

# THE ALUMNI RECORD

News for MTSU alumni and friends

June 2010 Vol. 7 / No. 4

## Distinguished Alumni recognized

### Mitchell, Vance, Frost, Agee share spotlight at Spring Commencement

From MTSU Alumni Relations

The Spring Commencement at MTSU May 8 in Murphy Center introduced four very special alumni as the 2009–10 Distinguished Alumni were presented their awards.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest award given to an MTSU alumnus, and the Young Alumni Achievement Award is the top award for an alumnus under the age of 40.

In the category of Professional Achievement, the Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to David Mitchell ('73) of Franklin. He is the director of Homeland Security for the state of Tennessee. Unable to attend because of job-related matters, his award was accepted by daughter Melanie Mitchell Lemon ('96).

Tom Vance ('76) of McMinnville, Tenn., was presented the Distinguished Alumni award in the category of Service to the Community in recognition of his countless hours of volunteer time devoted to the betterment of Murfreesboro and McMinnville.

The Distinguished Alumni Award in the category of Service to the University was presented to George

(See 'Distinguished,' Page 2)



Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services

National Alumni Association President Jim Stubblefield, left, is shown with 2009-10 Distinguished Alumni honorees Melanie Mitchell Lemon ('96), who accepted for her father, David Mitchell ('73), Tom D. Vance ('76), George Frost ('56) and Young Alumni Achievement Award recipient Lauren Gillespie Agee ('01).



Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services

A dancer performs "Spin, Spin, Spin," a folk dance from the Xinjiang region, during "An Oriental Monsoon."

## Confucius' grand start

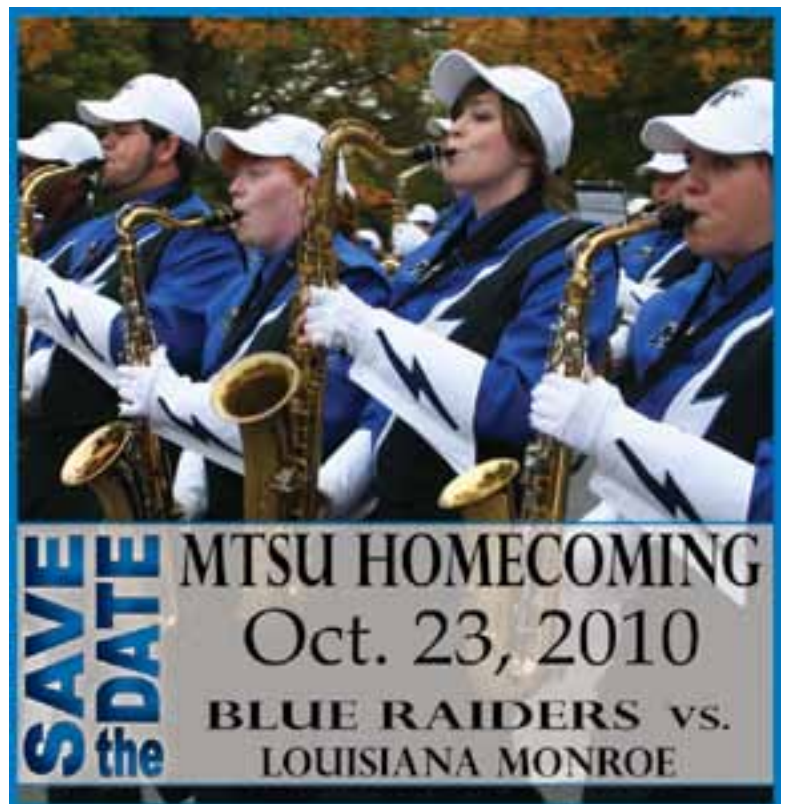
### China performers, delegation are a hit

By Gina K. Logue [gklogue@mtsu.edu](mailto:gklogue@mtsu.edu)

MTSU celebrated the grand opening of the Confucius Institute April 21 by welcoming a delegation from the People's Republic of China and a performance by traditional Chinese entertainers.

MTSU cemented a relationship with Hangzhou Normal University on Dec. 1, 2009, when President Sidney A.

(See 'Confucius,' Page 5)



NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
MURFREESBORO, TN  
PERMIT NO. 169

### INSIDE ...

**Raider Professional Network, Page 2**  
**Gubernatorial Forum, Page 2**  
**Summer Reading, Page 3**  
**Centennial Scholarships, Page 4**  
**Class Notes, Page 6**  
**Pigskin Pre-Game Aug. 28, Page 8**

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
1301 E. Main St.  
MTSU P.O. Box 109  
Advancement Services

**MIDDLE  
TENNESSEE**  
STATE UNIVERSITY



# Introducing the Raider Professional Network

## New program will connect job seekers, alumni professionals

### From staff reports

In a tough economy, a good-looking resume and stellar interview skills are important but suffer in comparison to the importance of one of the most valuable tools a job seeker can possess — the ability to network. As an MTSU alumnus, you now have the chance to help students take advantage of this valuable tool.

The Alumni Relations office has partnered with the Career Development Center to offer the Raider Professional Network, a new program designed to connect current students and recent graduates with MTSU alumni for networking and career advice. Alumni participants are willing to

serve as informational interview contacts. In this role, they are able to provide answers to industry-specific questions, offer insight into hiring expectations and routine responsibilities and provide tips for success in their career field.

Membership in the Raider Professional Network is across the board in terms of industries and physical locations represented. Participants are grouped by the industry field they currently or previously worked in rather than their academic program of study.

