

THE ALUMNI RECORD

News for MTSU alumni and friends

March 2011 Vol. 8 / No. 3

Coming attractions: new magazine, website

From staff reports

A new glossy magazine and a more dynamic website for University news and issues are among the changing ways Middle Tennessee State University is delivering key messages and information to its alumni and friends.

First up will be the revival of *MTSU Magazine*, which has not been published since fall/winter 2009. It will return with a 48-page issue mailed to alumni in April. The magazine will go to alumni twice a year with additional special issues on certain topics or themes as needed.

Editor of the re-launched magazine is Drew Ruble, who recently was named senior editor of University publications at MTSU. Ruble joined *Nashville Post* in 2001 and four years later was named editor of its sister publication, *BusinessTN* — the only statewide business and public-affairs

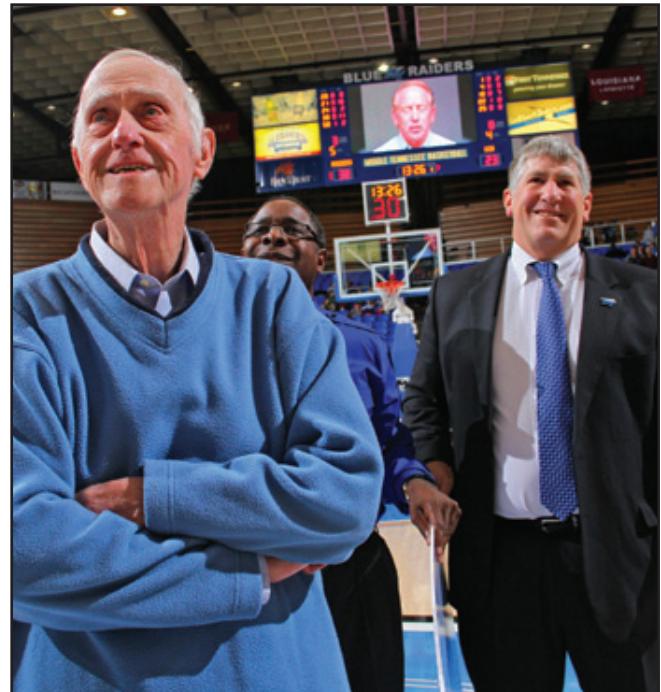
magazine in Tennessee. Ruble also served as co-editor of *The City Paper* in 2009.

"This re-launched MTSU magazine will be compelling in its content and striking in its visual impression," Ruble says. "Whether reporting on alumni of unusual accomplishment, on student achievers or on the frontiers of faculty-led research, the magazine will present the campus not as an isolated entity, but as a place engaged with the weighty issues of the day."

In June, MTSU plans to redesign and upgrade its digital news site, www.mtsunews.com, into a real-time source for news and information about the entire University. The new site will feature breaking news about MTSU, including video and audio reports.

(See 'Magazine,' Page 2)

•University President Sidney A. McPhee says alumni are "our best potential ambassadors." Story, Page 3.



MT Athletic Communications

Shipp sails in with \$1M gift

Alumnus and former NFL Coach Ken Shipp ('47), MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee and Director of Athletics Chris Massaro view a Murphy Center video board and listen as Archie Manning, one of Shipp's former players, praises his former coach and his love for his alma mater. Shipp made a \$1 million commitment. Story, page 8.

It's sure to be a home run!

4th annual

Alumni SUMMER COLLEGE
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

June 22-24, 2011

4th Alumni
Summer
College set
June 22-24

By Rhonda King rwking@mtsu.edu

Alumni Summer College, June 22-24, will hit one out of the park when alumni and friends return to campus to explore the theme "Winning Isn't Everything in the Wide World of Sports."

The Office of Alumni Relations is proud to host the fourth annual event, where participants will get a view from the locker room of the sports industry.

We all see what happens on the field and on the court.

(See 'Summer,' Page 4)

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TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY

Thank you, alumni, for survey responses

Responses will help chart path into the next chapter of MTSU's history

From the Office of Alumni Relations mtalumni.com

Thank you for taking the time and effort to complete our first Alumni Survey. Your responses will give valuable insight on the needs and expectations of our alumni and will help the Alumni Office better plan future endeavors.

We intend to take your responses and put them into action. While it cannot all happen at

once, adjustments, additions and enhancements to programming slowly will be made.

While many programs and activities, such as Homecoming, Alumni Summer College, tailgating and networking, will remain the same, we hope the survey results will lead to new and innovative programming that brings the greatest value to you as a graduate of the University.

As our Centennial year approaches, we begin

to reflect on the past 100 years, but we also look with great anticipation to the next 100 years. The alumni survey will help us chart our path into the next chapter of MTSU history.

