You can bet that Homecoming 2008 will hit the jackpot the week of Nov. 3-8.

Tying in with the football season slogan of “All In,” the homecoming theme is “Bet on Blue.” Your Alumni Relations office has been working with student groups to stack the deck with events planned throughout the week that will build on the traditions of the past and make memories for the future.

“We want to increase diversity by having more organizations involved in homecoming this year,” explains Clarissa Blackwood, the Student Government Association’s homecoming director. “Our goal is to make this the biggest and best homecoming ever!”

The week starts with the T-Shirt Swap. Alumni can visit the Alumni House between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 3, through Friday, Nov. 7, to trade a shirt from another school for the official 2008 Homecoming shirt.

(See ‘Bet,’ Page 4)

Fulcher finds his niche in New York

By Randy Weiler jweiler@mtsu.edu

Alumnus Paul Fulcher has yet to meet New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, the namesake for the company Fulcher works for in Manhattan.

“Actually, I saw him (Bloomberg) with (California Gov.) Arnold Schwarzenegger, but I never got to meet him,” Fulcher (’07), an analyst for the company since August 2007, said recently.

While Fulcher may not have met Bloomberg the man, he said he thrives in the fast-paced environment of the company and the city that never sleeps.

“It’s nonstop. There’s always something going on,” he said.

(See ‘Fulcher,’ Page 2)

Fun had by all at first Alumni Summer College

By Rhonda Wright rwright@mtsu.edu

A group of 41 alumni and friends from seven states returned to school this summer for the inaugural Alumni Summer College June 25-27.

Designing the program around the theme Exploring Our Heritage, the Office of Alumni Relations was proud to host the 2 1/2-day event, providing the opportunity to relive college days while learning through educational and entertaining classes and tours.

The college began on Wednesday afternoon with a scavenger hunt of historical university facts. Participants bonded quickly as they shared stories and feasted on barbecue under a tent in the backyard of the Alumni House. Former students of Dr. Bob Womack got the chance to visit with him, a special guest for the night. It was clear that Blue Raiders share pride in their alma mater.

Classes began on Thursday.

The inaugural Alumni Summer College field trip was a highlight of the program. The class traveled to Nashville, where they received VIP treatment as they toured the Ryman Auditorium and enjoyed the Grand Ole Opry.

(See ‘Fun,’ Page 8)
MTSU National Alumni Association Board adds 7 new members

From MTSU Alumni Relations

S even MTSU alumni have been chosen to serve on the National Alumni Association Board of Directors. Each new member was selected from written nominations and is asked to serve a three-year term.

“We are very excited about our new members and are anxious for them to use their diverse tal- ents to further advance the Alumni Association,” said Ginger Freeman, director of the Office of Alumni Relations.

The new members, all from Tennessee, include: Ben Belsky (’94), Lascassas; Casey Guinbellott (’06), Nashville; Aubrey Hardison (’00), Murfreesboro; Jonathan L. Hawkins (’93, ’08), Murfreesboro; Brad Newberry (’93), Rockvale; Kelly Rollins (’93), Murfreesboro; and Emily M. Wright (’07), Murfreesboro.

The mission of the National Alumni Association Board of Directors is to develop and foster sound relationships between MTSU and its alumni and to provide a strong force for the advancement and support of the university.

Nominations for the 2009-10 Board of Directors will be accepted beginning in January 2009. Please support your Alumni Association by nominating someone to serve. We look forward to seeing you at an alumni event in your area. Visit mtalumni.com for more details.

U.S.-Sino agreement

The June 22-27 U.S.-Sino Math and Science Workshop at MTSU concluded with the signing of a memorandum of understanding following the closing session and luncheon. Those in attendance included (from left): MTSU First Lady Elizabeth McPhee; MTSU Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Diane Miller; Dr. You Shaozhong, minister councilor at the Peoples Republic of China Embassy in W ashington, D.C.; MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee; President Weng Limin of Northwest Normal University in China; President George Mehaffy of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities; and Dong Huailing, vice president of Northwest Normal University-China. About 125 math and science scholars from 20 China universities and 40 U.S. colleges attended the event. Alumnius Bart Gordon (’71) delivered the opening dinner keynote address.

Fulcher

“I think Manhattan. It’s a fast-paced environment. When anything slows down, I think, ‘What am I supposed to do?’”

While Bloomberg “has a great training program for learn- ing about marketing,” Fulcher said that what sold Bloomberg on him was that, “I have a dif- ferent background. I had come from the South.”

Fulcher, an equity analytics specialist, said he had interned with Smith-Barney and UBS when he was in college.

“Bloomberg had the best fit of all the places I interviewed,” he added. “Bloomberg has a hand in all the major banks and all major sectors of the market. Right out of college, I would be working with so many young people from a lot of different col- leges — Cornell, Colgate, New York University and all across the country — would be great for me.”

He calls it “a great learning experience, entering the corpo- rate world, working with Fortune 500 companies. It’s hands on.”

His top advice for new and future graduates wanting to take a job in New York City: “Have a position before you come. Be ready to work really hard. Be excited and ready to cope with the unexpected. Come with ver- satility.”