Raider Professional Network members decide

# RPN

how often they want to be contacted and what career fields they are able to offer advice on. In addition, members can indicate if they are experts on a certain topic and want to volunteer to speak to students or facilitate a career-related program or event. Instead of a mentoring program, RPN is designed to be a one- or two-contact obligation.

To participate, visit [mtalumni.com](http://mtalumni.com) online, click on the Career Services tab on the left-hand side and select Raider Professional Network. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Katy Francisco Riddle in the Career Development Center at 615-898-2500 or [kfriddle@mtsu.edu](mailto:kfriddle@mtsu.edu).

### ALUMNI MAKING WAVES

Alumnus J.B. Baker ('70) of Madison, Tenn., president and CEO of transportation company Volunteer Express Inc., has received the Pinnacle Award, the highest honor of the Tennessee Trucking Association, for his lifetime commitment to his company and industry.



### Distinguished

### from Page 1

Frost ('56) of Hendersonville. He has devoted much of his time to MTSU committees and clubs and has served as president of the MTSU Foundation and the Blue Raider Varsity Club. He also has been an important fund raiser for the Martin Chair of Insurance.

The Young Alumni Achievement Award was presented to Lauren Gillespie Agee ('01) of Murfreesboro. Since her graduation, she has worked for the Clinton administration and for the Andy Womack for governor campaign. She is now

the senior policy adviser for state Sen. Jim Kyle of Memphis.

The MTSU Alumni Association annually presents the Distinguished Alumni and Young Alumni Achievement Awards.

Alumni and friends are encouraged to help recognize the achievements of MTSU graduates by submitting nominations for the awards. More information about the awards, past recipients and nominations forms can be found at [mtalumni.com](http://mtalumni.com).

#### ALUMNI RELATIONS STAFF

Ginger Corley Freeman, Director  
Michelle Stepp, Associate Director  
Molly Cochran, Assistant Director  
Paul Wydra, Assistant Director  
Rhonda Wright King, Assistant Director  
Martha Jordan, Administrative Assistant

#### MTSU Office of Alumni Relations MTSU Box 104

Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
1-800-533-MTSU (6878)  
615-898-2922 Fax: 615-898-5746  
[mtalumni.com](http://mtalumni.com)

### THE ALUMNI RECORD

Published quarterly (Sept., Dec., March and June)

Sidney A. McPhee, President  
Joe Bales, VP, Development and Univ. Relations  
Tonja L. Johnson, Assoc. VP, Marketing and Comm.  
Tom Tozer, Director, News and Public Affairs  
Randy Weiler, Editor ([jweiler@mtsu.edu](mailto:jweiler@mtsu.edu))

Contributors: Staff members from the offices of MTSU Alumni Relations and News and Public Affairs

Consultants: Suma Clark/Bill Fisher/Mitzi Brandon,  
MTSU Publications and Graphics  
Special assistance: Betsy Williams,  
MTSU Advancement Services

Photographs: MTSU Photographic Services,  
except where noted  
Printed by Franklin Web Printing Co., Franklin, Tenn.

Attention Postmaster: Change Service Requested  
Address changes and other correspondence  
should be addressed to

Advancement Services  
MTSU P.O. Box 109  
1301 E. Main St.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

MTSU, a Tennessee Board of Regents university, is an equal opportunity, nonracially identifiable, educational institution that does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities.

UR078-0510



Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services

U.S. Rep. Zach Wamp, left, R-Chattanooga, answers a question while Mike McWherter of Jackson, a Democrat; Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey of Blountville, a Republican; and Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslem, a Republican, wait their turn at the April 29 gubernatorial forum for candidates in Murphy Center.

## MTSU hosts gubernatorial forum

### Haslam, McWherter, Ramsey, Wamp discuss issues

#### From staff reports

MTSU, in cooperation with the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, hosted a gubernatorial forum April 29. The program, moderated by Dr. Bob Pondillo, associate professor in Electronic Media Communication, was held in Murphy Center.

The candidates included the lone Democrat running for governor, Mike McWherter of Jackson, and Republican candidates Bill Haslem, the mayor of Knoxville; Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey of Blountville; and U.S. Rep. Zach Wamp of Chattanooga.

The event, which was free to the public, was

underwritten, in part, by Farmers Insurance Group.

Nearly 600 people attended the forum, said Ron Malone ('88), assistant vice president for Events and Transportation. This total included students, faculty and staff, alumni, the general public, news media from across the state, and family, friends and staff of the candidates.

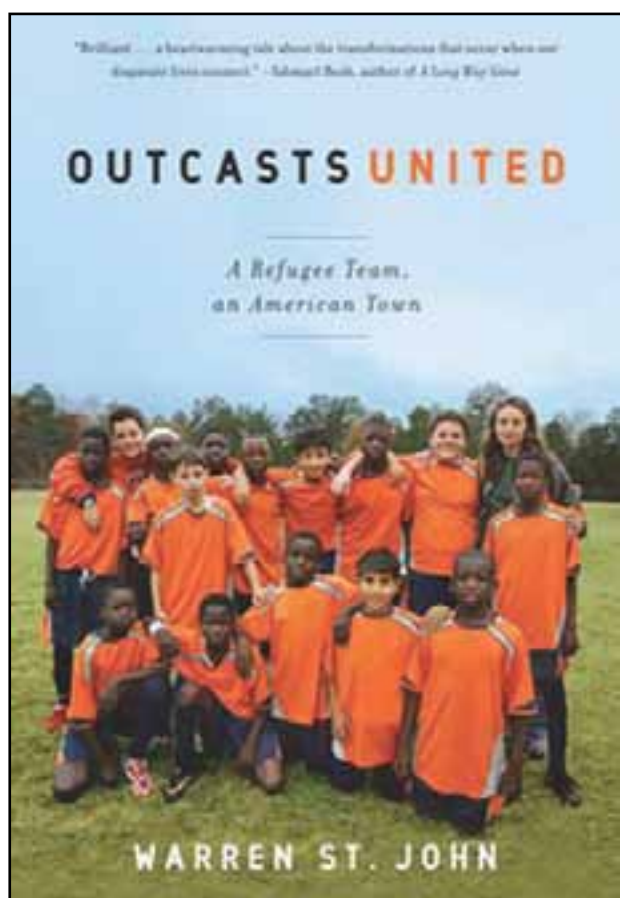
The event was broadcast live via satellite and on the Web with the expertise of staff and students in MTSU's EMC department.

