NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

• **Sidelines wins Southeast Journalism awards**
  Sidelines Editor-in-chief Emily West won the Best Feature Writing competition in February at the 2014 Southeast Journalism Conference. In addition, the Sidelines website received 7th place in the Best Website contest. West submitted three features as a body of work. The first was “Looking for a hero like me” about the lack of diversity in children’s books. The second was “Fire forces pair to start over” about a senior couple in Cottontown, Tenn., who lost everything in a summer fire. The third was “Santa Train rolls into mountain town lifting spirits, bearing toys,” which featured a train that delivers gifts and food to communities in the Appalachian Mountains at Christmastime.

• **College of Mass Communication Top 20 Ranking NewsPro**
  MTSU’s College of Mass Communication is ranked among the top 20 programs in the United States, according to a survey by a popular news-industry trade publication. TV Week’s *NewsPro Magazine* released results of the survey in its December 2013 issue, listing the nation’s top Mass Communication and Journalism colleges. The survey was distributed to members of the Radio Television Digital News Association, with 1,321 respondents participating. MTSU was the only Tennessee university in the rankings.

• **Justin Reed Show wins Golden Mic Award**
  Justin Reed of WMTS’s Justin Reed Show won the Golden Mic for Best Live Music at the 2014 The Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Awards. The show is among the top radio shows in Murfreesboro and the surrounding area. The Justin Reed Show airs live every Thursday morning from 7 to 10 a.m. on 88.3 FM WMTS.

• **EMC Documentary wins BEA’s Best of Festival**
  EMC student Jaclyn Edmonson’s documentary entitled “Sbocciare” won “Best of Festival” from the Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts, an international exhibition of award-winning student works competing in audio, documentary and interactive multimedia. Edmonson traveled to Italy in May 2013 with the Mass Comm EMC’s study abroad program to document working artists. “Sbocciare” (Italian for blossom) is an inspiring piece that tells the story of a Florentine artist who fiercely pursues her “art within” despite the odds against her.
• **EMC Collegiate Athletics win National Outstanding Live Game Award**
  The MTSU Electronic Media Communication Productions team won the collegiate athletics outstanding live game and event production award for the MTSU-East Carolina men’s basketball game at the 2014 Sports Video Group College Sports Summit last week. The national award is given to the best student-produced game in college athletics. It was handed out in front of national media members such as ESPN, CBS, Fox Sports 1 and Turner Sports. This is the third time MTSU’s EMC Productions has been recognized in the college sports media awards. They received an honorable mention in 2012 for a home basketball game and another for the MTSU-UTEP football game this past year. Over 300 entries were submitted in the 16 different categories, an all-time high for the summit.

• **Bonnaroo/MTSU Partnership**
  In June 2014, a select team of students from the College of Mass Communication provided multimedia coverage of the world-famous Bonnaroo Music Festival in Manchester, TN. The content was used by the Tennessean and other media platforms, thanks to a partnership initiated by Dean Ken Paulson. Students covered the festival grounds, capturing photos and videos and interviewing entertainers and attendees. Dean Paulson brokered the partnership earlier this year between the college and Bonnaroo. In April, Bonnaroo partners Ashley Capps, owner of AC Entertainment, and Rick Farman, co-founder of Superfly Presents, came to MTSU to work with students in the college. The partnership also includes a symposium that MTSU will host this fall on the “Anatomy of a Music Festival: The Bonnaroo Story and the Future of Festivals.”

• **Paris Class Trip**
  Electronic Media Communication students traveled to Paris, France this summer with EMC’s Tom Neff to shoot three documentary films about artists working in that city. The resulting films are in post-production. Tom Neff is the Emmy-winning and Oscar-nominated founder and former CEO of the Documentary Channel.
STATE/LOCAL LEVEL

• **Baldwin Gallery Reopens**
The Baldwin Photographic Gallery reopened on January 27, 2014 on the second floor of the College of Mass Communication building. The gallery's inaugural exhibit by photographic artists Jerry Uelsmann and Maggie Taylor drew crowds from all over Middle TN. In 1974, Uelsmann was one of the first major exhibitors in the Baldwin Gallery. He and Taylor also spoke to a receptive crowd in January at MTSU’s Learning Resources Center, calling the university’s photography program “one of the finest in the nation.” Named after MTSU Professor Harold Baldwin, the gallery is a 1,300-square-foot photographic space featuring 200 feet of pristine wall displays and museum-quality lighting to showcase the permanent Baldwin collection as well as traveling exhibits and student work.

• **MTSU student journalists cover Obama visit**
Four members of Sidelines and one member of MT10 News covered President Barack Obama's visit to McGavock High School on Jan. 30 2014 Nashville. Sam Brown, Chris Davis, Sam Hearn, Quint Qualls and Emily West reported while the president spoke about job creation and the state of economy. The team produced a multimedia package with video, stills and stories, which can be viewed at mtsusidelines.com. The student reporters also kept the Twitter followers of Sidelines and MT10News up-to-date on the president’s visit.

• **Mass Comm students win multiple Tennessee AP Awards**
Students and faculty from the School of Journalism and Department of Electronic Media Communication won multiple awards at the 2014 Tennessee Associated Press College Awards banquet. Sidelines staffers won five awards in the annual college media contest. In the broadcast entries, the students took home first place awards in all but one category.

• **EMC’s First Look Media Festival**
MTSU’s Department of Electronic Media Communication held its second annual “First Look” media festival at the Belcourt Theatre in Nashville on May 8. Industry professionals from across the state were invited to view a compilation of this year’s best student work in film, news, video, photography, animation and new media. The idea of the First Look event was brought to MTSU by Professor Tom Neff, an Oscar nominee, Emmy winner and founder of the Documentary Channel.
• **Students Design Digital Wall of Fame**
EMC Professor Todd O’Neill, lead a student project this past year to convert the Wall of Fame into a digital format. O’Neill’s Communication Application class began the daunting task of digitizing Wall of Fame information, organizing the content of the sign and designing graphics. A programming team worked with the software of digital signs to create a unique template for the College of Mass Communication, making it the first vertical digital sign on campus and the first sign developed by students, not ITD. The new display serves as a digitization of the newly named *Hall of Fame*. The sign will eventually be used to make club announcements, showcase student work, map out office locations and inform incoming freshman about the college during their orientation.

• **Students gain experience on EMC Mobile Production Unit**
Two advanced College of Mass Communication classes using the EMC Mobile Production Unit gained extensive experience recording multiple live music events across Middle Tennessee this past spring. Events included *Music City Roots, Live from the Loveless Café*, the Nashville Symphony’s “Young People’s Concert” at the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Pistons & Pipes, a MTSU MTSU Wind Ensemble in Murfreesboro, TN, Michael Martin Murphey at the Franklin Theatre in Franklin, TN, and a Steel Drivers concert at 3rd & Lindsley in Nashville. The advance courses are an audio course taught by Professor Dan Pfeifer and an advanced video production course taught by Professor Mary Nichols. Student engineers from Mike Forbes’ engineering class also assisted with the productions.