



Way to go!
Employees of the Year
honored at April 22 event
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a biweekly publication for the Middle Tennessee State University community

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the RECORD

Partnership helps launch new Education Center

Students seeking higher education now have more options closer to home with the opening of the Middle Tennessee Education Center, a new higher-education facility in Shelbyville.

MTEC, created by a partnership between MTSU and Motlow State Community College, will house classrooms as well as administrative and advising offices for both institutions to offer assistance and education for their students. The center is located in

Shelbyville's former Medical Arts Building at 841 Union St.

"MTSU is excited about the opening of the Middle Tennessee Education Center, which will help address the educational needs of the citizens in this region," said MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee. "The establishment of this Center is consistent with the mission of the university to make education more accessible, and we are proud to partner with Motlow State Community College in

this very important endeavor.

"Additionally, we are grateful to Bedford County Mayor Eugene Ray and Bedford County officials for their foresight and help in making this possible. The programs and services provided through the Center will be a tremendous asset to the community."

"The timing of this innovative opportunity comes at a paradoxical crossroad," said Dr. MaryLou Apple, president of the Lynchburg, Tenn.-headquartered Motlow. "When we

say we are expanding opportunities in this economic climate, people often ask why. The truth is that this partnership is tremendously cost-effective for our students. Area residents seeking additional education, nontraditional students and those still in high school will all have greater educational options.

"County high-school students will have increased opportunities for

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COMMENCEMENT '09: SKILLS FOR LIFE

What makes a leader? MTSU chiefs weigh in



LEAD BY EXAMPLE—Head football coach Rick Stockstill, above left center, is flanked by Blue Raider football players Alan Gendreau, Danny Carmichael, Jeremy Kellem and Phillip Tanner. Lt. Col. Mike Walsh, above right center, is joined by Army ROTC cadets Max Underwood, Evelyn Gutierrez, David Dang and Samuel Lopez. Both the coach and the commander are challenged every day to show leadership to their students and staff as well as instill leadership qualities in the people who follow them.

photos by J. Intintoli

by Drew Dunlop
 news@mtsu.edu

Walking on the MTSU campus will take you past students who are striving to become strong leaders, whether in student government or in one of the more than 225 student organizations on campus.

More than 2,200 new MTSU graduates will go out into the world May 9, hoping to take leadership roles for which their university training has prepared them. Fifty current students are seeking

formal training by minoring in leadership studies in the Department of Speech and Theatre, and more than 50 students contact the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership each day looking for opportunities to both lead and serve the university community.

Many seeking leadership roles have always felt the desire to lead. One who did is MTSU Football Head Coach Rick Stockstill, who says he began his leadership journey very early in life.

"At an early age, I played positions that required you to be a good leader. In first grade, I

became a quarterback for a football team. In second grade, I was a catcher and a pitcher for a baseball team. And in third grade, I became point guard for a basketball team," Stockstill explains.

For others, taking the reins comes later in life. Lt. Col. Mike Walsh, departing commander of the military science program at MTSU, says he didn't think about becoming a leader until he was a junior in college.

"I wasn't as interested in leadership as I was

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IN BRIEF

SUMMERTIME AT THE REC

The employee summer family membership for \$50 is back at Campus Recreation through Aug. 31. The rate won't be pro-rated, so

the sooner you join, the sooner you'll enjoy all the benefits and activities offered by Campus Rec membership. "Family" includes spouse and dependent children up to age 21. For more information, call 615-898-2104, or stop by the main office. See you in the Rec!



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In tough economy, internships add value to students, employers

by Katy Francisco Riddle
kriddle@mtsu.edu

In a tough economy and an even tougher job market, MTSU Career Development Center Director Bill Fletcher was happy to discover a bright spot when comparing the office's spring 2009 employer-recruiting numbers to a year ago.

In pulling together the data, Fletcher was not taken aback to find the number of degreed entry-level positions posted by employers had dropped 54 percent from the previous spring. He was, however, pleased to see that the number of internship opportunities posted by employers was up 47 percent from a year ago.

"Internships are a cost-effective way for employers to maintain their company's recruiting pipeline," Fletcher said. "In uncertain times, employers can use interns to supplement their workload while keeping an eye on things to come."

Internships are also valuable from a student perspective. Because the number of full-time degreed positions is on the decline, the experience a student brings to the table, combined with an ability to network, is becoming increasingly important. According to Fletcher, internships are an indication of real-life experience and offer transferrable skills that students can take with them to full-time positions.

"The decrease in college hiring, combined with the desire on the part of employers for candidates to have experience, will further make obtaining an internship necessary for successful entry into the job market upon graduation," Fletcher said.

"Students who have not interned will be at a disadvantage when it comes to securing a full-time position and seniors, and perhaps juniors, may not have enough time to line up a quality internship before they graduate."

Students often look to the Internet to search for and apply for internship postings as well as a way to connect with potential employers through job boards and social-networking sites. While the available technology has made this easier, it also appears to have increased students' passive approach to the job-search process.

The National Association of Colleges and Employers recently conducted a survey of 2008 college graduates job-searching in a tough economy. The results were compared with data from a similar survey conducted in 1982, when the United States was in a severe recession. The comparison found that 68 percent of the Class of 1982 utilized networking frequently as a job-search strategy; in 2008, that number dropped to 54 percent.

"Whether we're in a good economy or a not-so-good economy, my advice has always been to rely on an active job search, rather than a passive one,"

Fletcher said. "With an active approach, you're in control of your search and choose where you go and who you go after in terms of employment. In a passive approach, you're leaving these decisions to the employer and relying on job postings to come your way. In any kind of economic downturn, an active and networking approach to the job search is absolutely critical."

The MTSU Career Development Center has added programming to help students conduct an active job search. There are currently 6,872 students and alumni registered with the office in various stages of the career-exploration and job-search process. These students and alumni took multiple opportunities through March and April to learn job-searching techniques through programs such as "Job Searching 1010," which covered the basics of finding a job, and "The Seven Secrets to the Hidden Job Market" by national speaker and author Don Asher.