Fulcher is pursuing a profes- sional certificate in financial analysis at NYU. In New York, he has attended a number of plays and sporting events. Fulcher graduated cum laude with a major in finance and a minor in accounting at MTSU.

Photo credit: J. Intintoli/MTSU Photographic Services

Hooper, Pettus, Victory are Distinguished Alumni; Burt is Young Alumni

By Randy Weiler jweiler@mtsu.edu

T he MTSU Alumni Association has announced its three Distinguished Alumni and one Young Alumni Achievement Award recipients for 2008-09.

The Distinguished Alumni recipients include:

• Linda Hooper (’63) of Whitwell, Tenn., who is being honored in the Professional Achievement category;

• Timothy E. “Tim” Pettus (’73) of Lawrenceburg, Tenn., who is being recognized in the Service to the Community category;

• Kenneth Wayne “Coon” Victory (’67) of Smyrna, Tenn., who is being saluted in the Service to the University category.

The Young Alumni Achievement honoree is:

• Micheal J. Burt (’98, ’02) of Murfreesboro.

The MTSU Alumni Association annually seeks and accepts nominations for the Distinguished Alumni and Young Alumni Achievement Awards.

The selection is made from candidates who have distinguished themselves by obtaining a high level of service to their profession, their community and/or MTSU.

For more than 30 years, Hooper has been a public school educator, most recently as principal at Whitwell Middle School. In 2007, she was the recipient of the Joseph Prize for service to humani- ty for the Paper Chips Project.

Pettus serves as president of First Farmers and Merchants Bank and Corporation in Columbia, Tenn., and head of Pettus- McLain Trucking Co. Inc. He has volunteered for many local organi- zations and he has been an ardent MTSU sup- porter.

Victory is the former president and CEO of Crosslin Supply Co. Inc. where he worked for 45 years before retiring, and he has been involved in many local, state and national organi- zations. He has many ties to MTSU’s athletic and alumni efforts.

Burt recently left a successful career coaching girls’ basketball to found his own company, Maximum Success. He has become an author, a sought-after speaker and consultant, teacher/professor, facilitator and continual learner.

Photo credit: Randy Weiler/MTSU Photographic Services
Alums, friends make splash at Nashville Shores

Alumni and friends from across Middle Tennessee enjoyed a sun- and fun-filled day at Nashville Shores. Fang Yang ('05) of Murfreesboro and family check in at the MTSU alumni registration table.

MTSU Alumni Relations photos

Alumni Relations autumn events

September
5 Homecoming Kickoff
6 Alumni Tailgate in Walnut Grove
6 The Ultimate Blue Raider Tailgater Contest
30 Alumni Legacy Golf Classic
30 Alumni Tailgate in Walnut Grove

October
3-11 Alumni Travel presents Ireland

MTSU supporter Debbie Kennedy of Hermitage, Tenn., poses with her family and friends before cooling off in the park and reconnecting with other MTSU alumni.

MTSU Alumni Relations photos

MTSU support.

Alumni Relations autumn events

September
5 First Friday Star Party**
7 Dina Cancryn faculty voice recital*
8-26 Alumni 2008 art exhibit*****
19 MTSU Chamber Winds/Wind Ensemble*
22 Jamey Simmons faculty jazz recital*
26 MTSU Concert Chorale and Middle Tennessee Choral Society — Carmina Burana*
28 MTSU Concert Chorale and Middle Tennessee Choral Society — Carmina Burana*
29 Todd Waldecker faculty clarinet recital*

October
2 MTSU Women’s Chorale*
3 First Friday Star Party**
6 Stones River Chamber Players*
9 MTSU Symphonic Band/Wind Ensemble*
18 Lynn Rice-See faculty piano recital*
19 MTSU Symphony Orchestra*
22-25 Scandalous the Musical***
23 MTSU Choral Concert*

Alumni 2008 art exhibit: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays on first floor of Tood Building. Closed Sept. 1 for Labor Day. For more information, call 615-898-5653.

Glenda Guion’s (’85) “Sepulcher” will be part of the Sept. 8-26 Alumni 2008 art exhibit.

Campus-related autumn events

September
5 First Friday Star Party**
7 Dina Cancryn faculty voice recital*
8-26 Alumni 2008 art exhibit*****
19 MTSU Chamber Winds/Wind Ensemble*
22 Jamey Simmons faculty jazz recital*
26 MTSU Concert Chorale and Middle Tennessee Choral Society — Carmina Burana*
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18 Lynn Rice-See faculty piano recital*
19 MTSU Symphony Orchestra*
22-25 Scandalous the Musical***
23 MTSU Choral Concert*

November
1 The Friends of Music present An Evening of Swing****
1 MTSU Opera — Sweeney Todd*
7 First Friday Star Party**
10 MTSU Jazz Ensemble I*
12 MTSU Percussion Ensemble*
13 MTSU Jazz Artist Series*
13-15 Fall Dance Concert***
17 MTSU Jazz Ensemble II*
19 Leo Erice faculty piano recital*
20 MTSU Wind Ensemble*
23 MTSU Symphony Orchestra*
30 Messiah*
30 ‘Twas the Brass Before Christmas*

Jeffrey Reid (’81) of Atlanta, Ga., was executive producer for “Black in America,” a two-part documentary that aired earlier in July on CNN. The programs examine how blacks have fared since Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination in 1968.