We appreciate you taking an active role as an MTSU alumnus and completing the survey. Your opinion counts!



Paul Ladd ('87) and Chris Hazlewood ('97) discuss career opportunities at Green Hills Network Night on Jan. 27.



Michelle Stepp/MTSU Alumni Relations

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THE ALUMNI RECORD

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Alumni attend Green Hills Networking Night

Clint Bunn, left, Ann Dee McClane-Bunn ('09) and Wayne Emery ('77) enjoy a conversation at the MTSU Alumni Networking Night in Green Hills on Jan. 27. The event was held at the Greenhouse Bar and was free to MTSU alumni and guests. The Office of Alumni Relations has sponsored monthly networking nights to give alumni and guests a chance to swap business cards and make connections for their careers. For future events, please go to the MTSU alumni website, mtalumni.com.

Magazine

"We intend for our magazine to be a deeper, more premium print medium for our alumni and friends and for our revamped news site to be a way to be much faster and relevant in delivery of need-to-know information," said University President Sidney A. McPhee.

"MTSU needs its news delivered much faster than every two weeks or every quarter, so our digital approach will allow us greater speed and flexibility," he said. "Our magazine, however, will use the printed medium in its best form with stunning graphics and compelling long-form stories."

The changes will require the University to reallocate resources, said Andrew Oppmann, associate vice president for marketing and communications. As a result, Oppmann said, MTSU will "sunset" two of its long-standing print products, *The Alumni Record* and *The Record*, in June.



Ruble

The Alumni Record newspaper has been printed quarterly and mailed to alumni. *The Record* newspaper was printed twice monthly for faculty and staff.

Meanwhile, as the changes move forward, the University will be urging alumni to register on the official alumni site, mtalumni.com, to stay informed and engaged in "friend-raising" efforts.

"Our alumni website is among the best in the nation," Oppmann said. "It's so very important for all of our alums to register their e-mail with us and bookmark the alumni site as a resource."

Alumnus Gordon to be honored March 11

MTSU alumnus and recently retired Congressman Bart Gordon ('71) will be recognized Friday, March 11, at the Stones River Country Club. He is the Murfreesboro City Schools' Foundation's honoree at its Excellence in Education Celebration.

"I am most honored to chair this year's Excellence event with Congressman Gordon as the honoree," enthusiastically adds Elizabeth McPhee, Excellence in Education IV chair, MTSU First Lady and an educator. "He has done so

much for Middle Tennessee, and as a school teacher, I value his efforts to motivate young people to seek educations and careers in the sciences.

"The Excellence event is a great party, and I can't wait to see the beautiful work decorations chair and professional designer Kristin Adcock creates for our 'State Dinner' setting," added McPhee.

For inquiries about sponsorships and tickets, please contact Cheryl Harris at the Murfreesboro City Schools at 615-893-2313.

International alumni profile

(Seventh in a series)

Name: Gerald J. "Jerry" Walker

Hometown: Hiroshima City, Japan

Additional information: January 1967 MTSU graduate who used to work for the YMCA, first in Pasadena, Calif., and later for the Hiroshima YMCA after graduating from MTSU. He previously served as a travel agent in Nashville, Tenn., Seattle, Wash., and Hiroshima and also directed an English language school in Hiroshima for more than 20 years. Walker is a Christian minister. He is married and has two daughters and two grandchildren, who all live in the Seattle area.

About his experience: "Most of my duties today are teaching English to students who live in our neighborhood here in our home. Being the son of a Methodist minister, I officiate at Christian wedding ceremonies at hotels and wedding centers. Being rather large, I usually am also Santa Claus for children's parties. My wife of five years is from Hiroshima. We met at an American friend's Halloween party six years ago. We usually get back to the States at least once a year to visit family, friends and, for my wife's benefit, enjoy some American sights of interest, too. It was an honor to meet (MTSU president) Dr. (Sidney A.) McPhee and Dr. (Kiyoshi) Kawahito for the first time during their brief stopover in Hiroshima a year or so ago. Dr. Kawahito just visited here again (in December). We had another wonderful conversation. I feel honored to have graduated from MTSU."



