



# The Basic Facts

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

## MTSU Cadets Win *Bold Warrior Challenge* Event

### The Science of Success

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The Blue Raider battalion has done something that hasn't been accomplished since 1999; they took top honors in the Bold Warrior Challenge regional competition at Ft. Knox, KY, out of a field of 44 teams from a five-state area. This first-place finish earned the team a berth in the international Sandhurst Competition to be held April 2012 at West Point, NY.

The Bold Warrior Challenge is a 16 mile course that tests a team's endurance, strength and leadership abilities. Lt. Col. T.K. Kast, chair of MTSU's Department of Military Science commented, "We're extremely proud of our team. They are a reflection of the entire battalion." "It was an outstanding effort by the entire team," added Team Captain Brandon Pearson. "We started training the first week of school, and each member shed tears, blood and sweat just to get there. We were ecstatic when we first heard that we had won."

All eleven cadets are from Tennessee: Murfreesboro—Elliott Ralston,

Brendan Duke and Wesley Smitty; Manchester - Brandon Pearson; from Dyersburg - Chase Morris; Columbia - Elizabeth Dang, William Kemp and Justin McIntosh; Franklin - Kimberly Isham and Austin Blanchard; Clarksville - Kenneth Davie.

An awards presentation was held Nov. 10 at MTSU with Col. Chinn, 7th Brigade commander/cadet commander from Ft. Knox making the presentation to the MTSU Department of Military Science.

### Newly Tenured and Promoted Faculty



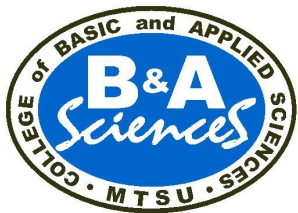
Eight faculty from CBAS were tenured and/or promoted during the promotion

and tenure process last year: Frank Bailey and Andy Brower (BIOL), Scott Handy, (CHEM), Rhonda Hoffman (ABAS), Rong Luo (MATH), and Suk Jai Seo (CSCI) were promoted to professor; Anatoliy Volkov (CHEM) was tenured as an associate professor and Angela Barlow (Math & MSE PH.D. Director) was tenured as a professor. Each was honored with a gift from the university at a reception on November 15, 2011. We are proud of the accomplishments of each!

### Zlotky Receives Prestigious Award



Ms. Gail Zlotky, associate professor in Aerospace, was recognized by the TN Aviation Hall of Fame as the Aviation Person of the Year at a ceremony in Sevierville, TN, Saturday, November 12, 2011. Zlotky was recognized by the Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame for her persistent efforts to improve the training of Dispatch and Air Traffic Control (ATC) students at MTSU. Her efforts (along with Chair, Wayne Dornan) resulted in the installation of the first 360°, wraparound, state-of-the-art, ATC simulator at MTSU. This simulator, built by Computer Science Corporation, is unique in the world and provides amazing hands-on practice for our aviation students. Congratulations to Gail and the Aerospace Department!



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[http://www.mtsu.edu/cbas/basic\\_facts.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/cbas/basic_facts.shtml)

**December 7**  
Last day of classes

**December 8th**  
Study Day - no classes

**December 9-15**  
Final Exams

**December 17**  
Fall Commencement

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

All departments are invited to submit items for this column

### Agribusiness/Agriscience

The MTSU Dairy Products Evaluation Team competed in the National Dairy Products Evaluation Contest held in Chicago, IL on Nov 5. The team placed second in the nation with 3 of the team members placing in the top 10 individual judges. The team consisted of Andy Pack, Lauren Pack, and Sarah Hoover, third high individual; Carrie Major, sixth high individual; and Sarah Davenport, tenth high individual in the nation and was second place judge in cottage cheese. We also placed first team in cottage cheese, second in cheddar cheese, third in milk and yogurt. This student centered activity is a significant event in the lives of the students who participate and often leads to careers in the dairy industry. This contest was attended by 11 universities from across the nation and was sponsored by Kraft Foods Inc.

This event allows the students to network with the major food processing and business industries to establish internships and future employment opportunities. The students gain a valuable insight into the business side of the food industry.

### Biology

**Dr. Jeffrey Walck** published a paper entitled "Seed ecology of *Lindera melissifolia* (Lauraceae) as it relates to rarity of the species" in the Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society with a colleague at the USDA Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research.

### Concrete Industry Management

#### CIM Student Wins International Drawing



Adam Jackson recently won an international drawing hosted by Bekaert Company, a steel fiber company. The company started an online Dramix Club that industry professionals and students can use to help them design steel fiber structures. Everyone who signed up was entered into a drawing to win an iPad2. Adam was the very lucky recipient out of several thousand entries. David Parham with Bekaert drove up from Atlanta on November 15 to present Adam his prize.

### Engineering Technology

Sixteen grad students and three undergraduates in the Six Sigma class are working on projects in industry. Basil Alkadhi and Matt Powers are involved with a project at Rich's Products in Murfreesboro that involves weight variation in food products. Crystal Alfaro, Mohammed Alzubaidi, Amin Amin, Sean Cardell Amber Epperson, Pamela Fitzpatrick-King, Veda Gujjula, Kyle Hunt,

Zeda Li, Brittany Smith, Anthony Stephens, Daryl White, Jason Daniel, Latrice Sharpe, and Joe Tull are involved in several different projects at Nissan, Smyrna -- from Stamping, Body, Paint, Trim and QA areas. Justin Meeks & Mark Young are working on a project at Nissan, Decherd. Projects may run on into spring and even the summer semester, but their experience is invaluable. The overall project coordinator is Veda Gujjula, who is picking up the task after Latrice Sharpe did a great job during her internship setting up the Nissan, Smyrna, projects back in the summer.

Matt Powers, Chase Johnson, Evalee King, John Morgan, and Wesley Benson have successfully revived the student chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers that now has over 20 members. Both Matt and Chase are recipients of the SME scholarships and are working as officers, along with Evalee in this chapter. They are planning tours of B.F. Goodrich and Barrett Firearms among other activities this semester.

**J. Tyler Stokes**, ET graduate student, was recognized by the Nashville chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) at their scholarship awards banquet. Tyler is just finishing his first semester as a grad student and comes to MTSU with a B.S. degree in Biology from the University of Kentucky. He works for Lightwave Solar Electric in sales and design of solar arrays but still has time to work as the team leader of the "Raider Rocket" team that is competing in NASA's University Launch Initiative.

### Mathematical Sciences

**Dr. Michele Chappell** recently participated in a Math Education Delegation to Brazil. While there, Chappell and 14 other delegates from around the U.S. made several professional visits to universities and schools in the cities of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. She presented a talk on, "Films: Cultural Media for Exploring Mathematics" to a group of Brazilian faculty and students at Projeto Fundao of the (Federal) University of Rio de Janeiro.

The Department of Mathematical Sciences hosted the Tennessee Council of College Chairs of Mathematics on November 4-5. TCCCM has met annually for many years to discuss common issues and problems in mathematics education at Tennessee's public universities and community colleges.

**Dr. Dennis Walsh** (Mathematical Sciences) published a new integer sequence, (sequence A199673 that provides the number of ways to form k labeled groups, each with a distinct leader, using n people) in the *On-line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences* on November 8, 2011. The entry includes comment, formula, example, and link to his associated preprint "Assigning people into labeled groups with leaders". The Encyclopedia is available on-line at <http://oeis.org/>.