Dr. Tim Webb (’96), right, of Spring Hill, Tenn., was named Tennessee Department of Education commissioner July 24 by Gov. Phil Bredesen. Webb had served as acting commissioner after the retirement of Luna Sowers (’72).

John Hood (’54, ’74), left, of Murfreesboro joined the new MTSU Office of Community Engagement and Support in a part-time role Aug. 1. He served six terms in the Tennessee House of Representatives.

Tonya (’02) and Josh Graham (’03) and future Blue Raider Landon, of Portland, Tenn., stop for a picture before enjoying the day at Nashville Shores. Alumni and friends received discounted ticket prices and a picnic lunch.

For complete details about upcoming alumni events, go to mtalumni.com.

* For more information go to http://frank.mtsu.edu/~music/calendar.html or call 615-898-2493.
** For more information go to http://frank.mtsu.edu/~physics/Star%20Party.htm.
*** For more information go to http://libarts.web.mtsu.edu/upcoming_events.htm#Badger.
**** For more information go to http://frank.mtsu.edu/~music/calendar.html or call 615-898-2493.
***** Alumni 2008 art exhibit: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays on first floor of Tood Building. Closed Sept. 1 for Labor Day. For more information, call 615-898-5653.
All shirts collected will be donated to a charity.

On Friday evening, graduates of the Class of 1958 are invited to attend the Golden Raider Induction Ceremony and Dinner at the Tom H. Jackson Building.

All alumni and friends are invited to the Chili Cook-Off at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, on the Murphy Center lawn, where chili will be served and judged. Participants either can enter a recipe or enjoy the food. Afterward, everyone can head to Murphy Center and watch student groups battle it out at the National Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show at 7:30 p.m.

The Office of Alumni Relations invites you to watch the Homecoming Parade at Mixer on Middle at The MTSU Alumni House, where a complimentary breakfast will be served starting at 9 a.m. Saturday. This party is open to all alumni, friends and fans, and has the best view of the parade on campus. Beverage bands may be purchased on the lawn for $10.

Announcing the parade this year will be Chip Walters (‘85), Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration’s director of public and media relations, and Nick Paranjape (‘91), Fox 17’s morning anchor.

Baby Raiders are always a highlight of the Homecoming Parade. We encourage Baby Raiders (and their parents or guardians) to participate by meeting at Mixer on Middle and walking in the parade. After the parade, head to Walnut Grove to tailgate. Tent City is a natural gathering place where you can get the latest news from your college and see old friends and professors. The Colleges of Graduate Studies, Honors, Basic and Applied Sciences, Business and Liberal Arts invite you to their tents starting at noon.

The 2008 Jennings A. Jones College of Business Reunion will be at Tent City. Be sure to stop by the Alumni tent in Walnut Grove where you can get MT tattoos, beads, shakers, and buttons to show your Blue Raider pride.

Cheer on your Blue Raiders as they take on the Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks in the homecoming game. Kickoff is at 2:30 p.m. at Floyd Stadium.

Tickets can be purchased through the Office of Alumni Relations for a discounted alumni general admission (end zone) rate of $8 per ticket. Call our office at 800-533-MTSU to buy your discounted tickets.

There are many other activities offered during Homecoming Week. For a more detailed schedule, please refer to the 2008 Homecoming Calendar in this issue of The Alumni Record, visit mtalumni.com or call 800-533-MTSU (6878).

We can’t wait to see you.

President Sidney A. McPhee, right, waves to the crowd during the 2007 Homecoming Parade. Alumna Seneca McPhee (’07) enjoys riding in the event with her father.

The Baby Raiders portion of the Homecoming Parade is a favorite for those walking and those watching.

Baby Raiders

The Baby Raiders portion of the Homecoming Parade is a favorite for those walking and those watching.
Friday, Sept. 5
Homecoming Kickoff
7 p.m., Alumni House
Homecoming groups and regulations are given to stu-
dents. Funding is by The Campaign and a movie under the stars. Free food and fun, and open to students and university faculty and their families.

Thursday, Oct. 23
Fight Song Competition
7 p.m., Murphy Center
Join in the fun as student organizations compete against one another to sing their way to homecoming victory.

Week of Nov. 3-7
Trade in your team shirts at the T-Shirt Swap. Visit The Alumni House all week to exchange a T-shirt from another college to receive a free Homecoming 2008 T-shirt, available in sizes for adults and children, while supplies last. An annual event sponsored by the MTSU National Alumni Association and Student Government Association, the T-Shirt Swap promotes Blue Raider pride while helping those in need. All collected T-shirts will be distributed to families in need. For more information, contact the SGA at 615-898-2464. (Available during Office of Alumni Relations business hours, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.)

