

## MEMPHIS TEACHER EARNS AWARD



### MEMPHIS TEACHER EARNS FIRST NATIONAL TROOPS TO TEACHERS AWARD

A Memphis teacher is the first in the United States to receive a national Troops to Teachers Award.

**Cleotis Weaver**, health science education teacher at Northside High School was presented the award at a State Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Leadership Conference held in Pigeon Forge. Weaver was one of the first Troops to Teacher hired to teach in the schools of Tennessee.

“We are very proud of our Troops to Teachers program in Tennessee,” said Director Mike Schroeder. “It’s an honor for a teacher from our state to be the first in the nation to receive this award, and Mr. Weaver is a deserving honoree.”

Weaver is an Emergency Medical Technician and has completed certification to become a licensed health science teacher. He has taught in the Northside troops to teacher program since August, 1994. He also assisted with setting up a ROTC program at the school for students interested in health science in the military.

Weaver began the health science program at Northside providing for students planning for a career in health care. He has built the program to include working with hospital and other health care facilities in Memphis. He initiated a program to provide his students a paid clinical internship in a health care facility. Under his leadership, a clinic for

the students at Northside High School has been set-up with the health science students serving as facilitators. He has seen many of his students continue to post secondary education and become health care professionals.

Troops to Teachers is a federally funded program. The purpose is to assist eligible military personnel to transition to a new career as public school teachers in “high-need” schools. Counseling, referral, and placement assistance in Tennessee is provided through the Office of Teacher Licensing, Tennessee Department of Education.