Walker

mtalumni.com

CALENDAR

Campus events

March

- 1 Foundations/Survey Exhibition*
- 2 World Percussion Recital**
- 3 MTSU Symphonic Band/Brass Ensemble**
- 15 Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition #1 Studio*
- 17 MTSU Wind Ensemble/Chamber Winds at First United Methodist Church**
- 19 MTSU Jazz Artist Series**
- 20 Tracey Schmidt guest flute recital**
- 21 Daryl Johnson faculty tuba recital**
- 21 Joseph Walker and Karla Grove faculty piano recital**
- 24 Michael Arndt faculty trumpet recital**
- 27 Joanna Wulfsberg, soprano; Joseph Walker, piano; guest and faculty recital of French vocal music**
- 29 Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition #2 Studio*
- 30 Meredith Blecha, cello; Arun Nadir, piano guest and faculty recital**
- 30-31 MTSU Theatre presents Rent***

April

- 1-2 MTSU Theatre presents Rent***
- 1 First Friday Star Party, "Astronomy Down Under," Charlie Warren, guest****
- 4 Stones River Chamber Players presents "Happy Anniversary, MTSU!"**

Alumni: 'Our best potential ambassadors,' says McPhee

From staff reports

Middle Tennessee State University's greatest resource is its alumni.

So says President Sidney A. McPhee, who urged the Blue Raiders' faithful to stay informed and engaged about the University. McPhee said alumni involvement was particularly important as the University vies for resources to accommodate its record-setting enrollment.

"Alumni represent our best potential ambassadors in helping us tell our stories and underscore our value," he said. "We hope they will stay abreast of what's happening on campus so they can help us recruit the best students and reinforce how we improve the quality of life in the region and state."

Seventy-eight percent of the University's alumni live in Tennessee, and 60 percent live within an hour's drive of Rutherford County. More than half – 51 percent – live in Rutherford or its contiguous counties.

"The overwhelming majority of our graduates stay in Tennessee," McPhee said. "Our role in providing a trained and educated work force to our region's economy only further demonstrates the return on the investment that our University represents."

McPhee urged alumni to register on the www.mtalumni.com site so the University can send along news and other important information for its graduates. News about other issues and opportunities facing the campus can be found on the University's main website, www.mtsu.edu. By June, as part of changes to the University's communications strategy, www.mtsunews.com also will become a more



McPhee

timely resource for MTSU news.

The president said he hopes alumni are following efforts by area legislators and University officials to secure funding for the proposed \$126 million Science Building, which has been MTSU's No. 1 priority for years.

"While there has been no state appropriation for new capital construction, we remain hopeful that our critical need for a new Science Building will be met," McPhee said.

The president said the University also is working with state education officials to monitor the financial impacts of changes brought about by the Complete College Tennessee Act of 2010, which includes a provision for an outcomes-based funding formula.

"Our university, faculty, staff and administrators are very supportive of the goals of this reform initiative," McPhee said. "Our intent is to achieve a fair and balanced consideration that will recognize our successes over the last decade in producing more graduates for the region's workforce."

Meanwhile, McPhee noted that the University had a record fall enrollment that is approaching 27,000 students. Eighty percent of MTSU's undergraduates take science courses as part of their degree requirements, he said, and the record enrollment emphasizes the need for the new Science Building.

"MTSU continues to be the No. 1 choice of undergraduate students in Tennessee, and we're pleased that they continue to be attracted to the high quality of our academic programs and the attention and support they receive on campus," he said.

• "MTSU Magazine" and a new website are part of the new way of delivering news to alumni and friends. Story, Page 3.

March 6
SunBelt Basketball Tournament All-Alumni Champagne Reception
10 a.m., Hot Springs Convention Center
Hot Springs, Ark.
(For tournament tickets, call 1-888-YES-MTSU.)

April 27
Rutherford County Scholarship Luncheon Fundraiser
Bonefish Grill
505 N. Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro
Two seatings: 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Cost \$12; RSVP by April 22

May 21
Alumni and Friends Day at the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere
3777 Nolensville Pike, Nashville
\$15 adults, \$10 for ages 3-12, 2 and under free; price includes admission and all-you-can eat buffet
RSVP by May 13

June 22-24
Alumni Summer College
Winning Isn't Everything in the Wide World of Sports
MTSU Alumni House
Cost \$225; price includes tuition and meals
RSVP by June 1

June 24
MTSU Alumni and Friends Day at the Nashville Sounds
534 Chestnut St., Nashville
\$20 per person includes game ticket and all-you-can eat dinner buffet
RSVP by June 17

To register for events go to www.mtalumni.com or call 1-800-533-6878.



MTSU Centennial Scholars Program begins

While the much-anticipated Blue Tie Gala on Saturday, Sept. 9, at the Embassy Suites Hotel serves as the kickoff to the yearlong Centennial celebration, one of the many other special facets of MTSU's 100th anniversary is the establishment of the Centennial Scholars Program.

The program will provide the University with the resources required to not only attract the most talented young men and women but offer financial stability to enable them to devote their time and energies to pursuing their academic goals.

To fulfill the potential offered through the Centennial Scholars, the University is seeking to establish 100 endowments of \$100,000 each. Fully funded, the endowments will provide perpetual funds for 20 to 25 students each year.