Friday, Nov. 7
Concrete Industry Management Alumni Sket Shoot and Reception
2 p.m., Big Springs Sports
The CIM program invites alumni to gather for a clay shoot that will support the program. There will be refreshments and prizes at the competition, with a reception to follow. Invitations will be sent via e-mail to those who have registered at mtsu.edu/crete. If you are not registered and you want an invitation, e-mail Sally Bradford (bradfordmtsu@mtsu.edu) or call at 615-494-7658.

Record Your MTSU Memories
Friday, Nov. 7, 4 p.m. and Saturday 9 p.m.
WMOT Jazz 89.5 Studio, McWhorter Learning Resources Center
MTSU’s National Public Radio member station, Jazz 89.5 FM, will be recording campus memories during the homecoming weekend. Record your fondest memories of your days on campus, or interview others about their history at MTSU. Each participant will receive a CD of the interview. All interviews will be archived at the radio station, and excerpts may be aired during future Blue Raider sports broadcasts on WMOT. Recording times are limited, and excerpts may be aired during future Blue Raider sports broadcasts on WMOT. Recording times are limited, and excerpts may be aired during future Blue Raider sports broadcasts on WMOT. For more information, visit mtsu.edu/cre. Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 615-898-2551. (Adopted August 2008)

Golden Raider Reunion
4:30 p.m., Tom H. Jackson Building
Highlights of the Class of 1958, Golden Raider registration begins at 4:30 p.m. followed by a campus tour and the 2008 Golden Raider Induction Ceremony Dinner. Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 615-898-3678 (8878) for more information.

College of Basic and Applied Sciences Alumni and Patron Homecoming Gala
6 p.m., The Courtyard
Reception, semiformal dinner, program and dancing. Proceeds in excess of the event will benefit College of Basic and Applied Sciences student scholarships. Registration and homecoming weekend package information can be found at http://courten.yarb.mtsu.edu/ CBA5, JCGal8.htm.

Chili Cook-Off
7 p.m., Ruby Center Lawn
Blue Raider fans are asked to participate in the challenge by entering or judging this classic football season competition. The competition includes three different divisions: restaurants, student groups and alumni. To register or for more information, contact Clara Blackwood (blackwood17517@mtsu.edu).

NHPC Step Show
7:30 p.m., Murphy Center
Tickets available. Call Greek Life Office, 615-898-5812.

MTSU Alumni Band Concert
7:30 p.m., location TBA
Former members of university bands are welcome to join the Tennessee Valley Winds, a Murfreesboro community band, on stage to perform a “throughout the years” con-
cert. The concert is free and open to all. For more information, visit mtsalumni.com or call 800-533-MTSU.

Saturday, Nov. 8
Mixer on Middle Parade-Watching Party
MTSU Alumni House, 801 Franklin Street
Join us as we watch the 2008 Homecoming Parade from the best spot on campus. The lawn of the Alumni House will be filled with MTSU alumni and friends as we gather for an event that is uniquely MT. This year’s party will feature Chip Williams (’85), the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration’s director of public and media rela-
tions, and Nick Paranjape (’91), Fox 17’s morning anchor, as parade announcers. Breakfast, free beverage and snacks may be purchased on the lawn for $10. For more informa-
tion, call 800-533-MTSU or visit mtsalumni.com.

Annual Homecoming Parade
10 a.m.
The annual homecoming parade begins on Mane Avenue, following Main Street and Middle Tennessee Boulevard to Greenland Drive. Baby Raiders are encour-
ged to participate in the parade. For more information, visit mtsalumni.com or call 800-533-MTSU.

MTSU Rugby Old Boys Game
11 a.m., MTSU Sport Club Complex, 2111 E. Main St.
Enjoy MTSU rugby at its best when alumni return to the MTSU Rugby Old Boys Game. Visit mtsurugby.com for more information.

Varsity Club Reception
7 p.m., Murphy Center
MTSU’s National Public Radio member station, Jazz 89.5 FM, will be recording campus memories during the homecoming weekend. Record your fondest memories of your days on campus, or interview others about their history at MTSU. Each participant will receive a CD of the interview. All interviews will be archived at the radio station, and excerpts may be aired during future Blue Raider sports broadcasts on WMOT. Recording times are limited, and excerpts may be aired during future Blue Raider sports broadcasts on WMOT. For more information, visit mtsu.edu/crete. Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 615-898-2551. (Adopted August 2008)

Alumni Band Day
All alumni band members are invited back to campus to participate in the Homecoming Parade and perform hits with the Band of Blue. For more information, visit mtsalumni.com or call 800-533-MTSU.

Tent City
Noon, Walnut Grove
Visit Tent City to see old friends and professors, take part in children’s activities, and learn the latest MTSU news. Contact the Office of Alumni Relations for more information. Contact Jim Simpson at jsimpson8@mtsu.edu for details.

Alumni Band Concert
7:30 p.m., location TBA
Former members of university bands are welcome to join the Tennessee Valley Winds, a Murfreesboro community band, on stage to perform a “throughout the years” con-
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1980s

Dr. Ralph Sheppard (51), Scottsboro, Ala., has retired from his dental practice after 43 years.