Tennessee's gubernatorial primary will be held Thursday, Aug. 5; the general election is set for Tuesday, Nov. 2.



# 'Outcasts United' is Summer Reading selection

Author St. John will appear at MTSU Aug. 29 for Convocation



From MTSU News and Public Affairs

**I**ncoming freshmen — and the rest of the campus community — will be diving into *Outcasts United* by Warren St. John, the 2010 Summer Reading selection.

The national best-seller chronicles the impromptu social experiment created when a small Southern town became a center for refugee relocation, and one woman attempted to change lives through the sport of soccer.

"It has much to teach us about how to live in an age of globalization when our neighbors may not look like or live like we do," said Dr. Laurie Witherow, director of MTSU's Academic Support Center, which sponsors the annual reading program. "I trust it will resonate with our newest students, who are themselves transitioning into a new community."

MTSU's Summer Reading program, created in 2002, aims to provide a unifying experience for entering freshmen, give them a chance to read and interact with acclaimed authors and affirm the importance of reading for a successful and fulfill-

ing life. Incoming freshmen are expected to read the book before fall classes start on Saturday, Aug. 28, and all University 1010 classes will discuss the selection. Witherow once again encouraged faculty in all disciplines to include the 2010 Summer Reading selection in their syllabi.

"This program's success depends on the involvement of the faculty who make use of the Summer Reading selection in fall classes," she noted. "All new students are required to read the book prior to their arrival on campus in the fall, so *Outcasts United* may be perfect as the basis for an early writing or other assignment."

Faculty members who want to use the book in their classrooms should contact Witherow at 615-898-2339 or [lwithero@mtsu.edu](mailto:lwithero@mtsu.edu) for a review copy. There's also more information on the book at its Web site, [outcastsunited.com](http://outcastsunited.com).

St. John, like previous Summer Reading selection authors, will provide the keynote address at MTSU's University Convocation. This year's event, which formally welcomes freshmen to the MTSU family, is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 29, in Murphy Center.

[mtalumni.com](http://mtalumni.com)

## From GED to Fulbright

Howell's amazing story continues

By Elizabeth Warren

**K**aitlen Howell, who earned dual Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees from MTSU on May 8, has struggled through many hard times in her life but has risen above and out of them to achieve amazing things.

More than a year ago, the foreign-languages and biology double major was approached by the University Honors College to apply to the Fulbright U.S. Scholars Program on MTSU's behalf. The Honors College stood by her through the process, guiding and advising on the best way to apply.

Howell, who entered MTSU with a graduate equivalency degree, now is a Fulbright Scholar. The government-sponsored research program is commissioning a grant for a 10-month stay in Germany beginning in September, where she'll participate in "hands-on clinical experiments and observations of both the heart and brain to test the effects of a common heart defect and to look for a relationship between the heart condition and a certain type of stroke.

Her stay in Germany for the Fulbright will be spent studying and researching the relationship between patent foramen ovale and vasospasm — testing to see if certain chemicals released by a heart defect cause a vasospasm and where blood vessels spasm, leading to vasoconstriction and other neurological effects such as strokes.

All of her research will be conducted at the German hospital Paracelsus Klinik in Zwickau, Saxony, under the supervision of Dr. Jan Warnke. "My role in this research includes a continuous investigation of scientific journals for new relevant publications, organizing and overseeing the project, interviewing patients and functioning as the primary data recorder," Howell said.

Howell has been interested in neuroscience since she began her undergraduate career. She said she's mesmerized by the way the nervous system correlates to every part of the human body.

Howell also is extremely interested in the German language. Though she happened on the language by chance during a summer-school semester, she said she came to love it and every other part of German culture.

Her fluency in the language also has prepared her for research in the country itself, because her linguistic ability will allow Howell to interact with colleagues and patients and to study at a German university.

During six months of her junior year, Howell participated in biological research that further cemented her love for science and the excitement of inquiry.

In summer 2008, she studied in Germany under Warnke and his neuroscience team at the Paracelsus Klinik, an internship that brought together everything she loves: medicine, research and German culture.

"Through these experiences, I have only begun to discover the intricacies of our nervous system," Howell said, "yet increasing my knowledge does not sate my thirst but only serves to whet my appetite for greater understanding."

Outside of studying medicine and German, Howell also helps the community by volunteering with HIV-positive people, offering "nonmedical support and increasing community awareness." She also works as a mentor at the Next Step program, which provides assistance to students who are moving from fos-



Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services

**May 8 graduate and new Fulbright Scholar Kaitlen Howell, right, listens as biology professor Dr. Gore Ervin answers her question in a Davis Science Building lab.**

"These activities are important because I am committed to becoming a physician researcher who exemplifies not only skill but also compassion," Howell said.

