

# Tennis program's 2007 Pro-Am dates set Sept. 7-8

from MT Media Relations

MTSU's tennis program has scheduled its 21st Annual Pro-Am Tennis Classic with a special tribute to Dale Short and his 20 years of coaching at the university.

This year's event will be held Sept. 7-8 and will be played at the Buck Bouldin Tennis Center next to the Murphy Athletic Complex.

Short announced his retirement in April, and to close out his career, MTSU seniors Marco Born and Andreas Siljestrom made history May 28, winning the NCAA Doubles Championship. The win was the program's fourth national title in tennis

and its first-ever NCAA Championship.

Activities will begin Friday evening at 6 with a tennis clinic and "Hit with the Pros" session followed by a short exhibition.

Dinner, along with a program, will begin about 7:30 p.m. at the Emmett and Rose Kennon Sports Hall of Fame Building, located next to the tennis courts.

The men's and women's doubles tournament will begin Saturday at 8 a.m. and finish

around 2 p.m. Lunch and drinks will be provided during the day, and an awards ceremony will conclude the activities.

The Pro-Am will be a doubles tournament format with a back draw. The event will feature area teaching pros along with current and former players as pros. All amateurs will be matched with one of the pros and will play in the doubles tournament, and everyone will be guaranteed five matches.

Besides the fun, there are plenty of prizes, including trips and tennis gear.

All participants will receive a shirt or blouse. All nonparticipants

who donate a minimum of \$125 will receive the same if unable to attend.

The Pro-Am is the tennis programs' lone annual fundraising event and is even more welcome and necessary this year, organizers said. Recent court resurfacing and upgrades at the Bouldin Tennis Center have depleted most of the program's fundraising dollars.

For more information, please contact men's coach David McNamara at 615-898-2957 or women's coach Alison Ojeda at 615-898-5154. The coaches also can be reached by e-mail at [davidmcnamara88@hotmail.com](mailto:davidmcnamara88@hotmail.com) or [aojeda@mtsu.edu](mailto:aojeda@mtsu.edu).



Short

# MTSU offers 'lofty' creative writing experience

from Staff Reports

Applications are now being accepted for the fall 2007 session of The Writer's Loft, a certificate program in creative writing at MTSU that pairs published mentors with aspiring writers to develop their work at their own pace in the convenience of their home or office.

The latest session of The Writer's Loft begins Saturday, Sept. 15.

Part of the university's College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, the 12-month certificate-in-writing program provides students from different generations, lifestyles, geographic locations and schedules with the opportunity to pursue their craft on a customized, individual basis. Aspiring authors from Memphis to Mountain City now have a chance to study writing with the help of a group of dedicated mentors.

"Our mentors are essential to The Writer's Loft's success," said Molly Culbreath, The Writer's Loft's program coordinator. "Mentors and students meet for a day of orientation where the students decide whether to write fiction, memoir, nonfiction, or poetry, and then everyone returns home ... wherever home may be."

"Studying creative writing in a low-residency format is the ideal situation, because writers should be home writing, not sitting in class," said Charlotte Rains Dixon, one of the certificate's mentors and an award-winning writer from Portland, Ore. "A mentor in a low-residency program respects the student's writing on its own terms and exists to guide that writing to excellence."

"Almost every good writer has a mentor at

some point in his or her career," added mentor Jason Hunt. "Take Hemingway, for example. Where would he have been without Sherwood Anderson, Gertrude Stein and F. Scott Fitzgerald?"

Each mentor works with a maximum of three writers throughout the semester, and the students mail packets of writing to their mentors approximately every four weeks. In turn, the mentors evaluate the work and send the writing back to the students with detailed comments.

"Our mentors work out beautifully," Culbreath said, "because they know how it feels to be cre-

ative-writing students who work with mentors.

"Anyone serious about the craft of writing can submit an application," she noted. "Our goal is to help people improve, whether you're 85 years old or just getting out of high school."

Culbreath indicated that some high-school seniors could be eligible to participate.

"Everyone here in The Writer's Loft knows that many high schools have wonderful school newspapers, and if there is a high school senior with some writing experience and a drive to work, we'll take a serious look at his or her application package."

