

Austin Peay

The Magazine for Alumni and Friends of
Austin Peay State University Spring 2013

Olympians

*APSU soccer standouts and Olympians
Tatiana and Natalia Ariza*



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Inside Photo by Beth Liggett

Workers put on a roof for one of the new residence halls during Phase II housing construction. The three new residence halls, set to open this fall, will house 404 students.

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D2L ACQUIRES DEGREE COMPASS FROM APSU; NEW TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED



Beth Liggett

APSU recently sold its Degree Compass predictive analytic technology to Desire2Learn (D2L), a global company, which provides a platform to many colleges and universities for an online learning environment.

The technology helps students select course curriculum, choose a “major” and select programs that are most suited to their academic talents. By predicting student success based on rich graduate data and current student data, the Degree

Compass acquisition will allow Desire2Learn to offer colleges and institutions with technology that increases graduation rates.

Dr. Tristan Denley, provost and vice president of academic affairs, and other APSU employees developed Degree Compass. The effort was funded with a \$1 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Complete College America.

Research from Complete College America shows the average student takes 20 percent more courses than required to fulfill their degree requirements so distilling hundreds of course-offerings into a personalized curriculum reduces the time necessary to achieve a degree and greatly optimizes a student’s chances of graduating.

“Degree Compass has helped institutions such as Austin Peay State University increase graduation rates,” Denley said.

Meanwhile, APSU has developed another computerized planning tool that works with Degree Compass. Called My Future, the new program suggests which majors are the best fit for each student’s academic talents.

“My Future builds on the predictive analytics of Degree Compass to predict the majors in which each student will be the most academically successful,” Denley said. “This new tool will help students make informed choices about the program that they follow.”

NEW PROVOST’S OUT-OF-STATE SCHOLARSHIP IN PLACE FOR 2013-14 ACADEMIC YEAR

APSU has introduced a new academic scholarship for out-of-state students called the Provost’s Out-of-State Scholarship.

The new award is a prestigious academic scholarship designed to enhance support of high-achieving students at APSU, one that goes alongside existing scholarships for in-state students.

These competitive scholarships are available to high school seniors based on a minimum ACT composite score of 26 and a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or greater.

To be eligible for this scholarship, applicants must be entering APSU for the first time in the Fall 2013 semester after graduating the previous spring from high school.

The Provost’s Out-of-State Scholarship is a four-year renewable award.

To apply for the Provost’s Out-of-State Scholarship, prospective students must apply first to APSU at www.apsu.edu/admissions. To learn more about the scholarship process, go to apsu.edu/scholarships.

APSU BEGINS 3-YEAR DEGREE, 3+1 BACHELOR’S TO MASTER’S PROGRAMS

APSU students are now able to earn their degrees faster so they can seek employment sooner after graduation.

That’s because APSU has launched the new Three-Year Bachelor’s Degree, as well as the 3+1 Bachelor’s to Master’s program.

The Three-Year Bachelor’s Degree can be obtained in art, business, communication arts, computer science, English, health and human performance, history, mathematics, philosophy, political science, psychology and theater.

The 3+1 Bachelor’s to Master’s can be earned in one of four academic fields: communication arts, corporate communication, public relations and business.

To view the complete list of degree concentrations available for the Three-Year Bachelor’s Degree completion or the 3+1 Bachelor’s to Master’s program, visit www.apsu.edu/academics and click on the “Programs and Degrees” link to the left of the page.

APSU NAMED TO 2 MILITARY LISTS FOR 2013



APSU has been named to two prestigious national lists that highlight top postsecondary choices for active duty military, their families and veterans.

APSU was the only four-year school in Tennessee to be named a Best for Vets College for 2013, according to a survey conducted by the Military Times.

More than 650 schools, a record for the annual list, responded to the news publication's 2013 Best for Vets: Colleges survey, which consisted of nearly 150 questions. Only 68 schools, including APSU, made the list.

The University also has been recognized by Military Advanced Education magazine in the publication's 2013 Guide to America's Top Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities. APSU is one of six schools in Tennessee to be named to the Top Military-Friendly list.

For both lists, APSU was chosen because of the services and activities provided to veterans and active duty military, including the Military Student Center inside the Morgan University Center and the Student Veterans Organization, among others.

WITH STATE GRANT, APSU IMPLEMENTS NEW GOVTRAILS

A walking trail at APSU has become a reality, thanks to a state grant awarded to the University to designate the trails on campus and organize other efforts to encourage a healthier lifestyle.

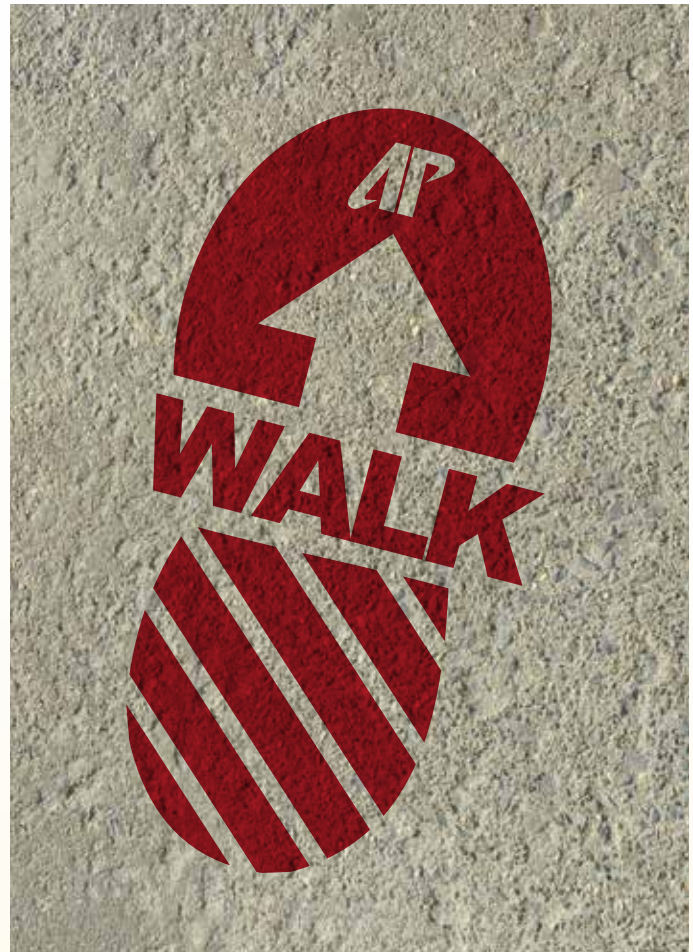
The new GovTrails project is funded by the Tennessee Department of Health through the Eat Well, Play More Grant. APSU received \$20,000 in funding to develop a program that will help those in the area have immediate access to an environment that encourages fitness and health.

"This is all about awareness and getting people excited on campus," Dr. Tim Leszczak, assistant professor of health and human performance and the grant's project leader, said. "This will help to solve the problem of not having anywhere to go for physical activity in our surrounding community."

Leszczak estimates the program will impact an estimated 10,000 people, including faculty, staff and students at APSU.

"This program will help those less fortunate in the area and those who do not have access to areas for physical activity," Leszczak said.

He cited statistics that support the need for the program. About 80 percent of the students in the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System receive free or reduced lunch, and about 30 percent of the students are considered obese by state standards, Leszczak said.



PHI KAPPA PHI CHAPTER, MEMBER RECEIVE NATIONAL AWARDS

The APSU Chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (PKP) received a literacy grant from the national PKP organization for its annual Candy for the Mind book giveaway project.

The literacy grants program was initiated to mobilize members and resources of Phi Kappa Phi and the higher education community to champion literacy initiatives. Grants of up to \$2,500 were available to Phi Kappa Phi chapters and individual members to fund ongoing literacy projects or to create new initiatives. The society's commitment to the cause of literacy grows out of and is consistent with its mission, "to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

For the 10th consecutive Halloween, APSU's PKP chapter collected new and gently used children's books for its Candy for the Mind project. In 2011, PKP

distributed more than 2,500 books to community children during G.H.O.S.T. (Great Halloween Options for Safe Trick-or-Treating), the on-campus alternative for safe trick-or-treating.