The establishment of the MTSU Centennial Scholars, along with the existing Buchanan Fellows and Presidential Scholars programs, will provide MTSU with one of the most competitive, highly desired scholarship programs in the

region.

The Centennial Scholars Program is distinctive in that it will combine a traditional scholastic excellence award with a unique, academically-based learning opportunity that might include study abroad.

There are a number of benefits to both the donor and University, including the immediate and lasting impact on the students' lives and careers.

To learn more about the MTSU Centennial Scholars Program, call the MTSU Office of Development at 615-898-2502 or go online to <http://mtsu.edu/development/centennialscholars/index>.



MIDDLE TENNESSEE
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Winning Isn't Everything in the Wide World of Sports

June 22-24, 2011

Here is just some of what you'll enjoy at the Fourth Annual Alumni Summer College:

Back to the Future at Your Alma Mater
Sport Psychology
Preparing a Facility for a Sporting Event
Game Day
MTSU Sport Management Program
Nashville Superspeedway
LP Field
Tennessee Titans Locker Room
Sports Broadcasting
Nashville Sports Council
Nashville Sounds Baseball Game
Good Food
Great Friends
Blue Raider Spirit
Fun, Fun, Fun

To request a brochure and registration information, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-800-533-6878, or visit www.mtalumni.com.

Summer

Find out what happens before the opening tip-off, the coin toss and the dropping of the green flag.

MTSU faculty, alumni and industry experts will share aspects of the sports world. Be led through game-day requirements and rituals by Blue Raider head football Coach Rick Stockstill. Learn what it takes to get a facility ready for a sporting event. Get into the psyche of an athlete by studying about sport psychology. Be inspired to "play at a different level" by leadership and personal growth expert Coach Michael Burt ('98), recipient of the 2008 MTSU Young Alumni Achievement award. Find out about one of the university's niche degrees when Dr. Colby Jubenville showcases the sport management graduate program.

From the starting line to home plate, Alumni Summer College's field trips will take you where you've never been. Tour the infield and owner's suite at Nashville Superspeedway, Music City, U.S.A.'s home for NASCAR action since April 2001. A visit to the NFL's Tennessee Titans' locker room and a tunnel walk-through at LP Field are on tap. A panel of experienced sports-broadcasting experts will share their stories. The Nashville Sports Council will teach us how to recruit a major sporting event to the city.

We'll take you out to the ball game at the Triple-A Nashville Sounds' baseball game at Greer Stadium.

Alumni Summer College is an opportunity to expand your knowledge of interesting subjects with a curriculum that combines innovative classes and entertaining tours specifically created with MTSU alumni in mind.

Alumni Summer College is sure to be a highlight of your year as you return to campus for three days of edutainment, Blue Raider camaraderie, sports, good food and an exciting field trip. Open to alumni and friends, the program will provide several once-in-a-lifetime moments that you do not want to miss.

The tuition for Alumni Summer College is \$225 per person, and the registration deadline is June 1. Space is limited. Tuition includes classes, seven meals, transportation from The Alumni House each day and transportation to and from Nashville.

To request a brochure and registration information, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-800-533-6878. The brochure is also posted on www.mtalumni.com. Special rates are available at area hotels. Contact Rhonda King, Alumni Relations assistant director, at rking@mtsu.edu with any questions.

mtalumni.com

Blue Tie Gala

You are cordially invited to the Centennial Celebration.

Join the University in celebration of 100 years of education excellence!

Friday, September 9, 2011
Embassy Suites, Murfreesboro

Dinner and dancing to the music of the

Tyrone Smith Revue (a.k.a. Super T)

For ticket and table reservations, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-800-533-6878 or online at www.mtalumni.com.



MIDDLE TENNESSEE
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MTSU Director of Athletics Chris Massaro, left, and University President Sidney A. McPhee settle in for the Mayor's Luncheon pregame event in Mobile, Ala.

(Left) MTSU freshman Band of Blue member Gage Tellez, playing the mellaphone, helps pep up the crowd lining the streets of Mobile for the Mardi Gras parade. The band featured 368 members.

Michelle Stepp/MTSU Alumni Relations



Distinguished Alumnus Dr. Wayne Rollins ('75) and his wife, Vel ('75), enjoy the fresh seafood meal at the Alumni Association/Blue Raider Athletic Association tailgate tent.



(Clockwise, from left) Ken Weber, Rick Hardesty, Jerry Allen ('67), Nancy Allen ('78), Suma Clark ('70), Jack Ross ('77) and Regina Todd gear up for the big game during pregame tailgate festivities.



