

*Middle Tennessee
State University*

Albert Gore Research Center
Learning Resource Center
Room 111
P.O. Box 193
Murfreesboro, TN 37132



Fall 2004

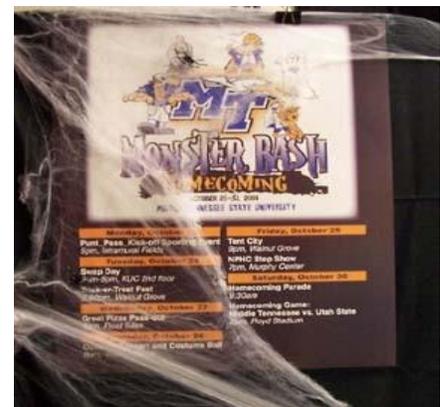
From the Director



The Gore Center is gearing up for major changes in the coming months. First of all, Betty Rowland has resigned after almost six years with the Center and over ten years with the University. She is going to be full-time caregiver for her 10-month-old granddaughter, Haley. We will miss her

warm personality and efficient office management!! Until we find a successor (never a replacement!), please bear with us as we keep things afloat.

Our other big news is the upcoming move to Todd Hall, scheduled to occur during the break between Fall 2004 and Spring 2005 semesters. We look forward to our new digs and hope to minimize disruptions in service. Keep an eye out early in the Spring term for announcement of a "grand opening" *celebration!*



Gore Center graduate assistants and student workers enjoyed decorating for Homecoming 2004 (October 30). This year's theme is "The Monster Bash"!

Dr. Lisa Pruitt

Good Bye to Betty Rowland

Betty Rowland, the Gore Center's Executive Aide, is leaving after almost six years. She will become full-time caregiver for her 10-month-old granddaughter Haley Grace Rowland. Everyone who knows Betty knows that Haley is one lucky little girl!

Betty will be greatly missed. She is a natural at public relations and her people skills also made her a gifted oral history interviewer. She conducted over 200 oral history interviews from 2000 to 2004. She also played an invaluable role as "mother hen" to the student workers!



We wish Betty and Haley all the best and hope to see them as frequent visitors to the Gore Center.

Rutherford County Archives Update

Over the past few months, the Rutherford County Archives has had some new and interesting happenings. In July, the archives had a change of staff with the departure of graduate research assistants Van Zbinden and Jennifer Allen. Kevin Cason and Jeff Sellers are the new graduate research assistants.

The Rutherford County Archives also joined as an Institutional Member of the Society of American Archivists, North America's oldest and largest national archival professional association. By joining the organization, the archives will receive national recognition as an archival repository and receive discounts on archival reference materials. For more information about the Society of American Archivists please visit their website at www.archivists.org.

The Archives Committee and staff continue to work on obtaining a new facility for the archives. On September 16, 2004, the

Rutherford County Commission voted to approve the amended Tri-Party Agreement between the Public Building Authority, the County, and the Archives Committee accepting the Property Management Committee's recommendation of the Rutherford County Adult Education site (Burton & Rice streets) and moving forward into the design and construction phase.

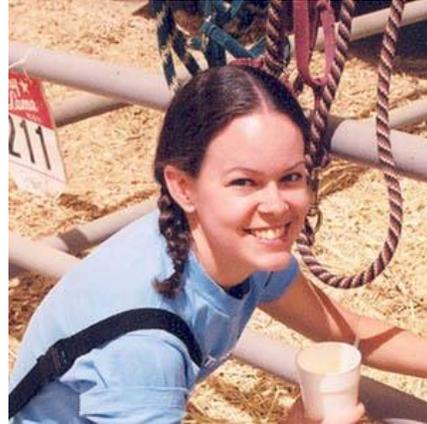
Staff and volunteers at the archives also continue to improve the intellectual and physical control of records housed in the archives. On-going projects include preparing a database of the Chancery Court records from the years 1949-1979, doing an inventory of all the collections and records at the archives, and processing Circuit Court records.

To learn more about the Rutherford County Archives, please visit <http://rutherfordcountyttn.gov/archives/index.htm>.

Meet the Graduate Assistants

Kristen Luetkemeier

Graduate Assistant
at the
Albert Gore, Sr., Research Center



Kristen Luetkemeier comes to MTSU's graduate program in Public History from a stint doing interpretive programs as a Student Conservation Association Intern in Death Valley National Park. Before those months in California, Kristen worked in Washington, DC, for the Education Department of the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery while taking classes in Art History at George Mason University and shelving books at the Pohick Regional Library. She also spent a year in and around Boston, MA, doing emergent literacy projects as an Americorps*VISTA. Her Bachelor of Arts degree is in History and comes from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA.