The summa cum laude graduate's future plans include applying to medical school for a dual medical- and doctoral-degree program. She specifically wants to be a surgical physician researcher, so most of her time will be spent on patient care and researching surgical procedures.

"Operating on a patient can improve or even save his or her life, but recording the exact details of the procedure and determining what is most successful will help that one patient and affect the lives of many more to come," Howell said.

Howell credits many of the Honors College faculty for her successes, including Dean John Vile and Laura Clippard, a coordinator for the college. She said one MTSU professor, however, stands out as one of her most inspirational and helpful mentors. Dr. Gore Ervin, professor of biology, took time to answer her questions, made sure she knew how to correctly perform tasks and ensured that she would understand the material thoroughly.

"Dr. Ervin is probably, in my opinion, the best professor I have ever had," Howell said.

(Senior journalism major Elizabeth Warren of Jasper, Tenn., wrote this for the Office of News and Public Affairs. She is scheduled to graduate in May 2011.)



# Prince-ly pledge for Centennial Scholarships

**\$100K donation ushers  
in unique, endowed  
funding program for MTSU**



Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services

**Gale ('57) and Jonelle Prince's gift initiates Centennial Scholarships.**

**By Tom Tozer** [ttozer@mtsu.edu](mailto:ttozer@mtsu.edu)

**L**ittle did Gale and Jonelle Prince know when they expressed an interest in giving back to MTSU that their names would be attached to the university's first Centennial Scholarship.

With a pledge of \$100,000, the Gale and Jonelle Prince Centennial Scholarship Endowment foreshadows the university's 100th anniversary and will usher in a long succession of Centennial Scholars who will be able to complete their college education, graduate and become productive citizens.

"Joe Bales asked me if I had hacked into his computer when I first talked to him about doing something," said Gale Prince (B.S. '57). "He pulled out a piece of paper that he had just printed out setting up this Centennial Scholarship program. So I talked to my wife, and we decided to go that route."

"We're absolutely delighted at the Princes' generosity," said Bales, MTSU vice president for Development and University Relations. "Gale is a Distinguished Alumnus winner, and both Gale and Jonelle have been very active on campus and in the community. It's a great opportunity for our alumni and friends who want to do something, and it's a wonderful opportunity for our students. What we envision over the next few years is to establish 100 of these endowed scholarships."

Each \$100,000 endowment will provide a com-

petitive award, renewable for a maximum of five years, while the student pursues his or her degree and remains academically eligible. A unique feature of the award is that recipients may use the funds to pursue an international experience related to their degree programs.

"Being a five-year award, if you stagger them properly, 20 new students can start every year as Centennial Scholars," Bales added. "You'll have 20 students in a cohort — they will be recognized together and almost be a class within a class. The Princes love the university, and for them to do this is extremely exciting and is a testament to their belief in our students and their future."

Gale Prince, a native of Shelbyville, Tenn., earned a degree from MTSU in industrial arts. He received his commission as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served for 21 years. His military duty took him to France, Korea and Vietnam. He retired in 1978 with the rank of lieutenant colonel. Jonelle Prince, originally from Russellville, Ky., worked for Rutherford County for 32 years and retired in 2000 as the county's chief deputy assessor of property. They are active members of First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, the Lions Club and the Discovery Center, among others.

"We're so very proud to be associated with MTSU," Jonelle Prince said. "We think the school is very progressive. I have a granddaughter going here now and had a grandson who went here. ... With nine grandchildren, we feel like this is one

way to help the youth—and, hopefully, our own will be interested in furthering their education."

"I worked every day when I went to school," Gale said, "which was one reason my grades were not that good. We want to see students have the opportunity to be able to study more because they have the scholarship and won't have to go out and work every night."

Students who are selected as Centennial Scholars will represent the upper 10 to 15 percent of their high-school graduating classes and will have achieved a minimum ACT score of 29 or 1,300 on the SAT. Criteria will include academic performance, leadership, athletic or extracurricular activities and recommendations from teachers, faculty and community leaders. An MTSU Centennial Scholar must maintain a 3.5 GPA to continue receiving the award.

"As soon as we have a fully funded endowment, we'll begin making awards," Bales said, "so we're looking at the fall of 2012. We're seeing a lot of people who really understand the importance of education and want to help the next generation of students. This award will truly make a difference."

"Our current economy really brings into focus the importance of a college degree. We are truly indebted to Gale and Jonelle for kicking off what I believe will be an incredible program that will open the doors of higher education to many young people and inspire them to achieve their potential."



Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services

## Renovations continue at Tucker, BDA

Doster Construction Co. of Nashville is performing renovations to the interior and exterior of Boutwell Dramatic Arts Building and Tucker Theatre. The projected completion date is July 15. The construction project is one of the reasons the annual Volunteer Girls State session moved to Nashville this year. The first scheduled event planned for Tucker Theatre is the Fall Faculty Meeting. The Tennessee Board of Regents is scheduled to meet there during the third week in September.



McPhee and Hangzhou’s president, Dr. Ye Gaoxiang, signed a partnership agreement at the institute’s MTSU office in Peck Hall. In addition, Dr. Diane Miller, interim executive vice president and provost, accompanied Gov. Phil Bredesen on a trade mission to China in October 2009, a visit that helped lay the groundwork for the establishment of the Confucius Institute at MTSU.

The pact covers the development of Chinese language classes, student and faculty exchanges, cultural exchanges, outreach programs to area K-12 schools, the training of educators to teach Chinese as a foreign language and research about contemporary China, among other mutual interests.