Former MT football players Tanaka Scott and Mike Woods come out to support the team and help spread Blue Raider spirit.



Senior Phillip Tanner sets sail on a long run for the Blue Raiders.

Turnovers spoil Blue Raiders' bowl opportunity in Mobile

Alumni and university friends and fans from across the country enjoyed the sights, sounds, food and festivities surrounding the MT Blue Raiders appearance in the GoDaddy.com Bowl in Mobile, Ala., the first week in January.

A large contingent of fans enjoyed pre-game events — parade, tailgate, luncheons and more — planned by the National Alumni Association, The City of Mobile and bowl sponsors.

Trying for their second straight bowl vic-

tory, the Blue Raiders came up short. Miami (Ohio) capitalized on four interceptions and other MT missed opportunities to earn a 35-21 victory before a crowd of 38,168 people and a nationally televised ESPN audience.

Finishing his career with 3,088 all-purpose yards and 2,224 yards rushing, senior running back Phil Tanner compiled 121 all-purpose yards and ran for two touchdowns.

Safety Kevin Brown led with 10 tackles on defense for MT, which finished the season with a 6-7 record.

MT defender Dwight Smith, left, pressures Miami quarterback Austin Boucher, who finished the game completing 22 of 35 passes for 289 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions.



Dan Anderson/for MT Athletic Communications

CLASS NOTES ARE MOVING!

Are you looking for Class Notes, Baby Raiders or In Memoriams? Don't worry, we still have them. They are moving to the new 'MTSU Magazine' coming to you in April.

Be sure to let us know what's new with you. Submit all of your notes and announcements to www.mtalumni.com.

Gaines commits to establishing endowed chair

Alumnus' gift ultimately will help MTSU recruit renowned historian to faculty

By Tom Tozer ttozer@mtsu.edu

Giving back always has been part of Jim Gaines' DNA. The '69 MTSU graduate (B.S. history) recently reaffirmed not only his generosity but his unwavering devotion to his alma mater by moving forward to establish the Jim Gaines Endowed Chair in American History through his estate. The gift ultimately will enable the University to recruit a renowned historian to the faculty.

"One thing that I would say to every MTSU graduate and to those who will be graduating is to look back at your experience — you probably had one or more people who helped you," Jim says. "If you love the University like I do, think about giving back to the University. I want MTSU to be even greater after I'm gone. Whether you want to give regularly during your lifetime or give something in your will, there is something each of us can do to give back."

A former six-year board member of the MTSU Foundation, Gaines understands the importance of private giving to the University.

"The alumni from MTSU are going to have to reach into their pockets and start donating more money to the University. I have been told that the amount of state support has decreased over the years. With greater financial support, we'll be able to hire the best professors and build new facilities."

"Jim exemplifies what we wish all our alumni would aspire to ... someone who stays involved, engaged and committed to the institution and really only wants what's best for us," said Joe Bales, MTSU vice president for development and university relations. "Even though he literally lives about as far away from campus as any alumnus, being out in California, he does stay connected and in touch. Jim's goal is to see the University better tomorrow than it is today, and he's willing to invest in that goal. We are grateful for his tremendous generosity."

Jim's responses to questions about himself dissolve into fond reflections of people at MTSU whom he admired and who influenced him. His personal "professors hall of fame," he says, would include Drs. Richard Peck, Robert Corlew, Roscoe Strickland Jr., Bart McCash and William Windham, the latter of whom, he says, was his favorite professor. Dean Hayes, MTSU head track coach, remains a good friend, he adds.

A resident of La Jolla, Calif., Jim grew up in Kingsport, Tenn. As a youngster, he learned how to work and save money by mowing lawns and later working at a church retreat during the summers while attending and eventually graduating from Dobyns-Bennett High School.

"My mom kept urging me to go to East Tennessee State," he recalls. "I said no—I wanted to get away and be on my own. Then she suggested UT, and I said that it was really too big for me. I had never been to Middle Tennessee State. So I took the bus to freshman orientation and stayed at the old James K. Polk Hotel across the street from the First Baptist Church. I walked the campus. There was a pay phone in front of the old library. I called my mom and said I was going to Middle Tennessee. She asked why. I told her it was a beautiful campus,

I was impressed by the other students, and besides, there were some good-looking girls here."

During his college years, Jim worked in the school library and, during his junior year, served as a residence-hall counselor. ("I think I'll write a book on that experience.") He also worked in a men's clothing store in the College Heights area called the Caboose. ("It was called the Caboose because it was in an actual caboose.") Gaines also was instrumental in co-founding MTSU's Beta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

"The men and women who were students with me at MTSU have all turned out to be really good people," he notes.