In addition to the chapter award, member Simone Parker, who received her bachelor's degree in music from APSU and then graduated in May 2012 with a Master of Music in piano performance, was one of 140 PKP members in the nation to receive a competitive Love of Learning award, which helps fund post-baccalaureate studies and/or career development for active PKP members.

Parker is using her Love of Learning award to become certified as an Alexander Technique teacher with the Chesapeake Bay Alexander Studies Program. The Alexander Technique is a whole-body approach to improve physical and mental functioning.



Simone Parker

Beth Liggatt

APSU BREAKS GROUND ON NEW DEWALD LIVESTOCK PAVILION



Beth Liggatt

John Bartee Jr. ('92) (from left), state Rep. John C. Tidwell, state Sen. Mark Green, Dr. Tristan Denley, Joan DeWald and Dr. Ernie DeWald shovel the first scoop of soil during the groundbreaking for the new DeWald Livestock Pavilion, which will open in December 2013.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Nov. 30 at the APSU Agricultural and Environmental Education Center for the new DeWald Livestock Pavilion.

The modern facility will replace an old hay barn on the property, providing a practical working and learning space for faculty, staff and students. The project is also only the first phase in a proposed three-phase Animal Science Facility, which will eventually include a new animal husbandry laboratory classroom and a livestock handling area.

"When completed, this facility will provide a much needed learning center for students in our rapidly growing agriculture program and also for area agriculturalists and military personnel," said Dr. Don Sudbrink, chair of the APSU agriculture department. The new pavilion, set to open in 2013, is being named in honor of Dr. Ernie and Joan DeWald, who generously supported the project with a major financial gift. The couple previously endowed the Josephine and William DeWald Memorial Scholarship for nursing at APSU, in memory of Ernie's parents. For more information on the DeWald Livestock Pavilion or other projects at the APSU Farm, contact the APSU Department of Agriculture at 931-221-7272.

THE ALL STATE STUDENT NEWSPAPER CELEBRATES 1ST NATIONAL AWARD, BEST IN SHOW DISTINCTION



Beth Liggert

For the first time in the 80-plus-year history of The All State, APSU's student newspaper, a staff member was named among the best nationally at the annual Associated Collegiate Press conference held Oct. 31-Nov. 4 in Chicago.

Christy Walker, editorial cartoonist for The All State, was given a second-place individual award for her cartoon depicting Clarksville Mayor Kim McMillan with religious items that accompanied an editorial about her private meetings with local religious officials.

In addition to Walker's award, The All State's recently redesigned website, www.theallstate.org, also earned seventh place in the on-site Best in Show competition.

The website was redesigned during the Fall 2012 semester to make it more user friendly and more fitting of the digital era. It now includes multimedia elements and the ability for readers to comment and share stories and content on social media.

A total of 370 colleges and universities from across the nation attended the conference. More than 2,500 individuals attended the conference, and more than 400 entries were submitted into several different Best of Show categories for newspaper, yearbook, website and magazine.

CONCERT HALL RENAMED AFTER GEORGE AND SHARON MABRY



Beth Liggert

Drs. George and Sharon Mabry are honored during the naming of the George and Sharon Mabry Concert Hall.

The Concert Hall inside the Music/Mass Communication Building has been renamed the George and Sharon Mabry Concert Hall.

The concert hall's new name was unveiled Nov. 11 during a special performance by the Nashville Symphony and Chorus.

For 33 years, George Mabry served as the APSU director of choral activities and director of the Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts. He is a published composer and formerly the director of the Nashville Symphony chorus, where his performances received national recognition.

Beginning her career at APSU in 1970, Sharon Mabry, professor of music, is known internationally as a recitalist, recording artist, writer and a master teacher of vocal techniques. She recently published an acclaimed memoir and career-advice book, "The Performing Life: A Singer's Guide to Survival."

Together, the Mabrys were instrumental in the development of the APSU music program. They've mentored thousands of young, talented musicians, many of whom have established successful careers in the music world.

During George Mabry's tenure as director of the Center of Excellence, the University opened the state-of-the-art Music/Mass Communication Building, with its 600-seat concert theater. That space quickly gained a reputation as one of the finest acoustical environments in the southeast.

NED AND JACQUELINE CROUCH DONATE FOLK ART COLLECTION TO APSU



Beth Liggitt

Ned ('72) and Jacqueline Crouch recently donated a collection of 42 folk art carvings, paintings and drawings to APSU.

Their gift will join an already impressive folk art collection at APSU. For years, the University has been the home of several statues by the noted self-taught Tennessee artist E.T. Wickham and paintings by William Shackelford. In 2010, the collection received a major boost when Dr. Joe Trahern donated three sculptures by William Edmondson, the first African-American to have a solo show of his work at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City in 1937.

The Crouches began amassing their impressive folk art collection in the early 1970s, when Ned was a young sculpture student at the prestigious Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan. The habit quickly turned into a passion, and the Crouches became close friends with major collectors and the artists they supported.

The Crouches hope their gift catches the attention of their fellow folk art collectors around the country. The collection is currently on display in the Mabel Larson Gallery.

"The Circus," carved by a Civil War veteran and 19th century dentist, is the signature piece of a folk art collection donated to APSU by Ned and Jacqueline Crouch.

APSU BEGINS NEW HISTORY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT



Beth Liggitt

To celebrate the accomplishments and service of World War II veteran and faculty emeritus Preston John Hubbard, APSU has established a scholarship endowment in his honor.

The Preston Hubbard Scholarship will benefit deserving history students.

Dr. Preston Hubbard taught history at APSU for 33 years. He suffered and survived the Bataan Death March and the brutality of more than three years as a prisoner of war, in the hands of the Japanese during World War II. After the war, he came to APSU as a student and later as a professor.

After retiring from APSU, he penned his story in the book "Apocalypse Undone" (Vanderbilt University Press, 1990). In addition to the scholarship fund, APSU has renamed the Morgan University Center colonnade in honor of Hubbard.

ROTC CADET RECEIVES TOP HONOR, BRONZE CROSS

ROTC Cadet Sean Hunt received the prestigious Legion of Valor Association's Bronze Cross of Achievement.

Hunt becomes APSU's second cadet to receive one of the country's highest honors. In 2009, former Cadet Shamai Larsen, now a lieutenant, was the University's first recipient.

The Bronze Cross is being given only to eight cadets in the nation out of 6,000 from 273 schools in the Class of 2013 for overall excellence in Army ROTC, including academics, ROTC performance and extracurricular activities.

Hunt is a member of the Army's Green-to-Gold program, meaning he entered APSU from an active duty-enlisted military career to earn the college diploma he needs to become an Army officer.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER RECEIVES CERTIFICATION FROM NATIONAL ASSOCIATION



Tutors work with students at the Academic Support Center. The center received the highest level of certification from the College Reading and Learning Association.

The Academic Support Center, located inside the Marks Building, has been certified by the prestigious College Reading and Learning Association.

The center received the highest level of certification possible – a Level 3 master certified tutor status. That means the University’s center prepares tutors so thoroughly that they are now a certified training agency.

The new certification also offers a boost to the center’s current student tutors. If they go on to work as tutors in graduate school or other academic support agencies, they can now say they are CRLA certified.

The Academic Support Center provides free services to APSU students, such as peer tutoring, a writing center, technology support for the enhanced courses and study guides. The center also offers free preparation workshops for APSU students and prospective APSU students taking the COMPASS exam, the GMAT and the PRAXIS exam.

8 ROTC CADETS NAMED DISTINGUISHED MILITARY GRADUATES



APSU had eight ROTC cadets designated Distinguished Military Graduates, representing the top 20 percent in the nation among 5,592 cadets.

One of APSU’s eight cadets, Sean Hunt – who received the prestigious Legion of Valor Bronze Cross Award – is ranked No. 11 in the nation.