Employers wanting to remain competitive in the market by posting their internship positions and requesting potential candidates' resumes may obtain more information at the Center's Web site at <http://career.web.mtsu.edu/employers.htm>.

Katy Francisco Riddle serves as career development center coordinator for the Jennings A. Jones College of Business and interim coordinator of Greek Affairs.

Moonbuggy teams take top safety prize in meet

MTSU's Moonbuggy Teams continued their winning ways at the 16th Annual Great Moonbuggy Race April 3-4 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala., bringing home a first-place safety award for their efforts.

The Great Moonbuggy Race is inspired by the original Lunar Rover engineers at the NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, whose creation journeyed across the moon during the last three Apollo missions in the early 1970s. The vehicles entering the race are human-powered and based on the original Lunar Roving Vehicle design: a compact, lightweight, flexible and durable "all-terrain vehicle" that can be transported to the moon and also carry astronauts on the lunar surface.

"Students participating within the Moonbuggy project face similar challenges to those experienced by the original design team," said faculty adviser Dr. Saeed Foroudastan. "They develop skills in mathematics, science and engineering through the hands-on application of classroom curricula."

Thirty-nine teams from universities and colleges across the United States as well as international universities, including teams from Puerto Rico, India, Germany and Canada, competed in this year's event. MTSU entered two vehicles in the race, and Foroudastan said competition was intense as students assembled their vehicles from the carrying box.

"The time required for each team to assemble their Moonbuggy is added to the team's race time," he added. "The MTSU Moonbuggy teams' assembling times were excellent. The 2009 race course was challenging enough to defeat 27 of the 39 college teams. The MTSU Moonbuggy Teams were among the 12 teams able to successfully finish the course."

MTSU won the NASA Safety Systems Award by simulating the original Lunar Rover's need for safety and efficiency. The vehicles were created from lightweight carbon fiber, making them fit for actual moon exploration, and their parts were hand-constructed on campus.

"When on the moon, it isn't the speed which is most important," Foroudastan explained, "it is the ability to transport the astronauts safely



SAFETY FIRST—MTSU Moonbuggy Team members Seyha Chhim and Julissa French, above, lean into a curve on the course of the 16th Annual Great Moonbuggy Race in Huntsville, Ala. Below left are the Moonbuggy Teams, with adviser Dr. Saeed Foroudastan kneeling in the center of the photo. Surrounding Foroudastan are from left, Chhim and French, Matt Reynolds, Johnny Guidry, Michael Paris, Juan Gomez, Paul Martin III, Patricia Jones, Michael Krause, Kyle Mooneyham, Sherry Harner, Michael McGoldrick and Katie Sampuda.

photos submitted



while efficiently performing the other necessary lunar tasks. This year's competition was a tremendous learning experience, and we are very proud of the teams' outstanding efforts and impressive designs."

Members of the 2008-09 MTSU Moonbuggy Teams are team leader Johnny Guidry, Juan Gomez, Katie Sampuda, Michael Paris, Patricia Jones, Greg Russell, Michael McGoldrick, Julissa French, Kyle Mooneyham, Matt Reynolds, Sourrya Sinpraseuth, Seyha Chhim, Michael Krause, Paul Martin III and Sherry Harner. Both teams received Participation Awards.

"I genuinely enjoyed working with the students, and I appreciate their persistence and dedication," Foroudastan said. "These students worked extremely hard to accomplish this distinguished recognition for MTSU."

The adviser said he and the student team members would like to give special thanks to Dr. Tom Cheatham, dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences; Jackie Victory of the Center for Student Involvement & Leadership; Rick Taylor of the Department of Engineering Technology machine shop; the entire ET faculty and Drs. Walter Boles and Charles Perry; and Paul Martin for his active encouragement and support at the race.

2,261 students set to receive degrees in May 9 ceremonies

More than 2,260 degree candidates are expected to graduate in dual ceremonies during MTSU's 97th spring commencement on Saturday, May 9.

Candidates from the College of Graduate Studies, Jennings A. Jones College of Business, and College of Education and Behavioral Science will receive their degrees in the 9 a.m. ceremony, which will feature an address from G. Edmond "Ed" Clark, president and chief executive officer of FedEx Trade Networks Inc.

That afternoon at 1, degrees will be conferred on candidates in the Colleges of Basic and Applied Sciences, Liberal Arts, Mass Communication, and Continuing Education and Distance Learning after a commencement address from Brig. Gen. Terry M. "Max" Haston, assistant adjutant general of the Tennessee National Guard.

Of the 2,261 set to graduate, 1,886 are undergraduates and 375 are graduate students, said Sherian Huddleston, associate vice provost for enrollment services. The graduate numbers include 15 Ph.D. candidates and one candidate for a Doctor of Arts degree—the largest number of doctoral candidates in a single commencement at MTSU, Huddleston noted.

Morning-ceremony speaker Clark is responsible for the leadership and strategic direction of the Memphis-based FedEx Trade Networks, one of North America's largest-volume customs entry filers and a leading provider of global cargo distribution, trade advisory services and value-added logis-

tics. Clark, a native of Shelbyville, has been with FedEx for 26 years and has headed FedEx Trade Networks since its formation in 2000. Before assuming his position at FedEx Trade Networks, Clark held a wide variety of management positions in finance and operations at FedEx Express, both in the United States and in Asia.

Clark, who holds a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Vanderbilt University and a master of business administration degree in finance from the University of Houston, has three children, and he and his wife reside in Germantown, Tenn. Their eldest son, Edmond, is a 2005 graduate from MTSU with a bachelor's degree in aerospace with a professional pilot concentration.

Afternoon speaker Haston was appointed to his current Guard post in May 2008 after serving as the deputy chief of staff for training and operations/J-3 for the Joint Forces Headquarters, Tennessee. The McMinnville native was commissioned as an armor officer in the U.S. Army in 1979 from MTSU. After completing the Armor Officer Basic Course at Fort Knox, Ky., he was assigned to the XM-1 project and subsequently to 2/5 Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, as a tank platoon leader.