Two of his good friends are alumni Harold

don't come from families with lots of money. ... I am convinced that in our world without a college education you're going to have a difficult time. My mission is to get as many kids in high school into college."

Jim serves as a tutor in a program called Reality Changers that is held in his church. Originally established for Hispanic youth, it is open to anyone willing to sign an attendance contract and maintain a 3.0 GPA.

"We tutor the kids for the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test), and we have some kids who come close to acing it," he points out. "Our best success story is a kid from a gang in San Diego with a GPA of something like 0.0006. Three years later when he graduated from high school, he had a full academic ride to Dartmouth College."

In 2000, Gaines was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Following several chemotherapy treatments and a bone-marrow transplant in 2001, he was out of commission for a year and a half. During that time he underwent kidney surgery because of the high dosages of chemo. Because he had no one to run his brokerage agency, he sold it. Rather than retire, he looked around for another enterprise.

"I almost bought a vitamin company, but I didn't know anything about that business," Gaines says with a laugh. His original insurance agency, Insurance Designers of San Diego, which he formed in the mid-1980s, sold in October 2001, right before he had his bone-marrow transplant in November. In 2003, he formed his second company, Jim Gaines Insurance and Financial Services.

"You've always heard that you should do what you're good at. So I started an Internet insurance business from my home. People contact me

by going on the Internet. I work about four days a week—I love what I'm doing." Jim says he now is cancer-free and considers himself a lucky man.

If Jim's work is his first love, his second is his high regard for history, particularly the colonial period.

"Every June I go back to the University of Virginia for the Thomas Jefferson Symposium," he says. "I found out I'm a relative of James Madison and Zachary Taylor, which motivated me even more."

If he hadn't pursued insurance, he would have been a college history professor, he acknowledges.

"I'm very sentimental. I tell people that if I had to do it over again, I would still go to MTSU," he reflects. "There is still a small ratio between faculty and students. I think Murfreesboro and the people there are great."

Jim reminds college students that they represent their families and should never do anything to embarrass them. He adds that greatness doesn't mean making a lot of money; rather it is what one does with his or her God-given talents and resources.

"When you graduate, be proud of your university. It helped you get to where you are today. I think you have a moral obligation to give back—whether it's tutoring or setting up a scholarship," he says.

You just can't deny your DNA.

Smith, longtime director of student programming (now retired), and Jim Simpson, current director of the Blue Raider Varsity Club. The late Cliff Gillespie Jr., former associate vice president for enrollment management, was also a good friend.

"If you were to ask me what I remember most about MTSU, it was the transformation from Middle Tennessee State College to Middle Tennessee State University," Gaines says. "The University was beginning to grow. It was transforming from a teachers' college to students majoring in business and mass communication."

Jim was and is an avid reader. After graduating from MTSU, he immediately went into the insurance business in management training with one of the large companies—a business he has been in ever since. He read about successful men and women, and he learned early on that successful people stood on the shoulders of those who came before them.

In 1993, he established a scholarship at Dobyns-Bennett High School for a graduating senior who planned to attend MTSU. The criteria for winning the scholarship was not only achieving academic success but also being involved in school and community activities.

"There have been 17 or 18 scholarships so far, and it's really rewarding because the recipients will send me letters," he says. "It doesn't matter what their economic status is, most of these kids



Submitted photo

Jim Gaines' scholarships have helped 18 Dobyns-Bennett seniors attend MTSU.

Spring into action

Stay informed on issues, catch Centennial fever

When one thinks of the word spring, flowers blooming, grass greening, allergies in full force and spring break immediately come to mind.

Granted, the buttercups are peeking their heads up, shorts and flip-flops soon will be the attire of choice, and antihistamines are in great demand at the campus pharmacy. However, spring and MTSU have so many more definitions than the traditional seasonal meaning. I want to share with you what spring means to me when it comes to our fine University.

As the state of Tennessee moves into a new era with Gov. Bill Haslam, his administration and new legislators, your alumni association feels it is imperative that we develop an open dialogue with our lawmakers concerning the importance of higher education, funding of critical campus projects and proposed changes in our higher-education funding.

With more than 70,000 alumni in Tennessee, we represent a rapidly growing population all across the state. I would ask each of you to become better informed on the issues facing Middle Tennessee State University and our higher-education system, because we may need to ask you to spring into action to assist our efforts in the coming months.

Spring also can be categorized as a time of new growth and new beginning. Our campus continues to grow in every sense of the word. I was recently driving through the east side of campus, and springing up from the landscape are two of the most amazing buildings.

Our multi-million-dollar student union and our new education building are being erected at rapid speed. As most of you know, MTSU started as Middle Tennessee State Normal School to educate individuals to

become teachers. I can only imagine how the students in 1911 would perceive these grand structures. As we celebrate our Centennial in the next year, these new buildings will help spring us into our next 100 years.