In addition to Hunt, seven other cadets from APSU named Distinguished Military Graduates (DMGs) are Nathan Brewer, David Bullard, Theodore Sierminski, Jermaine Adams, Eryn Chauncey, Juan Vega and Charlie Batchelor.

APSU had 17 cadets evaluated by the 2013 Army Cadet Command Accessions Board, which determines the order of merit list (OML) score of all cadets who will graduate and commission between Oct. 1, 2012, and Sept. 30, 2013.

The OML score is determined by overall grade-point average, performance at ROTC summer training (Warrior Forge), extracurricular activities and ROTC activities.

Tree of Life

The evolution of a renowned scientist

by Charles Booth

The story of Dr. Jack W. Sites Jr. ('73, '75) begins about 3.5 billion years ago when life first appeared on this planet. That might sound a bit excessive, but not when talking about a renowned scientist whose life's work, including his participation in the National Science Foundation's "Assembling the Tree of Life" (AToL) initiative, has focused on reconstructing the evolutionary history of life on earth. So out of that dark, primordial soup where life emerged, an organic being developed a sense of curiosity and decided to explore land, and the first traces of Sites appeared.

Much has happened since those early moments, so for the sake of time, let's skip ahead a few million millennia to a sunny afternoon in December 2012 and the Starbucks Coffee shop inside the Austin Peay State University Woodward Library. That's where one of APSU's most distinguished biology graduates sat, enjoying a latte and squinting as he tried to recognize the school he once attended. Those narrow eyes seemed to take in everything around him – the paper coffee cup on the table, the brightly colored walls of the library – while also focusing on some unseen world where life is about to sprout from the barren soil.

This expression comes from working on the AToL program, which was initiated about a decade ago with the basic goal of establishing the "genealogy of life" on earth. The project is based on genetically-reconstructed pathways of shared descent over the past 3.5 billion years of the history of life. Given that this includes about 2 million known species on earth, and probably two to three times this number waiting to be discovered, then in the broader context of the "natural history" sciences, the AToL effort is the NSF's equivalent of NASA's program to put a man on the moon.

Sites joined some of the world's top herpetologists in an effort to work out the relationships of the lizards and snakes, and this "Deep Scaly" team (Sites at BYU and colleagues at five other institutions) shared the \$2.4 million grant over a five-year period to collect larger and more synthetic data sets than any single lab alone could accomplish. Among many other surprises, they discovered that all living snakes shared a single common ancestor – a small, almost blind "worm snake" that

lived underground. In the larger context, working out the Tree of Life will offer immense benefits to society in terms of finding new drugs or pharmaceuticals, finding new genes for improvement of crop plants or domestic animals, getting the upper hand on viruses that may threaten human life and finding new "model systems" for basic research on a range of biological processes.

Sites, 61, is a ruggedly attractive man with wavy, white and gray hair and the slender, toned physique of someone who has spent most of his life outdoors. He was in town from Utah that December afternoon for the holiday break, visiting families in Trenton, Ky., and Clarksville. He looked a little relaxed after a lunch with colleagues in the APSU biology department, but once he started talking about his work, about unraveling

the history of life, a boyish expression of wonder and excitement flashed briefly across his face.

"Ninety-eight percent of the time, even at this age, I feel like I'm getting paid for my hobby," he said. "I'm making a living doing my hobby."

Sites is a professor of biology and curator of herpetology at Brigham Young University, where he's spent more than 30 years helping turn that school into a major research institution. He has traveled extensively throughout South America, and to a lesser extent Australia and Africa, conducting groundbreaking work and earning a reputation among his peers as a highly respected herpetologist. He was elected to the rank of fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1998, and over the past 25 years he has served in several professional capacities,

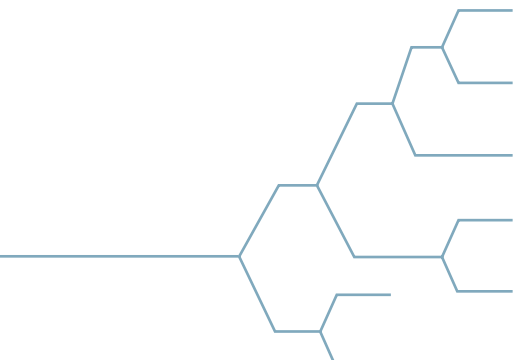
including service on the Board of Governors of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the editorial board for the journal *Molecular Ecology*, stints as associate editor for the journals *Evolution* and *Systematic Biology*, and most recently, as president-elect for the Society of Systematic Biologists. He has served on grant review panels for research directorates of the NSF and one for the U.S. Department of Energy.

But if his story began 3.5 billion years ago, then his career started a little late, in early 1950s, when he was simply a toddler roaming the rural countryside off Dunbar Cave Road in Clarksville.

“Ninety-eight percent of the time, even at this age, I feel like I'm getting paid for my hobby. I'm making a living doing my hobby.”

- Dr. Jack Sites

Dr. Jack Sites holds a caecilian - an amphibian that resembles earthworms or snakes - during a recent field research trip to South America.





The Dawn

In February 1950, Dr. Jack W. Sites Sr., a local optometrist, opened an eye clinic in downtown Clarksville. His work hours were dedicated to helping his patients see the wonders of the natural world better. That's because the young doctor was an avid outdoorsman, spending his free time hunting or fishing or simply hiking through the rural countryside around his house. In 1951, his first son Jack was born, and the son soon started following his father out into the woods.

"As soon as I could walk, I had free reign of the backyard," Sites said. "I can remember walking behind my dad – he had a push lawn mower – and I don't know how old I was, how old your earliest memories are, but I remember a snake moved out of the way of the lawn mower and I pounced on it."

Some parents would shriek or cry out for their young toddler to drop the reptile, instilling a lifelong fear in that child. But the optometrist knew his son wasn't in any danger. He told the younger Jack he could keep the snake, as long as he didn't bring it in the house. That was the beginning not only of a hobby, but also of an illustrious career.

"He encouraged me, and once I was old enough, I was bringing everything home I could get my hands on," Sites said. "My dad, he built me cages and aquaria, and every year we had a backyard zoo."

“As soon as I could walk, I had free reign of the backyard. I can remember walking behind my dad – he had a push lawn mower – and I don't know how old I was, how old your earliest memories are, but I remember a snake moved out of the way of the lawn mower and I pounced on it.”

– Dr. Jack Sites

As he grew older, Sites' younger brother Clif joined him in these wilderness adventures. The two boys fished on summer afternoons at Swan Lake and caught water snakes in the reeds. They canoed the Red River with their father and went hunting. In the afternoons, they returned home with a frog or a lizard and received a wary smile from their mother.

"She was tolerant and glad I had an interest," Sites said. "She wasn't afraid of any of it, but she didn't want to handle it and didn't want it in the house."

A young Jack Sites discovers a snake in front of his Dunbar Cave Road house in 1959.

Evolution

In the early 1960s, Sites attended Greenwood Junior High School, where he excelled at biology but lacked focus in other subjects such as math and Latin. He still preferred to spend his time hunting or fishing or collecting animals for his yearly zoo.

“I didn’t work too hard at academics,” he said. “Stuff that was easy was easy. I made Cs in math. My dad hired a tutor for me in math, but I didn’t see any use in it at the time.”

Sites looked up from his latte and with the same narrow eyes, he surveyed the small Starbucks. He seemed to be looking around for college students, but final exams were over, leaving the campus empty.

“I tell young people now that you can’t have too much math,” he said. “You can’t have quantitative skills that are too strong. I need collaboration to do my quantitative type of research projects. But otherwise, I came in here to Austin Peay my freshman year and said, ‘yep, biology, sign me up.’”

Sites majored in biology and minored in geology, and he spent his summers outdoors working for the Tennessee Department of Conservation as a seasonal naturalist. The job took him to state parks, such as the Natchez Trace and Fall Creek Falls, where he led hikes, built new trails and conducted nature lectures for visitors. He’d found his calling in the APSU biology department. But, when the semester started up again his junior year, he’d make another life-altering discovery at the school.