Among the dignitaries in the visiting delegation were Cui Pengfei, chair of Hangzhou Normal’s university council; Zhao Yingzhen, vice director of the press center; Xu Genqing, director of international cooperation and exchange; Ding Donglan, vice president of Hangzhou Normal University; Jin Bo, director of the Hangzhou Normal University president’s office; and interpreter Guan Nanyi of HNU.

“The grand opening of our Confucius Institute is something that we have all been looking forward to since last fall,” McPhee said. “The official opening of this institute is yet another step toward demonstrating MTSU’s commitment to enhancing the international programs on our campus and developing the kind of academic environment that speaks to our appreciation of other cultures as well as the diversity of our university community.”

The dignitaries were treated to a tour of the campus before a meeting of the Confucius Institute Board of Directors. Later, McPhee, Miller and other local officials dined with the delegation at an invitation-only banquet in the Tom H. Jackson Building’s Cantrell Hall.

The concert included “Spring Outing,” a classic Chinese dance incorporating postures found in sculptural reliefs on bricks of the Han Dynasty; “Mulberry Trees,” an instrumental solo inspired by Li Bai, the most famous poet in Chinese literature; “The Drunken Beauty,” an aria from a renowned Beijing opera; “Spin, Spin and Spin,” a prize-winning folk dance in the tradition of the Xinjiang region; and more.

“After several months of preparation, CIMTSU is now ready to offer services to the community,” says Dr. Guanping Zheng, institute director and associate professor of electronic media communication. “The future for the institute is exciting. Through the work of the institute, I hope to facilitate collaborations for exchange and collaboration between communities in Tennessee and in China. CIMTSU will also help our campus to expand its opportunities in China.”

The Confucius Institute at MTSU is made possible with a five-year, \$500,000 grant from the nonprofit organization of the same name. According to its Web site, *confuciusinstitute.net*, “As of Oct. 2009, 396 Confucius Institutes and classrooms have been established in 87 different countries and regions. Each Confucius Institute takes advantage of its unique character to develop rich and diverse educational and cultural activities.”

For more information about MTSU’s Confucius Institute, contact Zheng at 615-904-8365 or [gzheng@mtsu.edu](mailto:gzheng@mtsu.edu) or Yvonne Elliott in the Confucius Institute office at 615-494-8696 or [elliott@mtsu.edu](mailto:elliott@mtsu.edu).



Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services

(Above) Wang Haiping, center, performs “Tea-Leaf Picking Maidens” with a group of dancers during the presentation of “An Oriental Monsoon” by Hangzhou Normal University faculty members and students in honor of the Confucius Institute grand opening at MTSU.



(Right) Dancers perform “Spring Outing,” a classic Chinese dance incorporating postures from the Han dynasty, during “An Oriental Monsoon.”



Performers Wei Wei, left, Sheng Yang, Hostess Jin Yuan and Wu Xiaofang from “An Oriental Monsoon” pose for a photograph with MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee and First Lady Liz McPhee following the performance in celebration of the opening of the Confucius Institute at MTSU.

## International alumni profile

(Fourth in a series)

**Name:** James Brandon Smedley

**U.S. hometown:** Chattanooga, Tenn.

**International location:** Buthiers, France

**Additional information:** 2000 MTSU graduate with a bachelor’s in music education and minor in Spanish. Met his wife to be, Marie-Hélène Smedley-Louvrier, when she was an (MTSU) exchange student from Besançon. They have a daughter, Norah, nearly 2, and son, Jean, 5. He has been a music teacher in France. This fall, he will be an English as a foreign language teacher at a new school.

**About his experience:** “My entire adult life has been a series of accidents, ironies and flukes. ... I pursued a master’s in Spanish only to move to France. Having taken literature and translation classes as part of the coursework helped me succeed the CAPES (national teaching test). ... Since graduating from MTSU, I went on to start a career, family, expatriate myself, get married, change careers, buy a home and attain a respectable level in a foreign language I had never seen myself speaking, much less teaching in.”



Smedley



# CLASS NOTES

## 1950s

**John A. Bridges** ('55), Nashville, Tenn., retired as vice president from Aladdin Industries, with over 100 U.S. and foreign patents to his credit. He has written four books, the latest a Civil War adventure story called *Three Cousins from Mechanicsville*.

**Roy Crabtree** ('58), Wheatland, Calif., after 51 years of teaching and coaching, is retired and was recently inducted into the Wheatland High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

## 1960s

**M. Thomas (Tom) Collins** ('64), Franklin, Tenn., is the founder and former president of Juris Inc. He is retired from commercial activity and now writes mystery/thrillers. His latest, *Mark Rollins and the Puppeteer*, is now available on *Amazon.com*.

**Jim Gaines** ('69), La Jolla, Calif., is an alumni member of the MTSU Tennessee Beta chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and has been conferred into the fraternity's Nippert Society.

**Gayle Ray** ('67), Brentwood, Tenn., is the commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Correction.

**Kenneth Ross** ('62, '67), College Park, Ga., was inducted into the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame for basketball. The College Park City Council and the Fulton County Board of Education recently issued a proclamation renaming the McClarin High School gym Ken Ross Gymnasium.

**Samuel D. Smith** ('64), Mt. Juliet, Tenn., received a career achievement award from the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology.

## 1970s

**Dr. John N. Trobaugh** ('76), Naples, Fla., has been re-elected as chair of the Department of Anesthesiology at Physicians Regional Medical Center.

**Larry Williams** ('71, '76, '95), Murfreesboro, recently retired from the Federal Aviation Administration after more than 30 years as an aviation safety inspector and formed a consulting group, Larry Williams and Associates, to provide global aviation consulting services.