I'd also like to offer a quick "thank you" to those who took the Alumni Survey in February. Your opinion is important, and it will help us to know what is important to you. We look with great anticipation to what ideas will spring from your responses.

Recently, I was told by a good friend that I toot the MTSU horn every chance I get. My reply was, "You bet I do, pal."

Nothing gives me greater pleasure than sharing the MTSU story and all it has to offer to everyone. I challenge each of you to spring into action, whether it be coming to our Alumni Summer College in June, attending a spring sporting event or planning to attend one of the many Centennial celebration events that will start on Sept. 9 with the Blue Tie Gala.

I promise you will find a new beginning from your 100-year-old university that continues to thrive and grow spring after spring after spring. *MTSU National Alumni Association President*



Beth Barber Jones received her B.S. in 1999. She has been a sales rep for Intervet Schering-Plough Animal Health since 2004. She and her husband, Andy ('96), live in Columbia, Tenn.



J. Intintoli/MTSU Photographic Services

Junior aerospace major Josh Anderson, seated at center, explains to MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee the operational process at a terminal while members of the president's cabinet tour the new \$3.4 million air traffic control simulator lab in the Business and Aerospace Building. Cabinet members view the tower lab.

Aerospace unveils \$3.4M ATC facility

The MTSU Department of Aerospace is introducing a new \$3.4 million air traffic control simulator and training facility to the University community and beyond.

The facility, "the only simulator of its type in the world," said aerospace chair Wayne Dornan, exceeds the technical capabilities of the ATC simulator at NASA Ames Research Center in California and is part of MTSU's push to provide support in air traffic management systems, human-factor research, technology assessment and large-scale demonstrations for the aero-

space industry.

In both classes and laboratory training, students are gaining practical experience in three areas of the facility: pseudopilot positions, tower lab and a 10-suite radar lab to "simulate both en route and radar approach control environments," said Gail Zlotky, associate professor. The tower lab is a seamless 360-degree fiberglass screen that rises to nine feet with a diameter of 29 feet. Ten high-definition digital projectors "create the most realistic tower simulator available today," she added.

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MTSU NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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2009	Jim Stubblefield	'83	1966	Whitney Stegall	'37*
2008	Mary Esther Reed	'92, '94, '96	1965	Wendell W. Wilson	'39*
2007	Devin McClendon	'96	1964	Edward L. Jennings	'38*
2006	Bob Lamb	'69, '77	1963	J. Howard Warf	'30*
2005	Sandra Y. Trail	'72	1962	Elbert L. Fox	'27*
2004	Ben Landers	'77	1961	John Herman Dixon	'30*
2003	Tommy Campbell	'74	1960	Charles Parker Parsons	'30*
2002	Lorraine Singer	'70, '71, '75	1959	Hiram W. Holtsford	'39*
2001	John Ellington	'56	1958	Kathryn C. Hay	'33*
2000	Ken Summar	'84	1957	Miles McMillian	'40*
1998-99	David A. Cullum	'55	1956	Roy W. Wiseman	'48, '52*
1997	James Caperton Jr.	'72	1955	William Bragg	'40*
1996	James Powers	'72, '73	1954	Homer Pittard	'36*
1995	Eddie Freeland	'76	1953	Roy Chester Smith	'36*
1994	Dawn F. Eaton	'80	1952	Hugh H. Burrum	'27*
1993	Richard C. Key	'62	1951	Ralph Lee DeFries	'36*
1992	Cecil T. Cantrell	'53	1950	Joe Frank Patch	'35*
1991	Ann A. Eaden	'59	1949	Lucy Belle Robertson	'46*
1990	George E. Gardner	'57	1948	Medford P. Bowman	'28*
1989	John F. Scarbrough	'69, '71	1947	Ervin H. Thomas	'35*
1988	Connie G. Landers	'76	1946	Wilburn A. Shannon	'39*
1987	John D. Hood	'54, '74	1945	Lowell W. Crane	'34*
1986	Jonah L. Fitch	'52*	1944	Carl L. Brockett	'28*
1985	Charlene Key	'62, '67, '92	1942-43	Perry Williamson	'28*
1984	William M. Beasley	'47*	1941	James H. Swann	'29*
1983	James E. McFarlin	'76	1940	Roy Dowdy	'32*
1982	Linda W. Bramblett	'67	1939	Elcia Guy Rogers	'30*
1981	Charles F. Kerr	'33*	1938	Charles F. Grigsby	'36*
1980	Charles H. Sarver	'36*	1937	J. Pope Dyer	'30*
1979	Charles W. Holt	'33*	1936	Paschal Shelton	'31*
1978	Charles F. Harrell	'62	1935	Robert Abernathy	'36*
1977	Martha W. Scarbrough	'64, '67, '76	1934	Baxter Hobgood	'30*
1976	Martha W. Scarbrough	'64, '67, '76	1933	Rex Cole Turman	'30*
1975	L. Quentin Lane	'54	1932	Roy Simpson	'30*
1974	Col. Howard Ray	'54, '72*	1931	A.E. Wright	'29*
1973	Thomas O. Dye	'31*	1930	Clyde E. Richards	'29*
1972	Ross Spielman	'55, '66	1929	John Zumbro	'26*
1971	Thomas E. Fox	'40*	1928	Frank E. Bass	'26*
1970	H. L. Wasson	'39*	1926-27	David Henry Piper	'26*
1969	Lytle "Jug" Landers	'50*	* — Deceased		
1968	James E. Malone	'30*			