“I signed up for a course in field botany that Wayne Chester taught,” Sites said. “I was one of nine people in the class. I knew seven of the other eight. Then this brunette walked in, and I didn’t know who she was. She sat in the front, left desk, next to someone I graduated high school with.”

He discovered her name was Joanne Lawson, an elementary education major from Trenton.

“The thing that made us click is she grew up on a farm, didn’t complain about hard, physical work, and she would go fishing with us, go out in the field in a botany class,” he said. “I ended up marrying her.”

Eden

The couple moved into a small apartment in a house on Greenwood Avenue after the wedding. Joanne worked as a teacher and Sites started working on a master’s degree in biology at APSU.

Once he graduated, he took a job as a vertebrate zoologist with The Nature Conservancy, which was just setting up shop in Tennessee.


He commuted from Clarksville to Nashville every morning and spent a year developing a database of Tennessee’s threatened/endangered plant and animal species. The job sent him around the state and put him into contact with scientists at institutions such as the University of Tennessee.

“I remember coming back and saying, ‘those guys know a lot. I want to be like those guys,’” Sites recalled. “About halfway through that job, I remember talking to Joanne and saying, ‘what would you think if I went back to school for a Ph.D. program?’”

She wasn’t thrilled by the idea. More importantly, her parents weren’t happy. The young man who’d been seen running around their farm in Trenton with a butterfly net

Dr. Jack Sites pins a water snake while doing field research at the Everglades National Park in December 1981.





Dr. Jack Sites and his wife, Joanne, (far left), participate in field research in Mexico in the summer of 1977.

finally had a job. Now he wanted to go back to school.

They, however, knew it was his passion. So when he was accepted to the doctoral program at Texas A & M, the Lawsons packed the couple's small apartment into a hay truck, covered everything with a tarp and drove 800 miles to College Station, Texas, to help set the pair up.

"We had to rent a really cheap place next to the railroad tracks. I didn't have an income," Sites said. "Joanne didn't have a job at first, but she got one. It was a dive, but it was cheap. My in-laws saw that and they groaned."

Renaissance

In the fall of 1976, Sites started as a student at Texas A & M. He thought he wanted to expand on his master's degree research project on some aspect of ecology, but then he took a graduate course in phylogenetic systematics, which focused on using computer tools to reconstruct species' evolutionary histories. Sites was captivated. He met with a professor who gave him an unpublished dissertation. It was by a Harvard graduate who researched a group of lizards distributed in Mexico.

"The research showed a lot of variation in chromosome numbers in these lizards," he said, "and how mutations in chromosomes might lead to speciation, the formation of a new species. I started reading that thesis and I couldn't put it down. The origin of a new species! This is like going to the moon. This is so neat that we can conceive of it."

He contacted the author of the dissertation who encouraged Sites to further his research in northern Mexico. That conversation began a new phase in Sites' life, sending him regularly south of the border into the desert to conduct his research. He often brought Joanne with him as a field assistant.

"She was good in the field," he said. "We would camp and after four or five days, we would check into a hotel and make a makeshift lab with a microscope," he said. "We also had an electric centrifuge to spin cells (we had to prepare chromosomes on microscope slides), but also a backup 'manual' centrifuge that you can crank by hand if the electricity goes out because of storms."

They did this for four years, sleeping in the desert, building hotel room labs and getting up at 4 a.m. to study Spanish. In 1980, Sites graduated and took a postdoctoral position in another department, biology, at Texas A & M. A year later, their daughter Hillary was born in College Station.

The Enlightenment

In 1981, Sites started applying for full-time teaching positions at universities across the country. He hoped to move closer to home in Tennessee, but in early January of 1982, he received a phone call from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. He didn't know anything about the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, which runs the school.

"The biggest thing for me was the no coffee rule," Sites said, picking up his Starbucks latte. "No coffee, no tea!"

The university flew the Sites family up from Texas for an interview in February 1982. They wore their "Texas" winter clothes, which means they were terribly underdressed. The family shivered as they walked through the airport with a BYU faculty member.

“The origin of a new species! This is like going to the moon. This is so neat that we can conceive of it.”

– Dr. Jack Sites

"We borrowed hats and gloves from him and other people," Sites said. "I also asked him, 'how do you handle evolutionary biology?' The BYU professor said that it was a required course in their biology curriculum. I said, 'Wow. You're ahead of the whole state of Texas.'"

Sites presented a research seminar to members of the zoology department, and he later met with deans and administrators with the school. That's where he received a bit of good news.

"They said, 'We're the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, so we have certain expectations. With coffee, just do it at home before you get here,'" Sites recalled.

They offered him the job. He started in August 1982 and has been with BYU ever since. During his career, Sites has received hundreds of thousands of dollars in NSF grants to conduct field research in countries such as Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Argentina and Venezuela, and places such as the Galapagos Islands, Andes, Patagonia and the Amazon and Orinoco River basins. His work has also appeared in major academic publications, including conceptually focused journals such as *American Naturalist*, *Evolution and Systematic Biology*, as well as taxonomically focused journals such as the *Journal of Herpetology*. He has authored and co-authored three papers in *Science* – the pre-eminent scholarly journal for



the global scientific community. In 2002, he received BYU's top faculty research award.

Sites has taught undergraduate courses in Animal Diversity, Biodiversity, Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy, Conservation Biology, Evolutionary Biology, Herpetology and graduate-level classes in Biogeography, Phylogenetic Systematics, Population Genetics, and Processes of Speciation. He has also co-taught field-oriented classes for small groups of undergraduate and graduate students, including Natural History of Tropical Rainforests and Natural History of the Southern Appalachians.

"My most recent assignment, and one which I now think may be the most important one I have, is a one-semester Life Sciences for Non-majors course," Sites said. "It is not important for non-biologists to know the details of photosynthesis, or DNA replication, but in an advanced science-driven economy and democratic political system such as ours, it is absolutely critical for citizens from all walks of life to understand how science works. This means knowing the difference between a theory and a hypothesis for example, how the peer-review system works and the self-correcting nature of science – all of these things are crucial to informed public dialogue on a range of issues that confront our society."

The Scientific Revolution

As Sites reminisced that day at Starbucks, it wasn't unusual to see how vividly he recalled details of his life. His career has been spent looking at origins and evolution, and in 2004, this skill caught the attention of some of the country's top researchers working on a project with the potential to transform the study of biology in the 21st century.

That year, the National Science Foundation began funding the "Assembling the Tree of Life" program, which, according

to the NSF website, seeks to "assemble a framework phylogeny, or Tree of Life, for all major lineages of life" on this planet. The "Deep Scaly" project consisted of researchers from San Diego State University, Stony Brook University, University of Texas-Austin, Yale Peabody Museum and the Field Museum of Natural History. They recruited Sites to help work on the "Deep Scaly" branch pertaining to reptiles because of his expertise and reputation as a herpetologist.

"The Tree of Life, I think I got invited because I had a long track record with really high profile publications," he said.

In a recent interview for the BYU website, he discussed some of the groundbreaking ramifications of this project.

"We've been able to reconstruct the trunk and the major limbs of the tree of life for snakes and lizards," he said in an article posted on byu.edu. "Now every master's student, doctoral student and professor out there has the foundation for the smaller branches of that tree."

His work reaches back into that darkness of 3.5 billion years ago. He is helping change the entire field of evolutionary biology, but at the same time, he sees himself simply as a continuation of that young boy collecting snakes and lizards along Dunbar Cave Road in the 1950s.

"I never could have imagined doing this," he said. "It's hard work. It's 65- or 70-hour weeks, but you get paid to do what you love to do."

After saying this, he seemed to realize that he'd been sitting indoors for about two hours. The Starbucks had closed, and only a handful of people mulled around the library. Sites stretched his back, threw away his empty latte cup, and then hurried outside into a sunny, warm December day. And that's how his story ends, eons after it began, with a man content to take a nice walk on a beautiful afternoon. **AF**

29TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT BALL AWARD WINNERS



APSU President Tim Hall congratulates Dr. George Fisher (center) and David Loos Jr. for being named recipients of the Wendell H. Gilbert Award and the Spirit of Austin Peay Award, respectively.