Subsequent postings took him to leadership positions in the 3-67 Armor, 2nd Armored Division until he left active duty in 1983. He quickly joined the Tennessee Army

Who: 2,261 graduates*
What: Spring 2009 commencement
When: 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., Saturday, May 9
Where: Murphy Center, MTSU

Speakers:
 • G. Edmond "Ed" Clark, president and chief executive officer of FedEx Trade Networks Inc., 9 a.m. ceremony.
 • Brig. Gen. Terry M. "Max" Haston, assistant adjutant general of the Tennessee National Guard, 1 p.m. ceremony.

Webcast: Go to www.mtsunews.com and click on the "Graduation Info" link on the left side of the page, then click "Graduation live streaming video" and follow the instructions. In addition to the video link, the "Grad info" page also has links to other important graduation news, including photo and DVD purchases. Video will be available about 15 minutes before each ceremony begins; you'll need Windows Media Player to view it.

*Approximate number as of March 19, 2009.



Clark



Haston

National Guard's Company M 3/278th Armored Cavalry Regiment as commander in Rockwood, Tenn. and again moved up in the ranks to serve as chief of staff for operations and J-3, Joint Forces Headquarters, Tennessee. In May 2005, Haston mobilized and deployed as the Chief of Reserve Components, Multi-National Corps Iraq (XVIII Airborne Corps), and after his return from the Middle East, he has served as the J-3, JFHQ TN. Among his many commendations and awards are the Bronze Star, the Legion of Merit medal and the Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal.

Spring degree candidates who have ordered their academic regalia (caps, gowns, hoods, etc.) should pick up the items at Phillips Bookstore in the Keathley University Center Monday through Thursday, May 4-7, from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

and Friday, May 8, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Graduating seniors who are members of the armed services or who are receiving commissions may wear military uniforms at commencement in lieu of the academic cap and gown.

Diplomas will be mailed Friday, May 22, to the address listed on students' Intent to Graduate forms. The documents also may be picked up in person on Friday, May 15, or Monday through Wednesday, May 18-20, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room 102 of the Cope Administration Building.

Students who participate in commencement will be required to stay for the entire ceremony. Each ceremony should last about two hours.

For more information, please visit the Records Office Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~records/grad.htm or call 615-898-2600.

Honors alum is 1st McNair Ph.D.

by Marsha Powers
mpowers@mtsu.edu

Nathaniel P. Mills, a May 2002 graduate of the University Honors College, has become the first MTSU McNair Scholar to complete a doctoral degree.

He successfully defended his dissertation last fall and received his doctorate in counseling psychology from Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa.

The East Nashville native is completing his residency in Sacramento, Calif., and accruing hours toward licensure as a psychologist.

"Being the first MTSU McNair Scholar to earn a doctorate feels awesome," Mills said. "I do not believe I could have made it this far without the help of Linda Brown, Cindy Howell and all the other wonderful people in the McNair office."

Mills said the McNair Program also gave him "amazing opportunities" and that he is pleased to give back to the program by teaching and mentoring.

Mills listed Dr. Gloria Hamilton, psychology; Dr. Terry Whiteside, interim dean for the College of

Education and Behavioral Science and longtime psychology faculty member; and Dr. J.P. Montgomery, former Honors College dean, along with Brown and Howell of the McNair program, as some of the most influential people in his academic life.

He added that he is indebted to them for the opportunities and the tremendous amount of support they gave him while he was at MTSU and in successive years.

"The McNair Program was wonderful in giving me opportunities to do undergraduate research and build a competitive vita for applying to graduate school. The Honors College taught me the skills to be able to think independently and perform on a graduate level," Mills said.

Mills said.

Marsha Powers is coordinator of special projects and publications in the University Honors College.



Mills

Provost to return to classroom

MTSU Executive Vice President and Provost Kaylene Gebert will return to full-time faculty status this fall as a professor in the Department of Speech and Theatre. She will continue in her current role of provost until May 9.

"I wish to extend my personal thanks to Dr. Gebert for the dedicated service and campuswide leadership that she has provided to MTSU as its chief academic officer for the past six years," said Dr. Sidney A. McPhee, MTSU president. "She has played a valuable role in the achievement of many of the university's academic accomplishments during her tenure as executive vice president and provost. As someone who began her higher education career as a teacher more than 30 years ago, Dr. Gebert will continue to bring a wealth of experience to our university, and we feel extremely fortunate that she will continue to serve the needs of our students as a faculty member."

Plans for a campuswide reception in Gebert's honor are currently under way. A national search for her replacement will be conducted in the fall, and an announcement to name an interim provost is forthcoming.

Before joining the MTSU family in March 2003, Gebert served as provost and vice president of academic affairs at the University of North Alabama. Gebert received her undergraduate degree from Hanover College with a double major in English and speech-drama. She received a master's degree from Cornell University and a doctorate in historical and contemporary communication from Indiana University.

Gebert taught high school in Fort Wayne, Ind., before teaching at Indiana and Louisiana State University. In the 1990s, she held administrative positions at the Tennessee Board of Regents and at the state system of higher education in Pennsylvania.



Gebert

Campus Calendar

May 4-17

Please note:

Event dates, times and locations may change after press time. Please verify specifics when making plans.

TV Schedule



"Middle Tennessee Record"
Cable Channel 9:
Monday-Sunday, 7 a.m., 5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+:
Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Visit www.mtsunews.com for other cable outlet airtimes.

Friday, May 8
MT Baseball vs. Mississippi Valley State
Friday 6 p.m., Saturday 4 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m.
Reese Smith Jr. Field
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2103.

Dedication Ceremony for the Dean A. Hayes Track and Soccer Stadium
6:30 p.m., Greenland Drive parking lot by stadium; reception following at Kennon Sports Hall of Fame
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2103.

Sunday, May 10
"MTSU On the Record—Tajdid"
History professor Dr. Sean Foley explains how Islam has had a greater impact on European and American ideologies than many understand.
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at www.mtsunews.com.



May 13

Wednesday, May 13
Tornado-Siren Testing
11:15 a.m., campuswide (No action required by building runners; no texts or e-mails.)
For information, contact: 615-898-2424.