mtsu.edu/centennial

Alumnus Shipp makes \$1M athletic pledge

By Tom Tozer ttozer@mtsu.edu

Ken Shipp, a 1947 MTSU graduate and longtime athletic coach who established the University's Ken Shipp Endowed Scholarship, has committed \$1 million to his alma mater through the MTSU Foundation.

A formal presentation of the gift took place during halftime of the Feb. 5 MTSU-South Alabama basketball game.

A significant portion of the funds will enhance the endowed scholarship that Shipp established in 2009 to benefit MTSU students from Rutherford County. The remainder of the gift will renovate coaches' office space in Murphy Center for the Lady Raiders' basketball program.

Shipp, 83, said he had been thinking for a long time about making a pledge of this kind.

"I mainly wanted to help those who need the money to have the opportunity to go to MTSU," he said, adding, "I'm proud of the (MTSU women's basketball) team and the coach."

President Sidney A. McPhee said Shipp's gift "reflects his longstanding support and devotion to both athletics and academic achievement."

"His generosity will make it possible for us to provide the finest athletic facilities for our coaches and also offer the opportunity of a college education to students here at home in Rutherford County," the president continued. "When we can challenge our young people to pursue learning at an even higher level, our state and nation are the beneficiaries. We are grateful to our alumnus Ken Shipp, whose success as a person and a professional will serve as an example to thousands of MTSU students in years to come."

Shipp's endowed scholarship at MTSU has already opened the door to college for Rutherford County students, said Joe Bales, MTSU vice president for development and university relations.

"Coach," as everyone calls him, wanted to make sure that money was not the determining factor in whether or not students with promise and potential were able to go on to school," Bales said. "He

wanted to make sure that opportunity was available.

"Coach is also very fond of our Lady Raiders program and very excited about what has happened with the program the last several years. He just wanted to help them have an office space that is reflective of the quality program they have."

Director of Athletics Chris Massaro praised Shipp's far-reaching influence.

"This gift will make a tremendous difference for our women's basketball program," Massaro said. "This is typical of Coach Shipp. His whole career he has always put the needs of others above his own, and this gift exemplifies that quality of his character. This will be an invaluable legacy for generations to come."

The office renovations funded by Shipp's gift will begin after this basketball season, and the new space will be operational by next fall, Bales noted. An entire section of the ground floor of Murphy Center will be opened to accommodate a large office complex for the women's basketball coaches. Dividing walls will come down, and the area will be transformed into an office suite "that will put our program on par with any coaching program in the country," Bales said.

"When recruits come in, they will see really nice facilities for the players," Bales continued, "and the coaches will be right next door. The coaches will be all together instead of in separate offices."

Shipp was born in 1928 in Old Hickory, Tenn., and played football for MTSU's legendary Charles "Bubble" Murphy. He was an assistant coach in the



MT Athletic Communications

AD Chris Massaro, left, President Sidney A. McPhee, donor Ken Shipp ('47) and Coach Rick Insell listen to the crowd's recognition of Shipp's gift.

National Football League and, during the 1975 season, was interim coach of the New York Jets, gaining attention for benching quarterback Joe Namath for violating team rules. During his stint with the New Orleans Saints, Archie Manning described Shipp as "a smart man and a good coach."

Before working in the NFL, Shipp's college coaching stops included Trinity, Florida State, Tulsa, South Carolina and Miami. In addition to earning his undergraduate degree in physical education at MTSU, Shipp received a master's degree from Vanderbilt University's Peabody College.

"Coach is an extremely generous person in a very quiet way," Bales said. "He's never asked for the limelight, which makes him the kind of person you like to recognize. Most people would not realize how many people, especially young people, upon whom Coach has had an impact in Rutherford County. We're delighted and grateful that he has chosen to give this gift."



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