There is no competitive component to the application process, but space is limited. The program has a limited number of mentors and a very low mentor-to-writer ratio. Entering classes are limited in size.

"Those who respond the fastest will have the best chance at getting in," Culbreath said. "And the rest could end up on a waiting list for the next session."

Interested writers may contact Culbreath at 615-898-2179 or e-mail [theloft@mtsu.edu](mailto:theloft@mtsu.edu). For more information, visit [www.mtsu.edu/theloft](http://www.mtsu.edu/theloft).



## a la Carte from page 1

gingerbread restored and renovated the property, making it into three apartments in such a way that most people think it is still a one-family home. In 1986 I had a studio built behind the house, which is where I still work."

The space limitations have turned the exhibitors into quick-change artists, too, as they quickly turn an empty house into an aesthetic venue and their paintings, sculpture, monoprints, mixed media and clay works into a striking collective exhibit.

"The Maney Avenue corridor, which connects Oaklands at the north end to the Discovery Center at the south end, is being considered by the city for renovation and rejuvenation. We think this exhibition fits in nicely with that concept," Nuell said.

In addition to Nuell's mixed-media work, artists and their specialties featured on the menu at "Art a la Carte 2007" include:

- Erin Anfinson, painting;
- Michael Baggarly, painting and sculpture;
- Marc J. Barr, clay;
- Kimberly Dummons, monoprints;
- Nora Hibbard, painting;
- Jarrod Houghton, mixed media; and
- Guanping Zheng, painting.

All except Hibbard teach at MTSU; Hibbard's MTSU link is her husband, Dr. Allen Hibbard of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies.

There's no admission charge for "Art a la Carte," and all of the works will be for sale. For more information, contact Nuell at 615-898-2506 or [cnuell@mtsu.edu](mailto:cnuell@mtsu.edu).

## Honors

from page 1

council," Carnicom, the second-year associate dean and faculty member said. "The revolution in digital technology has had a far-reaching impact, affecting almost every aspect of our society.

"Digital innovations have changed the fashion, pace and volume of information exchange, greatly impacting our evolving knowledge economy."

Participating faculty include representatives from chemistry, physics and astronomy, computer information systems, electronic media communication, aerospace, agribusiness and agriscience, political science, biology and military science.

"I'm very excited about the many fine lectures we have scheduled this semester," Carnicom said. "I think Patrick Chinnery's presentation (on presidential campaigning) is especially timely and should prove very interesting. Tony Johnston and Jessica Carter will be discussing the digital impact on agriculture, a topic that perhaps many haven't contemplated, but affects them on a daily basis."

Carnicom said he is "especially proud that one of our honors students, Jonathan Parris, will be presenting his senior thesis." It's a digital film, "You Are NOT Special," in which Parris "demonstrates some impressive and resourceful special effects," Carnicom added.

The schedule is as follows:

- Aug. 27—Study-abroad presentation and orientation, Dr. Scott Carnicom, Honors College;
- Sept. 10—"Scientists Return to the CAVE in the Digital Age," Dr. Preston MacDougall, chemistry;
- Sept. 17—"Technology and Cosmology: Future Innovations for Peering into the Past," Dr. Eric Klumpe, physics and astronomy;
- Sept. 24—"Ethical Issues of New Technologies," Dr. Tim Greer, computer information systems;
- Oct. 1—"Integrating Digital Tools with Traditional Studio Art Processes," Marc Barr, EMC;
- Oct. 8—"The Economic Impact of Innovations in Aerospace Safety," Dr. Paul Craig, aerospace;
- Oct. 22—"Digital Applications in Military Science," Lt. Col. Mike Walsh, military science;
- Oct. 29—"The Digital Age of Agriculture," Drs. Tony Johnston and Jessica Carter, agribusiness and agriscience;
- Nov. 5—"Presidential Campaigning in the Internet Age," Dr. Patrick Chinnery, political science;
- Nov. 12—"Life Science in the Digital Age," Dr. Steve Howard, biology;
- Nov. 19—"You Are NOT Special" (a digital film project), Jonathan Parris, University Honors College senior EMC major;
- Nov. 26 and Dec. 3—Thesis presentations.