1990s

Terry Bailey (62, 63), Culloka, Tenn., has been inducted into the Washington County (Pa.) Sports Hall of Fame.

Jim Greaves (69, 69), La Calah, is a tutor for Reality Changers Hispanic at Risk in San Diego, Calif.

Robert Green (69), Cocoa, Fla., is the chief financial officer for Kennedy Space Center Federal Credit Union on Merritt Island.

Ken Ross (62, 67), College Park, Ga., was inducted into the Collegiate Athletes Hall of Fame on June 7, 2008.

1990s

Kathleen Ferris (74, 80), Murfreesboro, was named Daily News Journal Person of the Year for 2008.

Bruce Higdon (72), Murfreesboro, is one of nine cartoonists selected by the USA and the National Cartoonists Society to visit with and entertain wounded soldiers and their families at various medical facilities across the nation.

Patrick Hundley (75), Edwardsville, Ill., is vice chairman for University Relations at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Rev. Portia Willis Lee (78), Mableton, Ga., has published her sermon “Over-shadowed by the Power of God” in "Those Preaching Women. A Multicultural Collection.”

Teresa A. McCollum (78), Maryville, Tenn., is on staff for Congressman John J. J. Duncan Jr.

Dr. Michael McDonald (79), Superior, Wis., is the assistant to the chairman for affirmative action at the University of Wisconsin-Superior.

Chuck Sellers (79), Nashville, Tenn., is a project manager for Commercial Industrial Construction.

Judy Suiter (75), Tyroe, Ga., has published "The Sea of Change” and is founder and CEO of Competitive Edge Inc. in Peachtree City, Ga.

1990s

Lesa Bonner (80*), Plantation, Fla., is the head softball coach for Nova Southeastern University.

Elvis N. Brandon (86), Old Hickory, Tenn., is dean of Allied Health at Volunteer State Community College.

Betty Brock (80), Nashville, Tenn., is a deputy and DARE officer for the Rhea County Sheriff’s Department.

Sandra Dawn Jones (82), Murfreesboro, is celebrating her 10th anniversary as owner of Jones Media.

Yasin T. Kanaketh (83*), 92, Murfreesboro, is general manager of TIT Express.

Holly Lenz Kleeman (87, 95), Philadelphia, Pa., is the president and chief executive officer of The Center For Emerging Visual Artists in Philadelphia.

Brian Knox (75), Sussex, Wis., received two Paragon Awards from the South Dakota-Wisconsin Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America for exemplary work.

Dian Luffman (90), Nashville, Tenn., is the director of marketing for the health care technology company changehealth-care.

Kevin Pott (97), Franklin, Tenn., has joined the Wells Fargo NCD company commercial banking team in Nashville.

Richard Ramko (98), Natick, Mass., is a partner with Healthcare and Young.

Donna J. Schmidt (83), Nashville, Tenn., is in the children’s ministry of the People’s Church.

Carol A. Sherrill (96), Murfreesboro, is an operating manager for First Tennessee Bank.

Sandra Small (81), Portland, Tenn., is a special education teacher for Robertson County Schools.

Patty St. Clair (88), Nashville, is the communications director for the Epiphany Foundation of Middle and West Tennessee.

Becky Tribble (84, 99), Madison, Ala., is a tutor.

Ray A. White (82), Greeneville, Tenn., is an adjunct professor in psychology and counselor with Walters State Community College. He also maintains a private practice, White and Associates.

Jennifer Wilson (98), Sterling, Va., is a project manager for Learning Tree.

Maureen Witsman (97), Eagleville, Tenn., is owner of Wilderness Foxes, wildernessfoxes.com.

Judy Barnett (92), Brownsburg, Ind., is owner of Barnett’s Legal Nurse Consulting.

Thomas Ragg (95), Yokosuka, Japan, is a U.S. Defense Department Defense attache attached to Commander of Fleet Activities Yokosuka.

Michael Burt (98, 92), Murfreesboro, is CEO/founder of Maximum Success.

Joseph B. Cross (92), Columbia, S.C., is a photographer for The Renaissance Center.

Tricia C. Davis-Madden ’95, ’93, Chesapeake, Va., is a school psychologist for the Portsmouth Public Schools.

Daniel Lyn Graves II (91), Smyrna, Tenn., is a head coach at Siegel High School.

Rafael Eledge (94), Savannah, Tenn., owns and operates SkiShelbokhills.com.

Wendell Ellis (95), Mount Juliet, Tenn., is the global director of career development at Willis Towers Watson.

Lance Evans (96), Mansfield, Texas, recently returned from Iraq, where he served as a translator and was awarded numerous medals of honor. He has volunteered to return to Afghanistan in November with the 3rd Battalion, 36th Infantry Division, where he will be serving a 12-month tour of duty.

Gena J. Gilliland (96), Nashville, Tenn., is a transportation planner for the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Kathi A. Greeson (80), Nashville, Tenn., is a research assistant for the Sexual Assault Center.

Ryan C. Blazer (96), Los Angeles, Calif., is a program assistant for the University of Tennessee Extension.

Shelby Barnes (86), Lebanon, Tenn., is an extension agent for the UT Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Mary Ann Brown (03), Nashville, Tenn., works for Lifeway Christian Store and is a self-employed audio engineer.