Wendell H. Gilbert Award Dr. George Fisher

Dr. George Fisher was an all-conference basketball and football star during the late 1940s. After graduating from APSU, his love of sports continued, and he played minor league professional baseball before becoming a manager.

Fisher returned to APSU in 1958 to begin a distinguished coaching career, serving over the first years as assistant football coach, track coach, golf coach and freshman basketball coach. In 1962, he began a nine-year stint as the men's basketball coach and was named OVC Coach of the Year in 1967.

In 1972, Fisher was named APSU athletics director, holding the post until 1977. He also was a professor of health and physical education until his retirement in 1989. Fisher was inducted into the APSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978 and Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) Hall of Fame in 1988.

Spirit of Austin Peay Award David Loos Jr.

The Spirit of Austin Peay Award recipient is no stranger to Austin Peay State University or the Clarksville community. For the past 16 years, David Loos Jr. has been one of the "Voice of the Gobs" as a co-commentator on the Governors Sports Network. He has commented for Gobs basketball for 16 years and football for the past 11 years.

He is a 1994 graduate of Austin Peay where he received his bachelor's in mass communication. He graduated with his master's in sports administration in 1998.

He is a long-time member of the Governors Club, serving on the board since 2000 and acting as Governors Club president during the 2011-2012 year.

Currently, Loos serves as a co-owner for Solid Gospel 105.1 FM and WJZM 1400 AM.

NEW! – APSU ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP CARD

JOIN TODAY!

As you might know, graduates of Austin Peay State University automatically become a member of the APSU National Alumni Association. The association is here to keep you connected to APSU for life. We offer a number of free benefits to APSU alumni, including a complimentary subscription to the Austin Peay magazine, free email accounts and events throughout the year such as homecoming and alumni receptions.

The association now offers a new benefit – the APSU Alumni Membership Card. For a nominal cost of \$20 per year, this card not only supports the University; it gives you exclusive access to campus discounts as well as discounts from area businesses.

By supporting the APSU National Alumni Association through your membership card, you will enjoy discounts to APSU from the bookstore, dining services, Woodward Library, Foy Fitness and Recreation Center and athletic events. It also provides exclusive discounts to Clarksville area businesses such as Edward's Steakhouse, Bella Medical Spa, Blondie's (APSU campus location), Jade Dragon and The Gilroy, just to name a few. For a complete list of supporters, please visit www.apsu.edu/alumni.

We also offer alumni opportunities to help shape the future of APSU. Whether you help us recruit students, advise students during our Career Networking Event, become a member of one of our alumni chapters or become an alumni membership card holder, you'll have a direct impact on the success of your alma mater and its students.

For more information on the APSU National Alumni Association or to sign up for your APSU alumni membership card, please visit www.apsu.edu/alumni or call the APSU Alumni Relations Office at 931-221-7979.

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Tampa/St. Petersburg (Fla.) Area.....Vacant

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(sclarke555@live.com)

2013 ALUMNI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 27

Class of 1963 50-Year Reunion

May 1

Hispanic Alumni Chapter Wine Tasting Event

For more information or to purchase your ticket, please call 931-221-7979.

July 20

National Alumni Association Board Meeting

Sept. 13

Fall Fling

For more information or to purchase your ticket, please call 931-221-7979.

COMING SOON!

Ireland Alumni & Friends Trip 2014

For more information contact Rylan Kean 931-221-1277 or keanr@apsu.edu.

BECOMING AN ALUMNI CHAPTER MEMBER

Once a student graduates from Austin Peay, he or she is automatically considered part of the National Alumni Association. We currently do not have membership dues, unless you wish to purchase the APSU Alumni membership card which provides additional benefits to you, as an alumni. For more information, or to become more involved with our alumni chapters please visit www.apsu.edu/alumni and click on the APSU National Alumni Association menu link. From there just follow the steps to become a chapter member and see a complete list of all of our current alumni chapters.

For more information on getting involved, call the APSU Alumni Relations Office at 931-221-7979 or email leszczakto@apsu.edu.



Photo by Beth Liggett

Olympians

by Charles Booth

On a gray
afternoon in

late July, some of the world's top women's soccer players – Hope Solo, Abby Wambach and the rest of the U.S. national team – warmed up on the lush green field inside Scotland's Hampden Park stadium. Sports photographers and fans snapped pictures of the somewhat relaxed athletes as they stretched in the grass or jogged along the sidelines with a soccer ball. In a less conspicuous section of the field, members of Colombia's Women's National Football Team prepared for a tough game. These young women, standing in their dark blue jerseys and red socks pulled up over their shin guards, watched as the stadium filled with spectators. "It was like a dream come true," Tatiana Ariza, a midfielder for the Colombian team, said. "You feel different. You are excited before the game, but once the game starts, you try to give everything on the field. They are the best athletes in the world. You learn a lot of things from them, and you try to improve." Tatiana and her twin sister and teammate, Natalia, were about to participate in one of the biggest games of their careers. They kicked around a soccer ball to calm their nerves. More than 5,000 miles away, in their home country, crowds of soccer fans watched proudly as Colombia's first women's Olympic soccer team prepared to take the field. The game also appeared on several television screens in the Clarksville area. That's because the Ariza sisters, both members of the Austin Peay State University women's soccer team, were about to become the first Governor athletes to participate in one of the world's greatest sporting events – the Summer Olympic Games.



Soccer in Colombia

The Ariza sisters were born in 1991 in the capital city of Bogota. Their father was an avid soccer fan, as were most Colombians at that time. The country's Men's National Soccer Team had developed into a world power, qualifying for a spot in the 1990 World Cup in Italy and the 1994 World Cup in the United States. Children everywhere kicked around soccer balls while the adults leaned forward, yelling at TVs when their teams lost.

"We played mostly for our father, because he loved it when he was young," Tatiana said. "He wanted us to play a sport, and we preferred soccer."

But soccer in Colombia at that time was predominately a man's sport. The country didn't have a professional women's league or very many resources for girls interested in playing soccer. As young girls, the Arizas were often forced to play with neighborhood boys in rough pickup games. They were usually the last ones picked to play on the all-boy teams.

"We started playing with just boys," Natalia said. "That's where we learned the most. Then they started to see that we were good."

"And we weren't picked last for teams anymore," Tatiana said.

This hardscrabble training period prepared the sisters for the competitive world of high school soccer, where the Arizas faced teams loaded with equally talented players. But the sisters again proved to be exceptional, with their high school team winning the Bogota tournament in a city where the majority of citizens grew up with a soccer ball at their feet.

This early success led the girls to try out for and become members of the Under 17 Colombia National Women's Team. While still in high school, they traveled with the team to New Zealand to play in the FIFA Under 17 Women's World Cup. A few years later, the girls joined the country's Under 20 team and headed to Germany where they placed fourth in the Under 20 Women's World Cup.

"That was huge for us because we don't have a professional league in Colombia," Tatiana said. "We have nothing. No support. So fourth place was pretty big for us."

People took notice of these young women, and a new social movement began taking shape in Colombia. For the first time in that nation's history, people talked openly about women's athletics, and the first signs of financial support began trickling

into programs. The Arizas, however, knew more opportunities awaited them outside Colombia's borders. The sisters started working with a company that helps young athletes attend universities in the United States. They took the required SAT exam, sent off their transcripts and waited to see if any schools were interested in them.

APSU soccer

The Arizas' profiles and academic records eventually found their way to the desk of Kelley Guth, head coach of the APSU women's soccer team. Guth was in the midst of recruiting a strong freshman class for the upcoming season, and the Arizas seemed a perfect fit for her roster.

"When I was recruiting them, they were in Germany at the Under 20 World Cup," Guth said. "From the beginning, they were playing high profile events,

and it was exciting to watch and follow and say to the others, "these are your future teammates."