April McCauley

Graduate Assistant
at the
Albert Gore, Sr., Research Center

April received her B.S. in Management from Western Kentucky University. She has several years of experience as a Human Resources professional in corporate and manufacturing settings. She is now pursuing an M.A. in History focusing on Museum Studies. She recently completed an internship with the Jonesborough/Washington County Heritage Alliance where she designed and installed a display on a local African American school, participated in strategic planning for the organization, conducted research into local history, and assisted with community events.

Kevin Cason

Graduate Assistant
at the
Rutherford County Archives



Kevin Cason is a Graduate Assistant assigned to the Rutherford County Archives for the 2004-2005 academic year. He was a graduate assistant at the Gore Center from 2002-2004. Kevin has a BA in History from Belmont University in Nashville and is an MA candidate in public history at MTSU. As a child growing up in Tullahoma, Tennessee, Kevin learned to appreciate the unique, historical atmosphere small towns have to offer. His love of learning about the social and cultural history of various communities sparked his interest in pursuing a master's degree.



Jeff Sellers

Graduate Assistant
at the
Rutherford County Archives

Where are they now?



Former Gore Center graduate Assistant Heather Bailey is now director of the Paris-Henry County Heritage Center in West Tennessee and is already hosting a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit! "Key Ingredients: America By Food" will be on display from October 30 through December 11, 2004. You can reach Heather at director@phchc.com or visit her website at www.phchc.com.

Van Zbinden, a Rutherford County Archives graduate assistant from 2001-2004, is now Curator of the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources in Smackover, Arkansas. Visit the museum website at www.arkansasstateparks.gov or email Van at van.zbinden@arkansas.gov.

Blue Raider Hall of Fame

On October 9, 2004, MTSU dedicated the new Emmett and Rose Kennon Hall of Fame building. The facility will eventually house a museum dedicated to the history of athletics at MTSU and will feature

prominently the 80+ inductees into the Blue Raider Hall of Fame. At the request of the Blue Raider Athletic Association, the Gore Center prepared and installed an 18-panel photographic history display featuring

athletes who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. One panel featured Emmett Kennon, a Hall of Famer (Class of 1938) who played baseball and football and served as editor of the *Midlander* yearbook, as well as *Sidelines*, the student newspaper.



The exhibit will remain on display at the Hall of Fame through the end of football season.



The Gore Center is Finally Moving!

After three years of planning and renovation, the Gore Center's new quarters in Todd Hall are almost ready. With any luck, the move will occur early in 2005, between the fall and spring semesters.

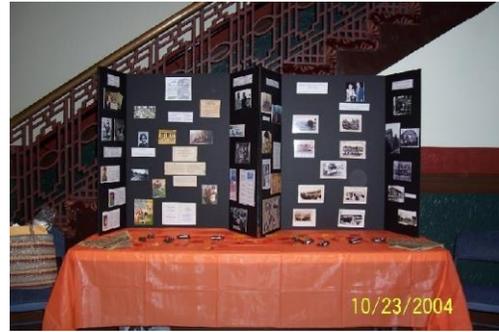
The new facility will more than double the Gore Center's square footage. Of greater importance, however, is the fact that the interior of the space has been designed to better serve the needs of the Center and its patrons. A large storage area will eventually feature high-density shelving capable of storing 7500 linear feet of archival collections. The storage room also features an area for student workers, while Gore Center staff and graduate assistants will share a suite of three offices. The new reading room, separated from storage and work areas, will offer researchers a quiet place to work. Finally, a conference room will permit small classes and seminars to meet and use Gore Center resources without disturbing other researchers.

We hope to have many visitors (new and returning), so keep an eye out for news of the move.

Rutherford County Heritage Festival

Rutherford County's second annual Heritage Festival was celebrated on October 23. Special events occurred at Cannonsburgh Village, Bradley Academy, Oaklands Historic House Museum, the Sam Davis Home, the Children's Discovery House, and on Public Square. The Gore Center mounted a tabletop display of historic Rutherford County photographs in the foyer

of the Courthouse, while the County Archives hosted an open house. County Mayor Nancy Allen conducted four 30-minute tours of the Courthouse, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and is one of only six antebellum courthouses still standing in Tennessee. The tours generated a lot of traffic for both the Gore Center display and the County Archives open house, so all in all the day was a grand success!