Dwayne A. Haley (05), Los Angeles, Calif., is a public relations account executive for Bob Gold and Associates.

Bethany C. Hall (67), Murfreesboro, is a certified accountant for Rutherford County Cares.

Nick Harris (100), Spring Hill, Tenn., has opened a law office, Nick Harris, PLLC, in Spring Hill.

Blake Heath (15), Los Angeles, Calif., and his band Metro Station’s graduate musical theatre writing program, and his play “Underwear,” has been selected for presentation at the New York International Fringe Festival.

Emily Humphries (07), Nashville, Tenn., is the owner and operator of Simply Yours Weddings, and Event.

Gretchen Jenkins (18), Auster, N.Y., is a student at New York Law School.

Derrick Johnson (05), Pickerington, Ohio, is a sales manager for Permobil.

Rebecca Johnson (06), Pickerington, Ohio, is an account representative for Benchmark Bank.

Tim Ketavongsa (04), Deerfield Beach, Fla., is a plant manager for Continental Florida Materials.

Dr. Richard Dickerson (96), Cordova, Tenn., is a registered nurse for The Church Health Center.

Dr. Angela Dickerson (92), Franklin, Tenn., is president of Axis Accounting Systems.

Nathan M. Lux (12), Murfreesboro, is a marketing communications specialist for the Tennessee Film, Entertainment and Music Commission.

Angela Mackie (06), Lebanon, Tenn., is a business analyst for Bridgeport Americas Holding, Inc.

Melanie Spence (95), Nashville, Tenn., is managing editor for Planned Parenthood of Middle and Eastern Tennessee.

T. Andrews S. DELBELL (07), Friendswood, Texas, is the IT director for Dynamic Orthonetics and Prosthetics.

Regina Danielevicz (77), Murfreesboro, is a processing specialist for Altair Data Resources.

Joshua Dauphin (86), Nashville, Tenn., is a senior staff attorney for Planned Parenthood of Middle and East Tennessee.

September 2008

CLASS NOTES

Jason Cox (05), Keizer, Ore., won two first-place journalism awards from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association and the Oregon/Southwest Washington Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

Regina Danielevicz (77), Murfreesboro, is a processing specialist for Altair Data Resources.

Joshua Dauphin (86), Nashville, Tenn., is a senior staff attorney for Planned Parenthood of Middle and East Tennessee.

T. Andrews S. DELBELL (07), Friendswood, Texas, is the IT director for Dynamic Orthonetics and Prosthetics.

Sara Gabbard (78), Murfreesboro, is a communications associate for Union Sportmans’ Alliance.

Danielle Gauthier (06), Nashville, Tenn., is an account representative for Vanderbilt University.

Timothy Grace (07), La Vergne, Tenn., is an account representative for ServiceSource.

Brandon Govin (88), New York, New York, is a graduate student at New York University.

Dave Goss (87), Nashville, Tenn., is on tour with Starbucks Coffee and can be seen around the country at local Starbucks Coffee houses. For a complete list of tour stops, go to davegoss.com/starbucks.html.

LaTanya Wynne (99), Murfreesboro, is a claim processor for State Farm Insurance.

Darnell Levine Anderson (95), Nashville, Tenn., is on tour with Starbucks Coffee and can be seen around the country at local Starbucks Coffee houses. For a complete list of tour stops, go to davegoss.com/starbucks.html.

Lauren G. Anderson (03), Nashville, Tenn., is an engineering assistant for Hickory Hardware.

Caryn Bailey (03), Antioch, Tenn., is an agent/owner of Bailey Insurance Agency.

Sarah R. Baker (96), Dickson, Tenn., is a program assistant for the University of Tennessee Extension.

Shelby Barnes (86), Lebanon, Tenn., is an extension agent for the UT Extension Service in Wilson County.

Justina Riba (94), Nashville, Tenn., is a clinical projects manager for the Sexual Assault Center.

Ryan C. Blazer (04), Los Angeles, Calif., is music central for the William Morris Agency.

Mandy Lee Bratten (03), Murfreesboro, is an enrolled actuary and an associate of the Society of Actuaries.

Lauria K. Brown (96), Murfreesboro, is a geometry teacher for Wilson County Schools.

Mary Anna Brown (03), Nashville, Tenn., works for Lifeway Christian Store in their local store marketing department.

Jason Cain (03), Austin, Texas, has completed his master of arts degree at Texas State University.

Travis Camp (05), Mobile, Ala., is working on a master’s degree in speech language pathology at the University of South Alabama.

Keith Ryan Cartwright (11), Nashville, Tenn., is a senior writer covering the top 45 bull riders in the world.

James R. Cash II (07), Murfreesboro, is an auctioneer for the Murfreesboro Auction.

Kris Cianci (10), Smyrna, Tenn., specializes in state and local government, specifically child welfare for North Highland Company.

Michael Cook (94), Liberty, Va., earned his specialized education degree from Liberty University.
Educating generations of students

New alumni association president: ‘Our purpose is to represent and serve you’

I am honored to have the privilege to serve as your MTSU National Alumni Association president.

