



# The Basic Facts

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The Basic Facts, College of Basic and Applied Sciences, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN

## MTSU Dairy Products Judging Teams National Champions!

Congratulations to the MTSU dairy products judging team who came in first place at the National Dairy Products Evaluation Contest in Chicago, IL, October 30. This is an annual contest with 19 universities from across the U.S. and Canada competing. This is an exceptional accomplishment considering this is MTSU's first year to compete. The team was coached by Dr. Charles



White and Mr. Neil Bogart, Randolph Consulting in Birmingham, AL. Assistant coaches were Tim Redd, MTSU Farm Director, and Liz Troup, Manager, milk processing plant. The competition provided an opportunity for students to network with industry personnel for future internships and employment opportunities.

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## CBAS Homecoming Tent a Great Success!

This year's homecoming was a huge success! Saturday, November 4, was a perfect fall day for tailgating and enjoying time to reunite with alumni, catch up with former professors, and chat with current and prospective students. CBAS hosted its first college tent during the tailgating event prior to



the game. We gave away popcorn, stress footballs, shakers, beads, pens and other items provided by our departments. Every half hour a name was drawn for a \$50 gift card to Wal-Mart. We were pleased two recipients were current students. On display at the CBAS tent were several award-winning vehicles from the

Blue Raiders beat Florida Atlantic ETIS department. Thanks to Dr. Ron McBride and Rick Taylor for their help getting the vehicles to our tent, providing the popcorn machine and for staying to pop the popcorn which was a big hit. Just when you didn't think a good day could get better, the



## TLSAMP News

The Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (TLSAMP) is in its fourth year of a five-year phase one project. We have submitted our second phase proposal to NSF for continuing funding. Faculty and staff from Tennessee State University, LeMoyne-Owen College, the University of Tennessee/Knoxville,

Vanderbilt University, the University of Memphis and Middle Tennessee State University collaborate to help minority STEM majors succeed. This week (November 16-17), MTSU is hosting the TLSAMP Research Symposium for 200 students from across the state. Dr. Barbara Knox has done a wonderful job directing TLSAMP since the program began.

She has gone above and beyond the call of duty to help our students. We are all sad that Dr. Knox has accepted a position at Vanderbilt University, but we wish her well in her new position.



## Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame

On Saturday, November 11, 2006, the Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame inducted four aviators. One inductee, Mr. John Ellington, is an MTSU graduate and a member of the CBAS Advisory Council. Mr. Ellington, who retired after 28 years with

Delta Airlines, is now a consultant with World Airways. Also honored at the wonderful ceremony in Sevierville was the National Airplane Technician of the Year, Mr. Joe Hawkins, an



MTSU Aerospace faculty member. It was a great night for MTSU!



### The Science of Success

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## The Basic B.E.S.T. (Boastful Educators Sharing Talents)

All departments are invited to submit items for this column

### Aerospace

**Wayne Dornan** was appointed associate editor for the *Collegiate Aviation Review (CAR)*, a peer-reviewed journal, published by the University Aviation Association.

**Wayne Dornan** was awarded \$91,000 for a Teacher's Education grant from the State of Tennessee for Summer '07 for the Aerospace Teacher's Education Workshop.

**Wayne Dornan** has been appointed to the Implementation Committee by the president of the Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI).

### Agribusiness / Agriscience

Coached by **Dave Whitaker**, MTSU's horse judging team placed first in conformation judging at the All American Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, OH, in late October. Student Burgundy Carl earned high individual honors at the contest. She placed first in oral reasons and also had the highest score in conformation.



The Tennessee Association of Agricultural Agents & Specialists presented ABAS with the 2006 Central Region Friend of Extension Award October 23, due primarily to the Public Service programs in ABAS, including 4-H activities and camps, beef camp and judging contests.

Tractor Supply Company contributed \$9,500 to MTSU for hydrogen research.

### Biology

**Karen Hargrove** was a guest speaker for the Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group's 2006 Conference in Fayette November 3-4. Hargrove shared WaterWorks! successes and lessons learned.