**Rev. Stephen Wolf** ('78), Nashville, Tenn., is associate pastor at St. Henry Church in Nashville.

## 1980s

**Thomas Carroll** ('83), Huntertown, Ind., is a client development director for Brand Innovation Group.

**Allison Dean Love** ('86), Columbia, S.C., is an external relations consultant for the Institute for Business and Home Safety.

## 1990s

**Jacky Carver Jr.** ('95), Carthage, Tenn., has been appointed by Gov. Phil Bredesen to the Tennessee Medical Examiner Advisory Council. He also serves on the board of the Smith County Help Center and the Advisory Council of the Upper Cumberland Human Resources Agency.

**Jeremy Cowart** ('99), Brentwood, Tenn., launched a global movement last December called Help Portrait, and has recently been listed in *Paste Magazine* as the No. 1 photographer to follow on Twitter.

**Toni Evola** ('94), Lewisburg, Tenn., is a field training officer for the Franklin Police Department and is co-owner of *www.vintagebasement.com*.

**Menzo Faassen** ('99), Burns, Tenn., received his master of science degree in community counseling from Austin Peay State University.

**Dr. Alicia Hardison** ('95), Columbia, Tenn., is a graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine.

## 2000s

1st. Lt. **Timothy E. Butler** ('05), Shelbyville, Tenn., has returned to the U.S. after being deployed overseas at a forward operating base in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the Army National Guard. Butler, a platoon leader, is a member of the 269th Military Police Company based in Murfreesboro.

**Brandon Griffith** ('05), Burbank, Calif., is the sound effects editor for the Oscar-nominated short film *Kavi*.

**Shawn Krise** ('08), Antioch, Tenn., is an art teacher for Christiana Middle School.

**Brian Walsh** ('09), Murfreesboro, is an admissions coordinator for MTSU covering the Middle Tennessee area.

**Howard White** ('06), La Vergne, Tenn., is the founder, developer and CEO of OnixLink.com – The Who, What, Where Guide for the African American Community.

**Holly Wilson Ray** ('05), Murfreesboro, is a fifth-grade teacher at Homer Pittard Campus School and adjunct instructor for MTSU in the Elementary and Special Education Department. She has been selected as the regional winner of the Tennessee Teacher of the Year competition.

**Wes Wooden** ('04), Nashville, Tenn., is a director for International Administration at Broadcast Music Inc. (BMI) in Nashville.

## Baby Raiders

**Jacob Bryan Anderson**, born May 24, 2009, to Bryan and **Lauren Flanders Anderson** ('07) of Antioch, Tenn.

**Olivia Grace Dutton**, born Dec. 28, 2009, to **Jonathan** ('04) and Anna **Dutton** of Chattanooga, Tenn.

**Noah Alexander Haley**, born Jan. 22, 2010, to **Bryan M.** ('02) and **Dwayna A. Haley** ('05) of Atlanta, Ga.

**Braxton Richard Horn**, born March 15, 2010, to **Erik** ('09) and **Casey Horn** ('04) of Murfreesboro.

**Juliana Isaias King**, born Oct. 11, 2009, to Raymond and **Kirsten Stevens King** ('01) of La Vergne, Tenn.

**Violet Abigail McTyre**, born Dec. 16, 2009, to Shawn and **Cheryl H. McTyre** ('94) of Nashville.

## In Memoriam

*MTSU and the Office of Alumni Relations extend deepest sympathy to the families and friends of alumni who have passed away.*

### 1940s

**Yvonne June Wheeler Blankenship** ('48), Nashville, Tenn., passed away Sept. 15, 2009.

**Edward Brown Oliver** ('45), McMinnville, Tenn., passed away Feb. 10, 2010.

**Dr. George W. Welker** ('44), Muncie, Ind., passed away Dec. 4, 2009.

### 1950s

**Ellis Davidson Jr.** ('53), Marietta, Ga., passed away Dec. 4, 2009.

**Thomas Harris Dement** ('56), Murfreesboro, passed away Feb. 3, 2010.

**George Haley Jr.** ('56), Franklin, Tenn., passed away Jan. 8, 2010.

**Betty Bennett Jiles** ('55), Rockwood, Tenn., passed away Feb. 2, 2010.

### 1960s

**Herbert Taylor Jr.** ('66), Fort Worth, Texas, passed away Jan. 16, 2010.

### 1970s

**Timothy William Denny** ('74), Lebanon, Tenn., passed away Oct. 9, 2009.

**Geraldine Faulkenberry** ('73), Murray, Ky., passed away Aug. 2, 2009.

**George L. Lewis** ('70, '71), Birmingham, Ala., passed away July 20, 2009.

### 1980s

**Joseph Natcher** ('86, '87), Nashville, Tenn., passed away Sept. 8, 2009.

### 1990s

**Nora Anniece Barber** ('90), Moss Point, Miss., passed away April 24, 2009.

**Neal Fogg** ('92, '98), Columbia, Tenn., passed away Aug. 2, 2008.

**David Hames** ('92), Colorado Springs, Colo., passed away Jan. 12, 2010.

**Joseph Reynolds** ('93), McMinnville, Tenn., passed away April 30, 2008.

### 2000s

**Alex Dudley Ewing** ('09), Rockvale, Tenn., passed away Feb. 7, 2010.

## MTSU sees passing of Dean McDaniel, Womack, other faculty

**D**r. John N. McDaniel, dean of the College of Liberal Arts since 1984, passed away May 3, at Middle Tennessee Medical Center.

A member of MTSU's faculty since 1970, McDaniel joined the English Department as assistant professor before becoming chair in 1978.