Civil Rights Documentation Project

The years 2004 and 2005 are significant in marking the fiftieth anniversaries of *Brown v*

Board of Education (I and II) and the fortieth anniversaries of the Civil Rights Act

of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Recognizing the importance of these historical events and feeling the urgency of passing time, Dr. Sekou Franklin, Assistant Professor of Political Science, and Dr. Lisa Pruitt, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Gore Research Center, have begun a joint project to document the history of the civil rights movement in Rutherford County. The Rutherford County Civil Rights Documentation Project (CRDP) will be a three-year effort to record and document the experiences of Rutherford County citizens who grew up under *de jure*/Jim Crow segregation, and who personally experienced or were involved in post-World War II civil rights activism.

The CRDP will be enlisting the support and participation of local community activists, civil rights organizations, civic groups, and churches. The Bradley Academy Museum and Cultural Center in Murfreesboro has already agreed to partner in this effort. The project will also enlist the support of other MTSU faculty and students and will seek to involve students from at least one of the county's high schools.

The CRDP will collect three types of historical documentation of the civil rights movement in Rutherford County: (1) oral history interviews, the centerpiece of this initiative; (2) an archive of personal and organizational papers, photographs, and audiovisual materials of local civil rights activists; and (3) museum-type artifacts. Bradley Academy will serve as the repository for museum artifacts and a duplicate set of oral history tapes and transcripts. It will also serve as the venue for exhibits and other public events. The Gore Center will house, preserve, and provide access to research collections, include personal and organizational papers, photographs, and audiovisual materials, as well as the archival originals of the oral history tapes and transcripts. Originals or facsimiles of these research materials will be made readily available on a routine basis for exhibit at Bradley Academy.

If you have information or archival resources to share or would like to become involved with this effort, please contact Dr. Franklin (franklin@mtsu.edu) or Dr. Pruitt (lp Pruitt@mtsu.edu or 898-2632).

History of Greek Life at MTSU

Graduate Assistants Kristen Luetkemeier and April McCauley mounted an 8-panel display documenting the history of Greek sororities and fraternities at MTSU. The display was mounted in the Alumni Center on October 7 and will remain through the football season.

Phi Epsilon, the first social fraternity at Middle Tennessee State University, was organized in 1961. In October of 1966, Phi Epsilon was the first social fraternity recognized on the MTSU campus. Other fraternities and sororities soon followed and by 1968 there were five fraternities and five sororities on campus. Today, there are twenty-eight fraternities and sororities at MTSU.





Scavenger Hunt!!

For Fall 2004, the Gore Center has created a Scavenger Hunt for students taking University 1010. MTSU offers University 1010 to help freshman students become acquainted with campus resources and begin to develop the study skills necessary for success in college. The Gore Center Scavenger Hunt is designed to acquaint students with the history of the university as well as the research resources available at the Center. How well do you know *your* MTSU history?

When was MTSU established?

Name the original four buildings on campus.

The second football field was named Horace Jones Field. Who was Horace Jones?

What were the names of the four original literary societies on campus?

Name two crops grown on campus in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

What other college was in town until about 1950?

When was the name "Blue Raiders" chosen?

When were blue and white chosen as the school colors?

In what year did enrollment first pass 10,000?

What did women students do for fun in the 1930s?

Name one special rule that applied to women in the 1930s.

Scavenger Hunt Answer Key

When was MTSU established?	1911
Name the original four buildings on campus.	President's House, Rutledge Hall, Main [now KOM], and Dining Hall [now Alumni Center]
The second football field was named Horace Jones Field. Who was Horace Jones?	Son of the first president of the Normal School and a math instructor and athletic recruiter in the 1920s and 1930s
What were the names of the four original literary societies on campus?	Dromgoole, Claxton, Grady, and Murfree
Name two crops grown on campus in the late 1920s and early 1930s.	Alfalfa and cotton
What other college was in town until about 1950?	Tennessee College for Women
When was the name "Blue Raiders" chosen?	1934
When were blue and white chosen as the school colors?	1912
In what year did enrollment first pass 10,000?	1971
What did women students do for fun in the 1930s?	Sports (especially basketball and tennis), hiking, picnicking, scrapbooking
Name one special rule that applied to women in the 1930s.	Could not go driving with a "young man" without a chaperone!