May 14

May 14-16
MT Baseball vs. Western Ky.
Thursday 6 p.m., Friday 6 p.m., Saturday 1 p.m.
Reese Smith Jr. Field
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2103.

May 11

Monday, May 11
Summer Full Term, May Term classes begin

Employees of the year



EXEMPLARY WORK—Ben Jones, center, chair of the MTSU Employee Recognition Committee, joins winners of the 2008-09 Employee of the Year Awards during the April 22 celebration in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. Displaying their awards are, from left, Secretarial/Clerical Employee of the Year Donna Reed, Business Office; Administrative Employee of the Year Lisa Batey, Human Resource Services; All-Classified Employee of the Year Charles Fitch, Distribution Services; and Technical/Service Employee of the Year Keith Jenkins, Construction/Renovation Services. The winners, who received engraved crystal awards and monetary gifts for their commitment to MTSU's success, were chosen from nominations made during the 2008-09 academic year. The committee regularly salutes staffers who make outstanding contributions and demonstrate excellence in their roles. To nominate a co-worker for the quarterly award program, download a nomination form at <http://hrs.web.mtsu.edu/er/recog.html> and submit it to Human Resource Services in Room 204 of the Ingram Building.

photo by J. Intintoli

May 4

Monday, May 4
Faculty Senate Meeting
4:30 p.m., JUB 100
For information, contact: 615-898-2582.

May 5

Tuesday, May 5
Murfreesboro Youth Orchestra
7 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

May 7

Thursday, May 7
Retired Faculty/Staff Coffee
9:30 a.m., Foundation House
For information, contact: 615-898-5756.

May 8

May 8-10
MT Track: Sun Belt Outdoor Track Championships
Dean A. Hayes Stadium
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2103.

Friday, May 8
Military Science Spring Commissioning Ceremony
10 a.m., Keathley University Center Theater; reception follows in Forrest Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2470.

May 9

Saturday, May 9
Spring Commencement
9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Murphy Center
For information, visit www.mtsunews.com or see page 3.

May 10

Sunday, May 10
Mother's Day

May 12

Tuesday, May 12
MT Baseball vs. Tennessee
6 p.m., Reese Smith Jr. Field
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2103.

May 16

Saturday, May 16
Armed Forces Day
MTSU Alumni Day at the Nashville Zoo
Open to alumni, family and friends
For information, visit www.mtalumni.com or contact: 615-898-2922.

\$2.7M grant will aid biology education

by Randy Weiler
jweiler@mtsu.edu

A \$2.7 million grant will fund the National Science Foundation TRIAD GK-12 partnership to improve biology education, officials announced during an April 23 celebration in the Tom H. Jackson Building's Cantrell Hall.

Congressman and MTSU alumnus Bart Gordon announced the NSF grant in a news release.

"Jobs of the future will necessitate a strong educational foundation in the sciences," said Gordon, who was unable to attend because of commitments in Washington, D.C.

GK-12 is a NSF program that places graduate students in K-12 classrooms. MTSU and Tennessee State University grad students will work with students in Rutherford

County Schools and Metro Nashville Public Schools.

Biology professor Dr. Tony Farone shared the overview of the MTSU-TSU TRIAD GK-12 project.

"We believe this approach will be very effective and sustainable," Farone said. "Our team is looking forward to working together to train future STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) scientists who will find communicating science to the general public and K-12 outreach a natural part of their careers."

MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee said the project's research will "engage in solutions and help us move forward as a society and advance the mission of the university." He added that external grants have grown beyond \$40 million while he has served as president.

Dr. Todd Gary, director of TSU's

Center of Excellence in Information Systems, said the project team includes both universities; nonuniversity partners BioTN of Franklin, the Business Education Partnership Committee of the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce and Hendersonville's Pope John Paul II High School; the two public school districts; and graduate faculty mentors from TSU and MTSU.

Dr. Maria Thompson, interim vice president of TSU's Division of Research and Sponsored Programs, said the "grant project ... provides working capital for graduate students to both instruct and inspire high-school students of Davidson and Rutherford counties."

BioTN co-founder Dr. Leslie Lynch said the grant's attractiveness stemmed from the "incorporation of the industry component into the training program."

Partnership — from page 1

many more dual- and joint-enrollment classes during the late-afternoon and evening time slots, saving gas, time and travel to other campuses," Apple added.

"MTSU and Motlow both have long histories of working to meet the educational needs for students from this region," said Ray, the county's chief executive. "Many of the students who take certificate programs or associate-degree programs from Motlow wish to continue their education at MTSU, so the establishment of the Middle Tennessee Education Center will enhance this effort and will be a great benefit to the citizens of Bedford and the surrounding counties."

The educational partnership took root more than two years ago when talks began between MTSU, MSCC, the Tennessee Technology Center at Shelbyville, Bedford County government and school leaders, and key legislators. Officials solicited opinions online from potential students and asked local businesses for input, quickly earning what Dr. Mike Boyle, dean of MTSU's College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, called a "grass-roots groundswell of support" and interest in services.

"The center will serve as a conduit to services provided by MTSU and Motlow," Boyle said. "In addition to holding some courses at this site, our administration office will provide information regarding admissions, financial aid and student-advising services."

"This type of effort could not have been successful without the leadership and vision of President McPhee and Mayor Ray," Boyle added. "Dr. Apple, Bedford County officials and many other key legislators have played instrumental roles in initial success of this project."

MTEC wore a working title of "MTSU South" during an initial needs-assessment study, but officials quickly agreed that the center merited a name more indicative of the comprehensive partnership that created it.

"MTSU South" was just a project name for this facility," said David Foster, a director of continuing education at MTSU. "'The Middle Tennessee Education Center' encompasses much more by offering programs and services from Middle Tennessee State University and Motlow State Community College to benefit the citizens of this region of the state."

Making higher education more accessible to more people and providing expanded services as demand increases have been a constant focus for organizers of MTEC.