Donations in McDaniel's honor may be made to the John N. McDaniel Teaching Excellence Award in care of Robyn Kilpatrick, MTSU Box 109, 1301 E. Main St., Murfreesboro, Tenn., 37132.

The university also observed the passing of alumnus and longtime faculty member Dr. Bob Womack ('48), 86, on April 17. He was employed by MTSU since July 1957 and was professor in the newly renamed Womack Family Department of Educational Leadership.

Memorial donations may be made to the MTSU Foundation for the Womack Family Endowment. To inquire, call 615-898-2502.

Other faculty who have passed away include:

- Dr. Coy Porter, 87, former professor in the Department of Foreign Languages, who passed away April 12. He was employed at MTSU from September 1964 until his retirement in December 1985. For many years, he served as department chair.

- Dr. Fowler I. Todd, 92, who passed away March 3, was professor emeritus and former chairman of the Department of Management and Marketing. He was employed by the university from September 1965 until his retirement in 1983.

- Professor Horace C. Beasley Jr, 86, passed away Feb. 16. He was employed by MTSU as professor of music from June 1957 until his retirement in May 1989.

- Alumna and assistant professor Nancy J. Fann ('65, '78), 65, passed away July 9, 2009. She was employed by MTSU from August 1978 until her retirement in 2006. She worked in Business Education.



# 'It truly has been an honor to serve' you

As my term as president of your s my term as president of your Alumni Association comes to a close, I want you know it truly has been an honor to serve.

I appreciate the many suggestions and good advice I have received over the last year.

It has been an exciting time to be a proud ambassador of our university. Your support makes our university one of the best in the country.

Our university continues to grow, not only in enrollment but also in stature. Just ask the folks at *Forbes* magazine, who recognized MTSU as one of our nation's best values in higher education.

Your continued support is vital as the university approaches its centennial celebration in 2011.

As we approach our second hundred years, it most certainly would amaze our original alumni to see just how far the university has progressed. MTSU clearly has become a major comprehensive university. At the May commencement, more than 2,100 students received their degrees.

Our incoming alumni president, Beth Barber Jones of Columba, brings fresh and enthusiastic leadership to the National Alumni Association. I know she seeks your advice and input as well. I'm confident she

will do a terrific job promoting our university. If you would like to become more involved with the Alumni Association, please contact the great staff at the Office of Alumni Relations at 615-898-2922 or online at [mtalumni.com](http://mtalumni.com).

We are having several upcoming events (see the list on this page), and I hope you will join us.

Again, it has been an honor to serve you. I look forward to seeing you at one of these great events.



Stubblefield

*Jim Stubblefield*

*MTSU National Alumni Association President Jim Stubblefield received his B.S. in 1983. He has served as an aide to Congressman Bart Gordon for 25 years. He and his wife, Nancy ('88), live in Murfreesboro along with their two daughters, Katherine and Margaret.*



## Toast to scholarships

Lisa Walsh, left, Debbie Simpson ('77), Mary Ann Ray and Shea Miga ('98) share a toast during the Rutherford County Scholarship Luncheon April 21 at Murfreesboro's Bonefish Grill. The luncheon helped raise \$2,500 for the scholarship fund, which will award \$20,000 in scholarships to incoming freshmen from Rutherford County for the 2010-11 academic year. The fund has awarded almost \$60,000 in scholarships the last three years.



## Think Centennial!

Members of various committees making plans for MTSU's Centennial Celebration in 2011-12 are seeking historical items to compile a pictorial history. Photographs, drawings, maps, letters, invitations, invoices, tickets, clippings, newspapers, magazines, annuals, books, etc., are being sought. If you or someone you know has any of these items, contact Jim Williams, director, Gore Research Center, at 615-898-2632, or [jhwillia@mtsu.edu](mailto:jhwillia@mtsu.edu) or Suma Clark in Publications and Graphics at 615-898-2896 or [sclark@mtsu.edu](mailto:sclark@mtsu.edu).

## Class of '10 turns focus to their futures

Candidates for bachelor's degrees stand as they prepare to cross the stage during the morning session of the 2010 Spring Commencement May 8 in Murphy Center. With the facility filled to capacity with family and friends in attendance for both morning and afternoon ceremonies, more than 2,100 degree candidates seized the moment — and await the next phase of their lives, whether it be jobs and careers in their respective fields or attending graduate school. Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett served as guest speaker for this group's graduation. James C. Free, president and CEO of The Smith-Free Group, spoke during the afternoon ceremony.

Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services



## Alumni Events 2010 COME ONE, COME ALL!

**Saturday, June 5**

**MTSU Alumni & Friends Day at the Chattanooga Lookouts**  
201 Power Alley, Chattanooga, Tenn.  
\$10 per person  
(Includes ticket and an all-you-can-eat picnic lunch.)  
Game time is 7:15 EST, and the gates open at 5:30 EST.  
RSVP by June 2.

**Saturday, June 12**

**MTSU Alumni & Friends Day at Nashville Shores**  
4001 Bell Road in Hermitage, Nashville, Tenn.  
\$20 per person  
(Includes admission and all-you-can eat buffet lunch 12 – 1 p.m.)  
RSVP by June 9.

**Saturday, July 10**

**MTSU Alumni & Friends Day at the Memphis Redbirds**  
200 Union Avenue, Memphis, Tenn.  
\$20 per person  
(Includes ticket and an all-you-can-eat buffet picnic dinner.)  
Game time is 6:05, and the gates open at 5:00pm.  
RSVP by July 6.

