvard University Law School, and CEO of Rap Sessions.

The author of four books, Kitwana’s most recent offering is this year’s Hip-Hop Activism in the Obama Era (Third World Press). He holds a bachelor’s degree and master’s degrees in English and education from the University of Rochester. This event is free and open to the public. It is co-sponsored by the Center for Popular Music, the MTSU Department of History, the Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs, the MTSU School of Music and Student Programming.

For more information, contact Dr. Felicia Miyakawa at 615-904-8043 or miyakawa@mtsu.edu.

Ensuring more scholars

INSURANCE SCHOLARSHIPS—MTSU professor Dr. Ken Hollman, center, and two senior finance majors accept a $15,000 scholarship donation from representatives of the Cumberland Chapter of RIMS, the Risk and Insurance Management Society. The scholarships of $1,500 each will serve 10 students in the Martin Chair of Insurance program. Lori Jackson, second from left, of Auburntown and Patrick Basile, far right, of Hendersonville are two of the recipients. Joining the students and Hollman, who is the Martin Chair of Insurance chairholder, for the check presentation are Cumberland RIMS chapter participants David Dixon, Kevin Gabhart, Brian Spears and Steve Heckle.

How to Register for MTSU Emergency Alerts

Go to www.mtsu.edu/alert4u and click Sign up for MTSU’s Alert4U Emergency Notification. On the MTSU Rave login page, click the Register Now link under the login button.

Proceed with the five-step registration process.

1. Create your account. Enter your complete MTSU e-mail address, and create and confirm a password.
2. Enter your first and last name; enter and confirm your mobile number; enter your preferred e-mail address; click to agree to the terms of use, and click Next. Confirm your carrier and click Next.
3. Validate User. An e-mail will be sent to your official MTSU e-mail address. Click on the validation link; this will confirm your registration and return you to the Web site to continue the registration process.
4. Confirm mobile number. A text message will be sent to your mobile number with a four-digit confirmation code; enter that code and click Finish to complete the process. (If you do not receive a code, click “Skip, I’ll enter code later,” and click Finish.)
5. Registration is complete. You are now ready to receive alerts.

Registration is free and easy, but your current carrier’s text-messaging rates do apply.
Senior Laurence Tumpag’s cultural heritage, are on rotating display in Peck Hall.

photo submitted

by Gina K. Logue and Edgard Izaguirre
glogue@mtsu.edu

Laurence Tumpag, a Jackson, Tenn., native and a senior majoring in social work, has been on a mission to embrace his Filipino heritage and share it with his fellow students.

“The Filipino culture was first exposed to Americans in the 1904 World’s Fair in St. Louis,” Tumpag says. Unfortunately, he adds, the people who participated in the event were presented inhumanely, in human “zoos,” and subjected to harsh conditions and treatment, resulting in many deaths.

In hopes of raising awareness of the Filipino culture, Tumpag has set up a rotating display of Filipino ethnographic wares in Peck Hall.

These dolls “represent the many tribes that existed and still exist in the Philippines today,” says Tumpag, adding that his display also is in memory of his ancestors. Most importantly, he says, the dolls are being used to represent the Filipino culture in a positive light. (October is Filipino American Heritage Month.)

Tumpag, who is an American citizen, says he began collecting Filipino cultural items such as ethnographic dolls as a means to better understand and reconnect with his Filipino heritage. He felt he had become estranged from his culture by living in the United States, especially in the South.

Tumpag asked his family members for some items, bought others online and began doing research to prepare for his display.

The Philippines, a Southeast Asian nation located in the western Pacific Ocean, is made up of more than 7,000 islands.

All of the country’s indigenous tribes originated from a single area and eventually spread to islands and lowland areas. Water separated most tribes, leading to change in dialects, cultural traditions and beliefs.

Throughout the history of the Philippines, Tumpag explains, Spain, the United States and other nations have colonized or occupied the country. Also, several religious groups as Islam and Christianity have influenced different tribes in the country, making it the diverse nation that it is today. A consequence to this rich diversity, however, has been infighting and bloodshed. Nevertheless, he says, the people of the Philippines continue to strive toward a movement that promotes peace, co-existence and unity.

As a social-work major, Tumpag says he feels it’s his passion and duty to advocate for the rights of all disenfranchised individuals. As a history minor, he’s also found great value in and appreciation for the lessons humanity has taught us.

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