"The overall goal of the facility is to make it easier for those who live in this part of the state to more easily pursue higher education," said Molly Culbreath, MTSU coordinator for the facility. "Often people are unsure where to get information or assistance, and I look forward to helping them."

Initial program offerings will include Master of Education courses through MTEC's pilot program. Additional programs will be added as they are developed and resources made available.

For more information on MTEC or to schedule an appointment, please call 931-685-4444. Additional information and updates will be posted at www.MTEducationcenter.com.

Leader

from page 1

being in the military when I joined ROTC," Walsh says. "I was planning on becoming a captain and then leaving the Army in four years."

But in his third year in the ROTC program, he discovered his leadership desire and potential—by chance.

"I was asked to take an executive-officer position in a ROTC club," the commander recalls. "Because a couple of knuckleheads said I could, I decided to give it a try."

The result: Walsh has now served in the Army for 22 years and will become a full colonel in August.

Dr. Deana Raffo, coordinator of the leadership-studies minor in the Department of Speech and Theatre, says people discovering their leadership potential and desire at different points in their lives isn't unusual.

"We all come to know ourselves as leaders at different stages of our lives, and often it is the experiences that inspire or excite us that bring out the leadership potential that is in all of us," she explains.

Dr. Sidney A. McPhee shares several beliefs about leadership with Stockstill and Walsh.

The MTSU president says people follow him for "several reasons: title, position ... it comes with the title." He adds, however, that leaders cannot rely for long on their titles to give them authority.

Walsh and Stockstill share that belief, noting that a title can only take a person so far.

"I have to prove to them why they need to follow me, and that begins with my character," the coach says. "I am a man of honor ... I am a man of my word."

There are times, however, that even the best of leaders find their followers losing motivation and their organization stagnating as a result. Walsh says the problem may lie with the leader.

"I don't think the chair of the (MTSU) Military Department should be in this position for more than four years because of this very point," the commander says. "It's easy to get comfortable and keep doing the same things over and over."

Walsh says he combats this tendency by making it a priority to continually improve the program in such areas as recruiting, retention and training.

McPhee says he believes the next step in the solution also is the leader. His approach to the problem: "Remind people through action why we exist—to help students."

His ultimate goal, he says, is to inspire his followers to feel that they are taking leadership in helping students.

One of the most successful leadership attributes is honesty, the men agree—and not only when trying to inspire people to follow. "Problem followers" need honest feedback on a leader's expectations, especially if those expectations aren't being met.

"Honesty! The only way!" Stockstill says. "Every player/coach knows what I expect, and when they don't do it, I bring them in my office and talk to them about their problem. I tell them what their punishment will be and my expectations. I tell them what my next course of action will be if it happens again."

Developing followers and their talents also is a priority for a leader. Stockstill says he's learned a very crucial lesson: "Don't send ducks to 'eagle school.' Find what each person does best and have them do it. Ducks can't fly like an eagle ... eagles can't swim like ducks."

A leader's response to a crisis or emergency is also critical to success, the MTSU leaders agree. They all recommend remaining calm and engaging in thoughtful consideration before taking action.

"I try to remain calm. If you remain calm, those around you will be more at ease," the president says.

Walsh agrees, and he adds another consideration: "It's best to remain calm and level-headed. Ideas to fix a crisis or problem are easier to think through without the added stress of overreacting. And I think it's important for cadets to see their cadre react calmly to problems."

Students hoping to develop the skills and characteristics of leadership should seek positions that will challenge them to learn and succeed. Raffo says she believes the best recipe for a student's success in a leadership role is to seek positions that align with his or her talents and interests.

"I have found that students are most effective in their leadership roles when they lead from their strengths and are passionate about what they are involved in," Raffo says.

Walsh adds that students who want to lead in the future must lead now.

"It's hard to understand leadership and what's involved with running an organization from just reading about it," the commander notes.

"I would encourage students to take advantage of the extracurricular activities on campus and that they should seek a leadership role. College should be treated like one big scrimmage."



Raffo



McPhee

Learn more @

www.mtsunews.com

Read "Leadership — in their own words" and check out "Coach Stock's guide for leaders" online for more information.

MTSU/UTSI academic pact taking flight, with TBR's OK

from Staff Reports
news@mtsu.edu

Officials from MTSU and the University of Tennessee Space Institute met April 28 at MTSU to share their vision for a proposed academic partnership in the area of flight-test engineering.

They made a joint announcement in the Business and Aerospace Building's first-floor east lobby.

Final approval for the partnership must come from the Tennessee Board of Regents, officials said.

Under the partnership, MTSU students will spend 3½ years at MTSU. In their last semester, they will take classes at the UTSI campus near Tullahoma. These classes will go toward their undergraduate degree while at the same time count as prerequisite classes for the Master of Science degree at UTSI.

"This is a very unique partnership," said Dr. Wayne Dorman, aerospace department chair, "because it provides an avenue for MTSU aero-

space students to pursue a master's in flight test engineering in a way that would not be possible without the partnership."

"UTSI certainly will benefit from the additional enrollment of highly qualified candidates entering our degree program," said Dr. Angie Buckley, UTSI interim associate vice president and chief administrator. "We are extremely pleased about this partnership and look forward to exploring other avenues of cooperation."

Since fall 2005, academic officials at both universities began the partnering process to build the flight test engineering program. In the last several years, faculty and administrators from both schools have worked to make it a reality.

Flight test engineering supports the development, certification and modification of civilian and military aircraft and systems, Dorman said, adding that there is only one other degree program of this type in the western world.

Leaders Circle trio takes 20th Quiz Bowl crown

from Staff Reports
news@mtsu.edu

The three-member MTSU Leaders Circle team bested 10 other four-person teams from across the campus to capture the Scotty Tucker Memorial Quiz Bowl March 26 in the McWherter Learning Resources Center television studio.

Leaders Circle team members Rachel Simes, Merranda Holmes and Gina Logue received \$175 for their first-place finish.

In second place and earning \$100 was the *Sidelines* team, which was composed of Michael Stone, Chris Martin, Tiffany Gibson and Alicia Wilson.