The Arizas joined a strong freshman class of Lady Govs that included such talented players as goalkeeper Haylee Shoaff and twin sisters Andy and Joceline Quiceno. Their participation in the World Cup, however, kept them from working out and playing with the team during the summer preseason. But when they arrived, fresh from the world stage, they were ready to compete.

"From the moment they got here, they've made such a great impact on our team," Guth said. "They're both very good players and they put us in a position to be more productive on the soccer field. And with their teammates around them, they've really changed the climate and atmosphere of the team. It's exciting. It's helped us with the energy of the team having teammates that have played in some special events, representing their country."



Tatiana Ariza performs a bicycle maneuver. ▲
Photo by Beth Liggett



In the Arizas' first season, the Lady Govs soccer team made its debut appearance in the OVC championship game, losing to Morehead State. Two years later, they again made it to finals, losing this time to the University of Tennessee at Martin.

"Making the championship game twice in the last three years is quite an accomplishment," Guth said. "The Arizas have played an important role in that, but in their class of eight players that came in that year, each one of those players really made a huge impact on our team. They've all helped make our team take the next step."

For three consecutive years, Tatiana has been named to the all-OVC team, and she was also named the OVC offensive player of the year. Last season, she broke the school's record for career goals and assists in a season. Natalia was also named to the all-OVC team and has become one of the Governors' key defensive players.

"We love our team, and the people are so nice and so close to us," Natalia said.

"Austin Peay opened doors for us," Tatiana said. "We're very grateful for (our) coach and thankful for Austin Peay."



Brittney Sparr, Sports Information

Tatiana takes a shot during an OVC soccer match.



Brittney Sparr, Sports Information

Natalia dribbles down the field.



Brittney Sparr, Sports Information

Tatiana fends off a defender.



Brittney Sparr, Sports Information

Natalia charges after a UT-Chattanooga player.



Tatiana battles against U.S. Women's Team member Alex Morgan.



Contributed

The Olympics

After their sophomore year at APSU, the Arizas hurried back to Colombia to attend training camps and tryouts for the Olympic team. By finishing fourth in the Under 20 World Cup, the Colombia Women's National Team qualified for the first time for the Olympics. The sisters made the team.

"We went to Switzerland to play friendly games, and then we went to London," Natalia said. "Actually, it was in Scotland because soccer was playing in different cities. We played France, North Korea and the U.S."

That gray afternoon in Hampden Park proved to be a tough, physical match for the Colombian team. They ended up losing 3-0 to the U.S., the eventual Olympic champions. They also missed the Olympics opening ceremony because the soccer matches started early, and their team did not end up qualifying for the next round.

"We thought we would make it to the next round," Natalia said. "After we were done with the tournament, we went to London and spent one week in the Olympic Village."

They cheered themselves up by watching more soccer and other sports, such as volleyball, did some shopping in London and mingled with some of the best athletes in the world. At the end of the week, they boarded a plane back to Columbia. The team members were nervous about the reception they'd receive since they lost so early in the Olympics.

"When we came back home, we realized how important it was," Tatiana said. "We came to our country, they were so happy. Because we were first women's team qualifying for Olympics. That's history for our country. We know it's a long process, but we hope to qualify for the next one. We want to go there."

Natalia and Tatiana check out the Olympic Village in London.



Contributed

Natalia weaves around a member of the North Korean soccer team.



Contributed

Natalia and Tatiana relax with fellow members of the Colombia Women's National Football Team.



Contributed





▼ *Natalia Ariza prepares to hit a volley during practice.*

Photo by Beth Liggett



Tatiana (red) and Natalia Ariza helped take APSU Women's soccer team to the OVC championship game.

APSU careers

The next Women's World Cup will be in 2015 in Canada, followed by the summer Olympics in 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, but the Arizas have more immediate concerns – their final season at APSU. That season starts in August, and the entire squad has some unfinished business to attend.

"We had a great year this year, accomplished a lot and played good soccer," Guth said. "Going into next season we have a number of girls who are seniors who have made two championship games but who have yet to put a (championship) ring on their finger. We're definitely motivated and excited for next year to get here. We know what we need to do to get there again. We're very excited for August to get here. Hopefully we'll accomplish that goal in these girls' career." **AP**



Photo by Beth Liggett

Faculty Accomplishments

PROFESSORS TO PUBLISH SCHOLARLY BOOK ON ZOMBIES



Beeth Liggett

Students dressed as zombies surround Dr. Antonio Thompson and Dr. Amy Thompson, authors of the new book, "The Real World Implications of a Zombie Apocalypse."

Dr. Antonio Thompson, associate professor of history, and his wife, Dr. Amy Thompson, associate professor of biology, are developing a new academic book – "The Real World Implications of a Zombie Apocalypse."

The book, scheduled for release in the fall of 2013, is under contract by the major academic publishing house McFarland Press.

"It's not a fiction book," Antonio said. "Zombies are just a vehicle to push us forward. We're looking at real-life events and disasters that we thought could be world enders, or at least devastating, such as Hurricane Katrina or the 1918 flu epidemic."

"It can be academic but still be fun and fresh and current," Amy said. "One of the big things you have to do as a college professor is reach your audience, reach your students, and do things that they like in order to engage them in learning. Things like this are certainly engaging."

The book will consist of 20 chapters that examine the zombie apocalypse from historical, political, military, neurological and biological perspectives. It will also examine the legal and financial implications of such a disaster. The Thompsons solicited top scholars across the country, including Harvard University assistant professor of psychiatry Dr. Steven Scholzman, to contribute essays for this work. They also invited two of their colleagues, APSU biology professor Dr. James Thompson and APSU sociology chair Dr. David Steele, to write chapters for the book.

"We have contacted the people that we think will best fit with the essays," Amy said. "The end product will be something that is very academic and could be used as a tool for planning for real-life catastrophes."

Recently, Michigan State University offered a summer course titled "Surviving the Coming Zombie Apocalypse: Catastrophes and Human Behavior." National Public Radio reported that St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, required its freshmen to read Max Brook's zombie novel "World War Z" to "facilitate conversations about globalization, ethics and mortality."

3 PROFESSORS AWARDED \$500,000 NSF GRANT

Dr. Karen Meisch, associate professor of biology, **Dr. Cindy L. Taylor**, professor of biology, and **Dr. Nell Rayburn**, professor of mathematics, are on the lookout for community college students, active duty military personnel, veterans and dependents interested in earning a bachelor's degree in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects. That's because the National Science Foundation is awarding them more than \$500,000 over the next five years to offer scholarships for qualified students in those areas.

The project, titled "Increasing the Number of Regional Community College Graduates and Active Duty Military Personnel, Veterans and Dependents Enrolling in and Completing a STEM Baccalaureate Degree," awarded 16 scholarships last year.

"We're working with Columbia State, Nashville State and Volunteer State Community College, and also with the APSU Center @ Fort Campbell," Taylor said. "Students can apply and receive a NSF S-STEM Scholarship for their sophomore year at the community college or at Fort Campbell. That would allow them to complete an Associate of Science degree. Then they would come to Austin Peay. That's potentially three years of support."

Eligible applicants must major in either biology, chemistry, computer science, geosciences, mathematics or physics at APSU. The hope is that the scholarships will increase the number of students from regional community colleges and military backgrounds to come to APSU, in addition to increasing the number of STEM graduates in the community.

"These individuals might not know what the options are, or they might not think it's a possibility for them," Rayburn said. "But if there's some money that makes it feasible for them to continue, that opens some doors. This helps some good students who might encounter difficulties otherwise, financially."

The NSF grant will also provide money for a bridge program that will help these students transition from community colleges and the military to APSU. The program will bring these students together on campus each summer and also host special events throughout the year.



Beeth Liggett

Dr. Karen Meisch, Dr. Cindy L. Taylor and Dr. Nell Rayburn.

HISTORY PROFESSOR PUBLISHES WORK ON KOREANS IN JAPAN



Beth Liggett

Dr. David Rands, assistant professor of history and head of the Asian studies program, previously spent nine years in Japan where he noticed something unusual about that country's two

major cities – Tokyo and Osaka.