**Kim Cleary Sadler, Cindi Smith-Walters**, Tracy Ring (Elementary Education) and Ms. Marrie Lasater

(Campus School) published a chapter titled "Thinking Outside the Box - No Child Left Inside at Campus School" in a book titled *Exemplary Science in Grades PreK-4: Standards-Based Success Stories*.

**Kim Cleary Sadler** published the feature article for *Green Teacher* magazine titled "Exotic Invasive Species: The Guests that Won't Go Home" for the late summer/early fall issue. In this same issue, she and **Karen Hargrove** collaborated on the publication of two activity lessons on exotic species titled, "A Date With Freddie Kudzu" and "Something's Choking Auntie Elm."

**Kim Cleary Sadler** and **Karen Hargrove** attended the North American Association of Environmental Education Conference (NAAEE) in October in Minneapolis, MN, co-presenting a session about the First TN Environmental Education Summit at MTSU last April and the statewide EE partnership outcomes. **Kim Cleary Sadler** presented a session with Dr. Jean DeSaix (UNC, Chapel Hill) titled "Mentoring Laboratory Graduate Students in Inquiry-Based Methods" October 12 at the National Association of Biology Teachers Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

**Jeffrey Walck** was recently elected to serve as vice chair of the Ecological Section of the Botanical Society of America.

**Jeffrey Walck** and former student Jennifer Thompson published a paper titled "Microhabitat Requirements of the Federally Endangered *Dalea Foliosa* With Recommendations on Establishment of New Populations" in the June 2006 issue of *CASTANEA*.

### Chemistry

**Judith Iriarte-Gross** was the invited representative of the Women

Chemists Committee (WCC) at the Diversity Forum held at the American Southeastern Regional meeting of the American Chemical Society November 2 in Augusta, GA. She also was an invited panelist for "Creating the Right Chemistry for Women in Industry."

**Judith Iriarte-Gross** also presented a poster in the Division of Chemical Education at this meeting titled "GRITS: A Dissemination Project to Encourage Girls Raised in Tennessee Science" with Karen Claud, of Read To Succeed, Rutherford County.

**John DiVincenzo** will have a manuscript titled "Ground Water Tracing Results for Springs in Rutherford County, Tennessee" published in the *Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science* and features co-authors Dr. Albert Ogden from Geosciences and Rebecca James.

**Patricia Patterson** received \$500 for a public service grant titled "Fourth Annual Science Olympiad Fall 06 Coaches Workshop" for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

### Computer Science



The 2006 Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) Mid-Central USA Programming contest was held November 4 with 122 teams competing at nine sites. MTSU student team members went to a site at TTU and finished 3rd out of 19 teams. They finished 21st out of 122 teams in the mid-central region.

**Brenda Parker** and student Ian Mitchell published and presented a paper titled "Effective Methods for Learning: A Study in Visualization" at the Consortium of Computing Sciences in Colleges, Southeast Conference at Lipscomb University in November.

A paper by **Brenda Parker** and student James Edmondson was recently judged "best paper" in the Education of Science and Engineering session at the 4th International Conference on

Education and Information Systems, Technologies and Applications in Orlando, FL, July 20-23.

### Engineering Technology/Industrial Studies

**David Gore** and Ahmad Taheri from TBR co-presented "Six Sigma in Higher Education Settings" at the TBR Inaugural Tennessee Summit on Administrative Computing Technologies at MTSU October 17.

**David Gore** was awarded the 2007 Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning & Technology Award presented by the International Conference on College Teaching and Learning.

### Mathematical Sciences

**Rong Luo** presented "Realizing Degree Sequences With Graphs Having Nowhere-Zero 3-Flows" at the 43rd Midwest Graph Theory Conference November 3-4 at Indiana-Purdue University.

Actuarial student Dipti Natha is one of four recipients of the Southeastern Actuarial Conference Actuarial Scholarships. This is a first-time award to students outside Georgia. Dipti will graduate in May and has received three job offers.

### Military Science

A team of cadets competed in Ranger Challenge, a mentally and physically challenging premier event for ROTC.

Blue Raider cadets finished second in their division and third overall. **Nancy Garner**, executive aide, received the



Commander's Award for Public Service for her outstanding service to the ROTC Department for more than 25