Third-place honors and \$75 went to the Honors College I team, which included Shannon Murphy, Jarett McCall, Mattie Ragland and Rebekah Horton.

Omega Chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma Fraternity and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society co-sponsored the Quiz Bowl, which was held for the 20th straight year.

Dr. Ken Hollman is adviser to and Brad Lamb is president of Omega chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma insurance fraternity. Dr. Lucy Langworthy is president of Phi Kappa Phi, the other main Quiz Bowl sponsor.

As in past years, the Quiz Bowl was taped for later replay on MTTV, Channel 10, the student-run TV station at MTSU, Hollman said. He added that the show will be broadcast several times during a one- to two-week period when editing is finished.

Teams paid a \$30 entry fee. Hollman said the questions they were asked involved trivia from almost every discipline represented on the MTSU campus.

Livestock Center is site for sheep-shearing school

The 2009 Tennessee Sheep Shearing School will be held Friday and Saturday, May 15-16, at the MTSU Tennessee Livestock Center.

The school is sponsored by the Tennessee Sheep Producers Association, Tennessee Farmers Cooperative, the University of Tennessee Extension Service and the MTSU School of Agribusiness and Agriscience.

Event organizers said the primary instructor again will be Australian Bill O'Conner, also known as "Bill Shearer." O'Conner is an international sheep-shearing champion who also coached with the Australian Wool Corporation. He has traveled and shorn in Ireland, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand.

Mark Powell of Wilson Farmer's Co-Op, Jim Neel of the UT Extension Office and Dr. Warren Gill, agribusiness and agriscience director, will assist O'Conner.

The shearing school is designed for beginning and experienced shearers. Top sheep shearers will teach the most up-to-date shearing methods, and one of the most important school aspects will be information on maintaining sheep-shearing equipment.

Organizers said the shearing school is not designed for young children; in fact, participants should be at the senior 4-H (high-school) level. The school will start at 10 a.m. Friday, May 15, and shearing will begin at 1 p.m. The shearing school will continue at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 16, and will continue until all sheep are sheared. The fee is \$100.

For more information, call the livestock center at 615-898-5575.

Fresh donation



READY FOR 'GREAT RESULTS'—Faculty, staff and students celebrate receipt of a \$7,000 grant from General Mills Corp. of Murfreesboro to help fund MTSU's annual Science Olympiad and Expanding Your Horizons events. From left are Jennifer Allen, development director for the College of Basic and Applied Sciences; Gail Flynn of General Mills' Community Action Council; Dr. Pat Patterson, chemistry professor and Science Olympiad coordinator; Ann Burkhalter of General Mills' donation committee; Dr. Judith Iriarte-Gross, chemistry professor and EYH coordinator; and Dr. Tom Cheatham, dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences.

photo by News and Public Affairs

Off-Campus Student Services recognized

by Gina K. Logue
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Colleges and universities at the Association for Non-Traditional Students in Higher Education's annual conference have bestowed their second-highest ranking on MTSU and designated the university's director of Off-Campus Student Services as a "National Treasure."

In ANTSHE's campus survey of members, associates and friends, MTSU received a Two Star rating for the services it provides to nontraditional students, the second-highest rating of the 47 uniquely identified institutions surveyed. Among the services graded are having a student organization, a scholarship and a services office. MTSU also received additional points for services offered above and beyond those graded, including peer-mentoring services, a Web site for off-campus housing and an annual adult-learner conference.

Dr. Carol Ann Baily, director of Off-Campus Student Services at MTSU, was presented with the ANTSHE National Treasure Award. Baily, who was nominated by her peers, won the honor "based on her



Baily

untiring efforts on behalf of the students on her campus and her continued advocacy through participation and mentoring of national programs for all nontraditional students," according to an ANTSHE news release.

Baily is a founding member of ANTSHE and chaired the 2008 national ANTSHE conference at MTSU. She has served as chair of the Advising Adult Learners Commission of the National Academic Advising Association and contributed the chapter on advising adult learners to its publication on advising special populations.

"It was my honor to present Dr. Baily this award," ANTSHE President Jeffrey Bunnell said at the group's conference last month at St. Martin's University in Lacey, Wash. "I have known her for several years now and can think of no one who is more deserving of this honor."

In a letter to MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee, Bunnell wrote, "We congratulate Middle Tennessee State University on their achievements and superior ranking in support of nontraditional students and for allowing us the privilege and honor of recognizing an outstanding member of your university community."

ANTSHE is an international partnership of students, academic professionals, institutions and organizations whose mission is to encourage and coordinate support, education and advocacy for the adult learner.

Mass comm alumni, friends honored at Wall of Fame event

MTSU's College of Mass Communication conducted its 16th Annual Student Awards and eighth Annual Wall of Fame Awards ceremonies on April 27 in Cantrell Hall of the Tom H. Jackson Building.

Inducted into the college's Wall of Fame for 2009 were:

- music producer and engineer Brady Barnett, owner, Of Sound Mind Productions, and co-owner of instructional video company Multi-Platinum LLC;
- videographer Nicholas "Nic" Dugger, founder of Tennessee Digital Video; and
- writer and public-relations manager Joel Frey of Travelocity.

The event honors and recognizes mass communication alumni who have distinguished themselves in the professional world through their accomplishments, as well as juniors, seniors and graduate students who have demonstrated academic excellence in their respective areas of study.

During the event, the Office of the Dean annually recognizes a Friend of the College, who has supported the college's mission through activities that include but are not limited to securing gifts for the college. This year's Friends of the College are David "Dave" and Mary Elizabeth Thomas of Cookeville.

"This is our opportunity each year to recognize some of individuals who are integral to the great success of our college, including students, alumni and friends," said Dr. Roy Moore, dean of the college. "We are very proud of all of them and their contributions."



Barnett

Barnett, a 1996 recording industry graduate, has been an independent producer and engineer in Los Angeles and Nashville since 1996. His list of clients includes multi-platinum selling and Grammy-award winning artists such as 'N Sync, Faith Hill, Keith Urban, Brandy, Ozzy Osbourne, Shaquille O'Neal, Bob Seger, Darius Rucker and Josh Turner. He was the recipient of the 2007 MTSU Distinguished Young Alumni Award.