Middle Tennessee State University has been an important part of my family’s life for three generations. The beginning of our family support for this facility began with my great-grandfather driving my grandmother from Eagleville to Murfreesboro in a horse and buggy to attend Middle Tennessee State Teachers College. This university has educated past generations and continues to educate present members of the Crosslin/Victory families. My parents always have encouraged our family members to follow their example and be passionate in their support of MTSU.

I encourage you to visit our ever-changing campus. We welcome input and provide many ways for you to become involved in your university. Our purpose is to represent and serve you. Please contact the Office of Alumni Relations to give us your updated information so we can stay in contact with you.

With your help and support, we will have a productive year for the association and for our university. You can come home. MTSU welcomes you home with open arms. I challenge you to make this the year to reconnect with your alma mater.

Mary Esther Reed
2008-09 MTSU National Alumni Association President
Mary Esther Reed is a 1992 graduate living in Smyrna, Tenn., with her husband, Brett (‘95, ‘00), and son, Parker. She has been the owner of The Learning Circle in Murfreesboro since 2002.

Baby Raiders


Peyton Brooke Barabick, born Dec. 28, 2007, to Becky Keltner (‘96) and Steve Barabick of Brentwood, Tenn.

McKyla Cari Boggs, born Dec. 17, 2007, to Monica (‘94) and Michael Boggs of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Avery Broton, born Dec. 27, 2007, to Audrey Chamberlain (‘96) of Burns, Tenn.


Alexis Isabella Cipriano, born April 21, 2008, to Lisa and John Cipriano (‘90) of Irving, Texas.

Grant Cline, born Sept. 13, 2007, to Jessica Cline (‘05) of Murfreesboro.

Danny Clay Cole, born Nov. 28, 2007, to Whitney L. (‘05) and Brett Cole (‘05) of Columbia, Tenn.


Allison Blair Croas, born June 3, 2008, to Kristi (‘94) and Matt Croas (‘92) of Murfreesboro.

Abby Claire Crider, born Feb. 29, 2008, to Adam Crider (‘00) of Medina, Tenn.

Kaden Stone Del Valle, born April 30, 2008, to Jaime (‘03) and Dustin Del Valle (‘02) of Orlando, Fla.

Jamie Renee Fussell, born Oct. 10, 2007, to Teresa (‘93) and Brent Fussell of Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Ava Katherine Goggin, born June 3, 2008, to Jennifer (‘96) and Christopher Goggin (‘96) of Hendersonville, Tenn.

Karmen Louise Harris, born June 1, 2008, to Kelly (‘03) and Jim Harris (‘03) of Bristol, Va.

Lauren Elizabeth Harris, born May 1, 2008, to Dana (‘20) and Nick Harris (‘20) of Spring Hill, Tenn.

Maggie Elizabeth and Connor Andrew Hayes, born Aug. 22, 2007, to Tommie Marie and Bo Hayes (‘10, ‘05) of Ohio, Ohio.

Georgia Katherine Hazelwood, born May 11, 2008, to Amy and Brian Hazelwood (‘96) of Columbus, Tenn.

Elly Caroline Huckebey, born Aug. 24, 2007, to Melissa D. (‘95) and Phillip Huckebey of Robbins, Tenn.

Will Julian Jenkins, born April 10, 2008, to Alyssa (‘99, ‘12) and Brad Jenkins of Murfreesboro.

Aaron Todd Keller, born Feb. 24, 2008, to Katrina (‘07) and Von Keller of Murfreesboro.

Scottlyn Elizabeth Kemp, born March 10, 2008, to Amy and Jon Kemp (‘99) of Gallatin, Tenn.

Lawson Ray Lee, born May 12, 2008, to Tiffany (‘05, ‘07) and Brannon Lee of Murfreesboro.

Solomon Nicholas Kolalaci, born May 1, 2008, to Christi (‘03) and Nathan Lux (‘02) of Murfreesboro.

Abby Claire McClain, born Jan. 7, 2008, to Carrie (‘99) and Allen McClain of Winchester, Tenn.

Micah Marvell McCollough Jr., born March 28, 2008, to Crystal (‘05) and Micah McCollough of Newman, Ga.

In Memoriam

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

1930s

Paschal C. Shelton Sr. (31), Christiana, Tenn., died May 12, 2008.

1950s


Billie Jo Sloan (‘57), Huntsville, Ala., died June 7, 2008.


1960s

Eddie Haggard (‘60), Burlington, N.C., died March 30, 2008.

1970s

William Gray (‘76), Marble Hill, Tenn., died March 2, 2008.

Mary McKenzie (‘74), Columbus, Ga., died April 16, 2008.

Perry James Palmer (‘81), Hisston, Tenn., died May 9, 2008.

2000s

Lisa Anne Smith (‘02), Eagleville, Tenn., died March 19, 2008.

Class

Andrea Miller (‘95), Harlem, Ga., is a human resources generalist for Doctor’s Hospital of Augusta.

Susan Miller (‘83), West Columbia, Texas, is the site manager for the Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site.