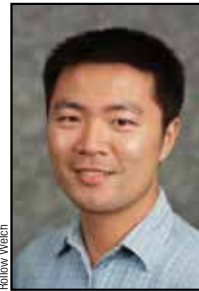
Specifically, he realized the cities attracted two completely different immigrant populations from neighboring Korea. A certain type of Korean preferred Osaka while another type chose to live in Tokyo. When Rands returned to the U.S. to pursue his Ph.D. in history at the University of Southern California, he discovered that no one had really examined these fascinating migratory patterns before.

He found that many educated and student activist Koreans located in the somewhat westernized city of Tokyo. That's where they focused on large issues, such as Korean independence. Osaka on the other hand, which is much more of an Asian culture, attracted blue collar Koreans, such as farm laborers and factory workers. They tended to concern themselves with issues of housing and workers rights.

"I came up with this idea called 'function-based spatiality' – kind of a term I coined – where the city has several different functions within the local, regional, national and international sphere, and those functions act to either attract or repeal specific kinds of immigrants."

In 2008, the United Nations University hosted an international conference in Calcutta, India, on the urbanization of Asia, and Rands was invited to present his research. His work so impressed the organizers that they published his paper, "Foundations of Minority Communities: Resident Koreans in Japan," in a new scholarly anthology, "Urbanization and Development in Asia: Multidimensional Perspectives."

CLARINETIST WANG RECEIVES TENNESSEE INDIVIDUAL ARTIST FELLOWSHIP



Rollow Veitch

Dr. Mingzhe Wang, assistant professor of music, was one of only two musicians in the state to receive a coveted Tennessee Arts Commission Individual Artists Fellowship in 2012.

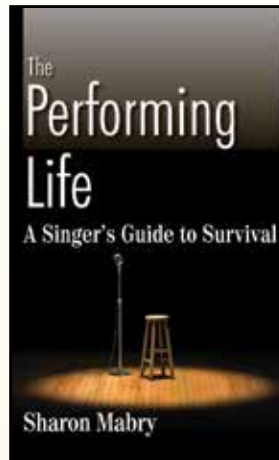
The Tennessee Arts Commission is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to ensure the citizens of Tennessee have access to and participate in the arts. Fellowship awards are provided to outstanding professional artists who live and work in Tennessee.

Wang, an acclaimed clarinetist, received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Yale University, where he also obtained his master's degree and Artist Diploma. He is the principal clarinetist of the Gateway Chamber Orchestra, an active performing group he co-founded in 2008, and a sublimist member of the Nashville Symphony. As a choral singer, he is a member of the Simon Carrington Chamber Singers.

The fellowship, however, will allow him to travel and play more recitals to reach young students in Tennessee public schools.

"I'm always traveling around and seeking out talented potential musicians," he said. "This will probably make my goals a little easier, going to high schools. I could purchase music and plan more recitals to reach more listeners."

MABRY'S NEW BOOK EXAMINES 'THE PERFORMING LIFE' OF A PROFESSIONAL SINGER



Dr. Sharon Mabry, professor of music, has written a new book, "The Performing Life: A Singer's Guide to Survival." The book offers valuable advice along with little vignettes culled from Mabry's 35-year career as an award-winning professional singer.

Over the last three decades, Mabry has performed across the globe as a highly sought after recitalist and soloist with symphony orchestras. She took a diary with her on all her travels, and the insights and obstacles she experienced, scribbled in those pages, inform much of her new book.

"In that diary, I wrote about the problems I had – the logistical problems, the health issues, all kinds of venue problems with acoustics, heating, cooling, dresses," she said. "With this book, I wanted to let people see that even in the worst of times, if you have a plan, if you're prepared mentally, if you're prepared

logistically with a support system, you can get through it. But you have to have those sorts of things."

Mabry said many young people today, thanks to the popularity of shows such as "American Idol" and "The X Factor," think they only need to be able to sing well to be successful. Her new book explains that for singers to have long, successful careers, they need to do everything from warming up their voices to exercising and maintaining a proper diet to insuring that they get enough sleep.

Several years ago, Mabry contacted 15 professional singers around the country and asked them what kind of book on performing they would like to read? What would be most helpful to them in their careers?

"They said, 'tell us what it was really like. Don't write a dry, academic book,'" she said. "This book is how to survive, and that's what they wanted me to say. How to survive as a performer."

That's exactly what she did. Rather than writing a dry tome on her experiences, Mabry infused the pages of "The Performing Life" with her notorious sense of humor. The result is both an informative career manual and an entertaining memoir of three decades in the business.



OPERATION DEFIANCE

By Charles Booth

Billy Freeland, 61, is a tall, friendly man with a bit of gray in his beard. Last fall, he stopped by an old Mapco service station off Providence Boulevard and politely asked if someone could help him find a job and somewhere to stay. Freeland was homeless. The weather was getting colder outside, and he needed a warm place to sleep. The days were also getting shorter, and Freeland didn't want to be alone at night in that part of town.

The Defiance neighborhood in the New Providence community, where he was staying, was not the kind of place where one felt safe after dark. Abandoned buildings and overgrown, vacant lots abutted the local streets. About 47 percent of the residents lived at or below the poverty level, and the neighborhood had one of the highest violent crime rates in the city.

"It got pretty rough," Chris Monhollen, chairman of the community's neighborhood watch program, said. "There were places where you wouldn't want to stop at a four-way stop sign."

When Freeland visited the old Mapco that October afternoon, it was no longer a service station. A large sign outside the newly renovated building read "New Providence Community Policing Center." That's where Freeland met Lisa Baggett, an employment caseworker with Goodwill Industries. She helped find him a job as a mechanic and a place to live.

"This is what Clarksville and a lot of places need," Freeland said, pointing to the policing center. "They have a lot more going on for people who need help in all different areas. And they get you hooked up pretty quick."

The assistance Freeland received last fall was part of a new Clarksville Police Department program aimed at rehabilitating the addled Defiance neighborhood. It's a massive, community-wide project, with Austin Peay State University serving as one of the key partners in this important effort.



Bill Pearsinger



Dr. Loretta Griffy ('87, '97) and Lt. Steve Warren stand in front of the New Providence Community Policing Center. The center is one of the outcomes of a \$1.2 million grant, directed by Warren with extensive assistance by Griffy, to cut down on crime in the north Clarksville community.



Bill Persinger

“The big thing is, people with badges have a real trust issue. We don’t trust anyone who doesn’t wear a badge. We historically have not played well with others. This grant requires us to do that. We had to reach out to all these other agencies.”

-Lt. Steve Warren

OPERATION DEFIANCE

The brightly lit policing center on Providence Boulevard is somewhat of a cross between a police station and a community center. In addition to Baggett with Goodwill Industries, police officers and computer attendants staff the facility. The building is the focal point of Operation Defiance – a program geared at cleaning up the deteriorating neighborhood.

Last year, the Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice awarded the CPD a four-year, \$1.2 million grant to cut down on violent crime in the area by taking on a radical, three-tiered approach to law enforcement. In addition to making arrests, the grant requires the department to provide resources to the community, such as employment services, and intervention programs to keep previous offenders from ending up back in jail.

To make this project work, the police department needed a little help. That proved to be problematic at first.

“The big thing is, people with badges have a real trust issue,” Lt. Steve Warren, director of the project, said. “We don’t trust anyone who doesn’t wear a badge. We historically have not played well with others. This grant requires us to do that. We had to reach out to all these other agencies.”

Those agencies include Big Brothers Big Sisters, Bradford Health Services, Clarksville Housing Authority, the Board of Probation and Parole, citizen and church groups and several city of Clarksville departments.

The department also needed help keeping all these entities on task. So, in early 2011, Warren placed a call to Dr. Loretta Griffy ('87, '97), associate professor of mathematics and director of the APSU Center for Teaching and Learning, asking for her assistance.

A COMMUNITY IN NEED

Griffy works in a small, white building on the edge of campus that houses the University’s Center for Teaching and Learning. She oversees the Title III grant-funded program, which seeks to strengthen the University’s academic quality. That experience with grants would come in handy later, but the CPD originally contacted her because of her statistics background.