Dugger, a 2000 electronic media communication graduate, began his television career in his hometown of Jackson, Tenn., in local cable broadcasting and was named manager of



Dugger

MTSU's student TV station, MTTV, in his freshman year. In October 2004, Dugger founded Tennessee Digital Video with his own all-digital mobile television production truck, which focuses on concert production, DVD shoots and political events. He has received the Midsouth Regional Emmys Rising Star Award as well as a regional Emmy.



Frey

Frey, a 1996 journalism graduate, began his PR career at the Memphis Convention & Visitors Bureau. He's now senior public relations manager for Travelocity, a leading online travel company, and has managed day-to-day PR needs of the company since 2003. He also writes executive speeches and is a handler of the company's mascot, the Roaming Gnome. In September 2007, Frey independently published his first book, *Two Sides of a Cypress Wall: The True Story of a Reluctant College Graduate*.

Dave Thomas, a graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis, spent 38 years in radio broadcasting, specializing in sales, sales management and general management. He worked with RKO Radio, Southern Broadcasting, Harte-Hanks Radio, South Central Broadcasting, American Network Group, Paxson Radio and Clear Channel Radio before retiring in 2003. As a marketing manager, he specialized in startups and turnarounds.

Mary Elizabeth Thomas graduated from the University of Alabama in 1954 with a bachelor's degree in sociology. She married Dave in 1955 and chose the path of homemaker to support her husband's career and their two children.

The Thomases began supporting MTSU's broadcasting program after touring the university's facilities at the invitation of EMC professor Dr. Dennis Oneal and talking with former mass comm development officer Steven Barnes.

"The broadcasting facilities just blew my mind," Dave Thomas said, "and we wanted to help students. I believe the Almighty puts people in our paths to do something good ... so even though we're not alumni of the program, we're praying for your success."



D. Thomas



M.E. Thomas

Join the push to recycle e-waste May 14-16 at LP Field

MTSU is part of a Tennessee Board of Regents partnership with Tennessee State and Austin Peay State universities, Volunteer State Community College and the Tennessee Technology Center at Nashville in co-sponsoring an E-Waste Recycling Event Thursday and Friday, May 14-15, at LP Field in Nashville. The service

and trucks are being provided by Apple Inc.

MTSU is urging friends and neighbors to help rescue an environment that is becoming more cluttered with the byproducts of progress and technology. They can take the first step by visiting www.mtsu.edu/ewaste to learn more about MTSU's involvement in

"green" issues.

On the designated days, trucks will be in Parking Lot D at LP Field, located at 1 Titans Way between exits 48 and 49 off Interstate 24, to receive used and broken electronic equipment to be recycled. The May 14 and 15 collections are specifically for colleges, schools, government agencies, local businesses and nonprofit

organizations, but organizers say materials will be accepted from anyone at any time on those days. Saturday, May 16, will be open to the general public.

Groups planning to drop off e-waste should register in advance at the MTSU E-Waste site or at <http://tennessee.poweron.com/p/register>.

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grandfather taught at the university.

Barnes' accelerated advancement also has caused predicaments outside school. He applied for a driver's license in Mississippi last summer, when he was 17. That state's law allows a resident under 18 to obtain a license if he is currently enrolled in school.

Though he could prove that he had been enrolled at MTSU the preceding spring and was for fall 2008, the clerk insisted that Barnes produce a high-school diploma, which he didn't have because he was home-schooled.

Barnes says a lieutenant then came out and informed him that his license application couldn't

be accepted because he was enrolled at MTSU for the following fall, not currently enrolled. The officer told Barnes that he would need to come back in the fall and reapply for a driver's license when he was attending school.

Barnes went to the next town with the same credentials and got his driver's license there.

He'll now be advancing to graduate school. On his short list were the University of Chicago, the University of California at Berkeley, the California Institute of Technology and Duke University; he recently accepted an admissions offer from CalTech. All offered him stipend packages, which he will couple with a stipend awarded through the

"National Defense Science and Engineering Fellowship" granted by the U.S. Department of Defense.

People with Barnes' level of intellectual ability exist everywhere, but if they are to reach his level of success, their intellect must be properly encouraged, guided and developed. Mary Barnes offers some advice for parents that have this special gift.

"Don't push your child into doing more than he/she is capable of doing emotionally, socially, mentally and physically," she says. "Don't hold your child back, unless you have a very good reason for doing so. And provide the best and most interesting curriculum you possibly can."

Faculty

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University April 7 in Cookeville.

Dr. Xiaoya Zha (mathematical science) co-presented "Symmetries of (3,6)—Fullerenes" at the 2009 American Mathematical Society Spring Central Sectional Meeting March 27-29 in Urbana, Ill. **Dr. Jinjia Li** (mathematical science) presented "Some Observations on Rigidity of Frobenius Endomorphism" at the same conference.

Publications

Dr. Sherry J. Roberts (business communication and entrepreneurship) is a contributor for *Creative Teaching Ideas*, published by the National Business Education Association and released at the 2009 NBEA Convention in Chicago April 8-11. She also has published *Personal Financial Literacy* for secondary education with Drs. Jeff Madura and Mike Casey and the *Personal Finance for Math* workbook with Casey.

Drs. Zach Sinkala and Terry Quinn (mathematical sciences) **Abdul Khaliq, Mary Farone and Anthony Farone** (biology) and **Paul Kline** (chemistry) will publish "Identifying the active site of ribonucleoside hydrolase of *E. Coli* encoded by rihC" in *BIOCOMP* in July.

Dr. Debra R. Wilson (nursing) published "Memory Repression in Adult Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse" in the *Journal of Community and Health Sciences*, 2 (2).

Service

Dr. Robert B. Blair (business communication and entrepreneurship) served as a judge for the Mr./Ms. Future Business Leader and Parliamentary Procedure Team competitive events during the Tennessee Future Business Leaders of America Conference in Chattanooga April 2-4.