Kristin M. Mindre (‘07), Hermitage, Tenn., is a promotions coordinator for WTXA Mix 92.9.

Jaclyn Ohman (‘06), Sarasota, Fl., is a certifying agent for the Florida Green Building Coalition.

Michael Peters (‘03), Silver Spring, Md., is the vice president of technology for Pfiester’s.

Jenny E. Reid (‘06), Shelbyville, Tenn., is a teacher at Thomas Intermediate School.

Marko Ribbins (‘05), Antioch, Tenn., is a graduate student at Strayer University studying for a degree in health services administration.

Amanda Saad (‘02), Nashville, Tenn., is a senior public relations manager for the Tennessee Performing Arts Center.

Jennifer E. Segel (‘06), Acworth, Ga., is a teacher for the Cobb County School District.

Jennifer Powers Smith (‘01), Murfreesboro, is a registered dietitian for the Rutherford County Health Department.

Amanda Stad (‘00), Etiw, Pa., is a public relations officer and editor for Cannon University.

Jennifer Sturgeon (‘05), Nashville, Tenn., is a Lean Six Sigma Blackbelt for Cardinal Health.

Stephen Thal’s (‘03), Round Lake, Ill., is a clinical nurse manager for General Surgery.

Lisa M.E. Tintal (‘02), Olympia, Wash., is technical support for Idaho Advanced Pest Technologies.

Shannan R. Tittle (‘05), Lebanon, Tenn., is a teacher at McClain Christian Academy.

Richard Trew (‘01), Murfreesboro, is a wholesale executive for Fifth Third Bank.

Noah Ura (‘07), Knoxville, Tenn., is a production supervisor for Gerdaud Anserbetis.

Oscar Utrera (‘05), Nashville, Tenn., has released his debut album, “Home.”

Damaris Moore (‘07), Smyrna, Tenn., is a marketing coordinator for Wild About Smiles.

Lisa M. Walters (‘06), Murfreesboro, is an auctioneer for Bob Parks Auctions.

Aimee L. Wallaby (‘00), Greenboro, N.C., is an early intervention specialist for the state of North Carolina.

Cedric Wallaby (‘00), Greenboro, N.C., is the director of strength and conditioning at North Carolina A&T University.

Amanda C. Washington (‘02), Augusta, Ga., is C.C.O. for Elemental Innovations.

Rhianon M. Wilson (‘10), Antioch, Tenn., is a teacher for the Metro Nashville Public Schools.

Erin M. Yeldell (‘08), Murfreesboro, is a public relations coordinator for Middle Tennessee Medical Center.
morning in the Honors College with Dr. Lisa Pruitt from the Albert Gore Sr. Research Center. After she traced the history of MTSU, John Lodl ('96, '04) of the Rutherford County Archives shared hints and sources for genealogy research. After a quick trip on the Raider Xpress, the class was recruited to play football for the Blue Raiders as they toured Kennewick Sports Hall of Fame, the football locker room, impressive workout facilities and Horace Jones Field. After Coach Rick Stockstill shared his vision for the team’s future, the group enjoyed a tailgate lunch in the press box. The emphasis switched from football to horseshoes when the class traveled to Tennessee Miller Coliseum. Many were amazed by the world-class facility and proud that it is part of MTSU. Their wonderment continued as Dr. Rhonda Hoffman educated everyone on what happens in the Horse Science Complex. An RC Cola and a Moon Pie were a welcomed afternoon snack before the class boarded buses for a campus tour and great dinner at The Front Porch Café, where Don Witherspoon ('64) was elected president of the class.

Two great sessions kicked off Friday. First, Bill Shacklett ('73) and Tom and Gloria Christy ('71) taught how to organize and store old family photos, file digital images and restore family movies. During the second session, Robert K. Oermann, nationally recognized as the "dean of Nashville’s entertainment journalists," traced the history of middle Tennessee’s music culture during an amazing presentation that focused on how Nashville became Music City. The graduation luncheon was held at the Heritage Center of Murfreesboro. Melissa Zimmerman from the center and Richard Gabel ('80), director of Main Street Murfreesboro, informed the group of restoration efforts in Middle Tennessee and explained the partnership between the Heritage Center and MTSU. After graduation, the class boarded a motorcoach headed toward Nashville for a celebratory field trip to the Ryman Auditorium, where staff gave the Alumni Summer College students VIP treatment as the group toured and heard stories of the historic building. Everyone was given the chance to stand on the stage and some took the opportunity to sing. To conclude the celebration, the alumni rolled into the Grand Ole Opry feeling like country music stars on a tour bus. Pete Fisher ('87), Opry general manager, made them feel at home by offering backstage access during the show. Some even met Opry stars Trace Adkins, Jimmy C. Newman, Connie Smith, Marty Stuart and Little Jimmy Dickens.

Alumni Summer College fulfilled its purpose of reconnecting MTSU alumni with each other, the university and the community. It is sure to become a favorite annual tradition on campus and with alumni and friends across the country. Mark your calendar for Alumni Summer College 2009 to be held June 24-26, with the theme How Things Work. For more information, go to mtalumni.com.