**Saturday, July 17**

**MTSU Alumni & Friends Day at the Nashville Sounds**  
534 Chestnut Street, Nashville, Tenn.  
\$20 per person  
(Includes ticket and an all-you-can-eat buffet dinner from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Draft beer is available for \$1 throughout the game.)  
RSVP by July 14.

**Saturday, Aug. 28**

**Pigskin Pre-Game**  
Marymont Mansion  
1124 Rucker Lane, Murfreesboro  
\$35 per person  
RSVP by Aug. 23

**Friday, Sept. 10**

**Alumni Legacy Golf Tournament**  
Indian Hills Golf Club  
405 Calumet Trace, Murfreesboro  
\$125 per person, \$500 per 4 person team  
(Includes green and cart fees, lunch and prizes.)  
RSVP by Sept. 1

**Saturday, Oct. 23**

**Homecoming**

*For more information or to RSVP, call the Alumni Relations Office at 800-533-6878 or go to [www.mtalumni.com](http://www.mtalumni.com).*







## Lady Raiders fall in NCAA

The MTSU Lady Raiders and their legion of blue-clad fans (above) traveled to Pittsburgh in March to meet Mississippi State in a first-round NCAA Tournament game. (Left) Coach Rick Insell ('77) and his players watched as MTSU, which led by 15 points at one point and had five players score in double figures, fell to the Southeastern Conference opponent to finish 25-6. For MTSU under Insell, it marks the fourth NCAA appearance in the last five seasons.

Bradley Lambert / Athletic Communications

# Pigskin Pre-Game

## Aug. 28 annual event to raise scholarship money returns to Marymont Mansion

### From staff reports

This year the MTSU Rutherford County Alumni annual Pigskin Pre-Game will be held on Saturday, Aug. 28, to kick off the Blue Raider football season and to raise money for the scholarship fund. The event will be held at Marymont Mansion, 1124 Rucker Lane in Murfreesboro.

Last year, this event raised almost \$12,000 for the Rutherford County Scholarship Fund and also got everyone excited about the football season, which ended with a Blue Raider seven-game win streak and a New Orleans Bowl win.

This year's event will feature live entertainment; food from one of Murfreesboro's finest restaurants, Carrabbas; drinks; conversation and an all-around great night! "Last year the location, atmosphere and conversations were excellent, plus we raised almost \$12,000 for

the Rutherford County Scholarship Fund," said Paul Wydra, assistant director in the Office of Alumni Relations at MTSU.

Tickets for the event, which will run from 6:30-10:30 p.m., will be \$35. You are encouraged to RSVP in advance. The ticket price includes food, drinks, live entertainment, door prizes and more. Parking will be available on-site.

All proceeds from Pigskin Pre-Game will benefit the Rutherford County Alumni Scholarship Fund, which has awarded almost \$60,000 in scholarships in the last three years, including \$21,000 for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year.

For more information about this event or sponsorship opportunities or to reserve your tickets, please call 800-533-6878 or visit [mtalumni.com](http://mtalumni.com). You also can mail payment to the Office of Alumni Relations, MTSU Box 104, Murfreesboro, TN, 37132.

# Kickoff's in the air

## Blue Raiders open at home Sept. 2 vs. Big Ten foe Minnesota

Sept. 2 Minnesota	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 11 Austin Peay	TBA
Sept. 18 at Memphis	TBA
Sept. 25 at Louisiana-Lafayette*	TBA
Oct. 5 Troy (ESPN2)*	TBA
Oct. 16 at Georgia Tech	TBA
Oct. 23 Louisiana-Monroe*(HC)	TBA
Nov. 2 at Arkansas St.*(ESPN2)	TBA
Nov. 13 North Texas*	TBA
Nov. 20 at Western Kentucky*	TBA
Nov. 27 Florida Atlantic*	TBA
Dec. 4 at Florida International* (HC) — Homecoming	TBA

\* — Sun Belt Conference game  
All times, dates subject to change.



Patrick Morrison, left, and Lindsey Wright each earned \$1,000 after being named recipients of the MTSU Alumni Association's Alumni Legacy Scholarships for 2010-11.

# Alumni Legacy honorees

## Wright, Morrison earn \$1K scholarships for 2010-11

### From staff reports

The MTSU Alumni Association is proud to announce the recipients of the newly established Alumni Legacy Scholarship.

The Alumni Legacy Scholarship was created to honor the legacy of an MTSU education and is awarded to children of alumni who are sophomores and above at MTSU.

This year's recipients are Lindsey Wright and Patrick Morrison.

Wright is the daughter of MTSU alumni Brian ('83) and Melisa Lore Wright ('84) of Signal Mountain, Tenn., and is an athletic training major.

Morrison is the son of alumnus Stephen

Morrison ('85) and grandson of the late Helen Calistane Vaughn ('67) of Whitwell, Tenn. He is an international relations major.

Both students will receive a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2010-11 school year. The scholarship is funded by donations raised through the annual Alumni Legacy Golf Classic and private donations from alumni.

The Alumni Legacy Golf Classic will be held on the afternoon of Sept. 10 at Indian Hills Golf Course.

For more information about the Alumni Legacy Scholarship, donating to the scholarship or supporting it through playing or sponsoring the Golf Classic, please visit [mtalumni.com](http://mtalumni.com) or call Michelle Stepp at 615-898-2922.

**ALUMNI Legacy GOLF CLASSIC**

to benefit a newly established scholarship for children of MTSU alumni

September 10 ■ Indian Hills Golf Course

Information and registration info:  
[www.mtalumni.com](http://www.mtalumni.com) or 1-800-533-6878.