18-year-old's next stop: grad school

by Drew Dunlop
news@mtsu.edu

On May 9, more than 2,260 students will be graduating from MTSU. Each has taken different and often grueling paths to reach academic goals, but Taylor Barnes' journey is one that stands out.

Barnes began his higher-education studies at Hines Community College in Raymond, Miss., when he was 13, after completing his high-school education with home-schooling.

In fall 2005, when he was 15, Barnes transferred to MTSU and decided to earn a double major in chemistry and physics.

If he'd done no more than that, his achievements still would be remarkable, but Barnes didn't stop there.

In 2007, Barnes won a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, considered one of the most impressive distinctions in the sciences for students. In 2008, among several other awards, he received MTSU's Provost Award, which recognizes students with outstanding academic accomplishments.

Now Barnes has been named to *USA TODAY*'s 2009 All-USA College Academic Third Team and just received a national Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship Award.

To help inspire future students to choose careers in science, Barnes accepted the post of president of MTSU's Chemistry Club. He's conducted several chemistry demonstrations in schools, including entertaining elements, such as mixing chemicals to produce glowing liquids, and educational elements to explain how the demonstration produced what it did.

The possibility that he was capable of this level of academic excellence became apparent to his mother when Barnes was still a toddler.

"At 18 months of age, he knew his colors and the alphabet," Mary Barnes recalls.

Taylor Barnes noticed it himself when he was eight. "That was when I started making the transition from being taught by my mother and essentially becoming self-taught," he says. "I started reading a lot ... I started studying on my own ... I started gravitating towards things of a higher grade level."

Mary Barnes had some reservations about his accelerated educational pace when it put him in college at such a young age.

"I worried that the older and much bigger students might bully him, but he was well-treated," she says now.

Barnes' academic adviser at MTSU, Dr. Preston MacDougall, is pleased that Barnes entered college so early in life.

"Taylor's age is an advantage, not a hindrance. Science thrives on curiosity, which peaks in our youth," he says, adding that Barnes' natural curios-



BRIGHT FUTURE—Taylor Barnes will graduate from MTSU May 9 at the age of 18 with a dual major in chemistry and physics. He looked at offers from Berkeley, the University of Chicago and others before deciding on CalTech for his graduate studies.

photo by Andy Heidt

ity, coupled with his work ethic, gives him an edge over many other scientists.

Barnes says his age hasn't been an issue with peers, but it's apparently been a problem for some organizations.

"Trying to get into college was difficult, because it's hard to find a school that's willing to accept a student that is that age," he explains.

He found a welcoming environment at MTSU. Several members of his family, including his mother and grandmother, are MTSU alumni, and his

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Barnes' accomplishments (so far)

- *USA TODAY*'s 2009 All-USA College Academic Third Team
- Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship Award (2009)
- Outstanding Senior in the Department of Chemistry (2009)
- Outstanding Honors Student Senior Award (2009)
- Current president, MTSU Chemistry Club
- Department of Defense "National Defense Science and Engineering Fellowship"
- MTSU Provost's Award (2008)
- Paul W. Martin Scholarship (2008)
- James H. Hutchinson Leadership Award (2008)
- Pi Sigma Pi Physics Achievement Award (2008)
- McClary Award (2008)
- Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship (2007)

the RECORD

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Faculty/Staff Update

Appointments

Dr. Robert B. Blair (business communication and entrepreneurship) was appointed to the International Society for Business Education Board of Directors to represent the southern region of the United States for 2009-11. Blair also was appointed entrepreneurship section editor for the Business Education Forum for 2009-10.

Awards

Dr. Minsoo Kang (health and human performance) received an Outstanding Reviewer Award for 2009 by the journal *Measurement in Physical Education and Exercise Science* during the national convention of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education and Dance March 31-April 4 in Tampa, Fla.

Dr. Judy Campbell (nursing) received the Student Organization Adviser of the Year on April 16 for her work with the Student Nurses Association.

Keynotes

Paul F. Wells (Center for Popular Music) gave the keynote lecture, "Does Place Matter? Perceptions and Realities of Music in Small Towns," during the Small-Town America

Conference, "The Train Just Don't Stop Here Anymore': An Interdisciplinary Colloquium on the Soundscapes of Rural and Small-Town America," April 3 at Millikin University in Decatur, Ill.

Passages

Mr. Grady Lee Cooper Jr. (Facilities Services), 71, passed away on April 8. Mr. Cooper was employed by MTSU as a custodian in Facilities Services from May 1996 until his retirement in May 2003. He is survived by his devoted cousins Ella Greer and Claytie Cooper Frazier, both of Murfreesboro; a nephew, Jon Derrick Cooper of Murfreesboro; his devoted extended family, Eloise Buckingham and family of Shelbyville; and numerous cousins and other relatives and friends.

Presentations

Dr. Robert B. Blair (business communication and entrepreneurship) presented "The Leader's Role as THE ADVOCATE" during the National Business Education Association's Academy for Leadership Excellence in Chicago on April 8. Blair also presented three roundtable sessions on "Free and Inexpensive Teaching Resources for Economic Education" at the NBEA Convention in Chicago on April 10.

Dr. Sherry J. Roberts (business communication and entrepreneurship) presented "Teens and Money: Teaching Personal Finance to the 'Me' Generation" at the 2009 NBEA Convention in Chicago April 8-11. She also served as the chair of Policy Statement #84: This We Believe About Induction and Mentoring of New Business Teachers, one of several statements written by the Policy Commission for Business and Economic Education.

Dr. Aimee Holt (psychology) presented "Use of Reading CBMs Within an RTI Framework" at the RISE, or Reading Instruction Successfully Enhanced, Conference at Cookeville High School April 18.

Christi Underdown (Center for Popular Music) presented a workshop, "Radical Militant Librarians Guild: Radically Co-Creating with Your Patrons," with Jerianne Thompson of the Linebaugh Public Library April 9 during the Tennessee Library Association conference in Nashville.

Vincent Windrow (Intercultural and Diversity Affairs) presented "From Them to Us" at the "One Great Challenge" Diversity Conference sponsored by Tennessee Tech

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