“The first thing they had to do for the grant was find the area of town where there was a strong concentration of drugs and violent crime,” Griffy said. “They couldn’t just say ‘hey, we know where the crime is.’ They had to have the numbers to back it up.”

The CPD suspected it would have to tackle a different neighborhood in Clarksville. That’s because it had already dealt with the New Providence area. About 12 years ago, the CPD went on the offensive in that community, overloading the streets with officers and stepping up enforcement. Within a few years, the problem was under control.

“We knocked out crime in New Providence because we wound up arresting everybody,” Warren said. “We put a whole bunch of people in jail, declared a victory and moved our assets out.”

The data, Griffy discovered, told another story.

“We found out it really was the New Providence/Fort Defiance area that had the most concentrated issues,” she said. “The primary issues in the Fort Defiance and New Providence area are drugs and prostitution. They are the two major problems, and the prostitution is tightly tied to the drug problem.”

The findings weren't pretty. In three short years, that community of 1,500 people logged more than 1,090 offenses, including seven murders, 167 aggravated assaults and 567 drug offenses. This was where the CPD needed to focus its efforts.

Once the police department identified its target area, the state awarded the CPD the grant. The majority of the money, however, had to go to projects other than strict law enforcement.

“The problem we had the first time we went into New Providence was, if the only tool in your toolbox is a hammer, pretty soon everything looks like a nail,” Warren said. “We only hammered nails. This time, we're offering job services, treatment programs for drug and alcohol, GEDs, adult literacy, we're getting Big Brothers Big Sisters in here.”

The point of Operation Defiance is not to only make arrests, but to improve the overall quality of the neighborhood. But that's a big task, which requires the cooperation of several other agencies. The grant funded the Goodwill Industries position, which helped find Freeland a job. But the CPD needed an expert to make sure it was following the parameters set forth by the grant. So, Warren again contacted Griffy.

“One of the requirements of the grant was for an external evaluator, so we approached Dr. Griffy,” Warren said. “We were aware of her reputation as a statistician, and she was experienced in grant work. She has turned out to be a wonderful partner for us. She is the one who is helping to ensure that we meet all of our goals.”

With APSU's Title III grant, Griffy is charged with improving the quality of teaching at the University by offering support and services to faculty. She will now be assisting on a similar project for the CPD, with the end result being improving the quality of life for more than 1,500 people.

“I'm there to make sure everybody is actually doing what the grant says,” Griffy said. “It's very easy to take a whole lot of people and have a really good idea and go left of the parameters. My job is to keep everyone on track.”

“The first thing they had to do for the grant was find the area of town where there was a strong concentration of drugs and violent crime. They couldn't just say ‘hey, we know where the crime is.’ They had to have the numbers to back it up.”

-Dr. Loretta Griffy





Bill Persinger

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Operation Defiance is ultimately trying to recreate a safe neighborhood out of a criminal hotspot. For Monhollen, the neighborhood watch chairman and an APSU student, the effort is worth it. He's lived in the community for about 20 years and knows his home can be safe again.

"New Providence, before it got its bad reputation, used to be really nice to live in," he said. "A lot of families live here. But a lot of people just know it from its bad reputation of drugs and a lot of things. They've cleaned it up immensely. We have officers patrolling. They work with the community."

Since Operation Defiance started, crime has steadily declined in the neighborhood. At a recent community meeting, officers reported they only encountered a few minor incidents. The city's Building and Codes Department also joined the project as an unfunded partner and is tearing down abandoned structures and cleaning up overgrown lots. A new, nicer looking neighborhood is starting to take shape.

"Our arrest rates over the last few months have gone down drastically," Warren said. "We have people getting GEDs, getting

jobs, learning to read. We've made a lot of significant arrests. A street gang that was operating in Fort Defiance, a lot of them have moved out of the area. We have a lot of criminals who don't want to live there any more."

"It's unbelievable how it has changed," Griffy said. "We are starting to see a shift in crime."

AN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Reinventing an entire neighborhood is a daunting task, and to make sure you're doing it right requires organizing a lot of data. To keep track of all this information, the grant funded a 20-hour-a-week position for a data analyst. Griffy, an APSU professor, immediately saw this as a great opportunity for one of her students.

"I thought, 'we have this police department that is data rich, and we can have a student who can watch how this happens on the ground, not just how we analyze data from a performed set of data, but real stuff,'" she said.

After interviewing a few students, the CPD hired Stephen Stone, an APSU math major. Stone works at the CPD headquarters on Commerce Street, compiling all the data from different agencies



related to the project. It's a valuable opportunity for a student because the information is not as tidy as he's often presented in class.

"It's been a great learning experience, getting in a professional working environment," he said. "Working in the statistics classes, you have data sets given to you. Here, there are often lots of errors and it takes a lot of cleaning data first before you can ever do anything with it."

"He has turned out to be a tremendous asset for me," Warren said. "He's collecting data for all the agencies and he's keeping us straight."

RELATIONSHIP

Warren said earlier that people with badges have trust issues. Two years into Operation Defiance, with crime down and an improved quality of life taking shape along New Providence Boulevard, he said that's no longer the case.

"I think the most important thing is we've developed a network," he said. "I think that's something that will live on far beyond the grant. We've developed partnerships with the community."

Griffy also hopes to continue the relationship. It has allowed her to help restore an ailing community while providing a great real world learning experience for her student.

"I really want to make a positive connection to the police department because there is so much that can be done there," she said. "This could really be a nice door to open for Austin Peay. I would love to see us participate in projects like this all over the city. We're a great resource for the community." **AP**



APSU student Stephen Stone works part time for the CPD.

CHARLES HAND INDUCTED INTO RED COAT SOCIETY



Red Coat Society President-elect Gwen Conner helps Charles Hand down his red sport coat as Hand is inducted into the prestigious Red Coat Society. Faye Hand (right) observes along with APSU President Tim Hall.

Charles Hand, chairman and CEO of Hand Family companies and long-time supporter of APSU athletics, was inducted into the Red Coat Society during halftime ceremonies of the APSU-Eastern Illinois basketball game Jan. 19.

In its 10th year, the Red Coat Society serves as a Hall of Fame of service for the Governors Club, APSU's athletics booster club.

Hand has been in the wholesale beverage business since 1961 and has continued to grow the family business, originally founded in 1947 in Clarksville as Ideal Distributing Co. by his father, Raymond C. Hand.

Hand has been an active University supporter through both service and contributions. His APSU involvement includes membership in the Governors Club, the Tower Club, the Heritage Club and the Alumni Association. He was the underwriter of Beatrice Hand Village, a student housing complex named in memory of his mother, which opened in 2004. Hand also is honorary chair of the APSU Legacy Capital Campaign. In 2010, he received the Regents Award of Excellence in Philanthropy from the Tennessee Board of Regents.

His support of Governors baseball helped catapult that

program to its current Ohio Valley Conference prominence.

In the mid-1990s, Hand's contributions made it possible to install state-of-the-art lights and seating at the ball field, and in 1993 the facility was renamed Raymond C. Hand Park to honor his father. The next phase of upgrades, with Hand's backing, is expected to begin this summer.

A graduate of Clarksville High School and of Castle Heights Military Academy's Class of 1958, Hand attended the University of Tennessee and Austin Peay State University. However, before he was able to graduate, Hand left school to lead the family business due to his father's death.

In May 2007 Hand received an honorary degree from APSU, the first honorary degree ever awarded at the institution, in recognition of his dedicated support of the University and its programs.

To be eligible for the Red Coat Society, an individual must be a member in good standing of the Governors Club for at least five years, must have supported the athletic programs at APSU through financial contributions or participation in Governors Club fundraisers and other events, must have supported more than one sport both at home and away whenever possible and must be recognized within the APSU community for his association with APSU athletics.

APSU HALL OF FAMER, FORMER REDS PLAYER JIMMY STEWART DIES

Jimmy Stewart, the former baseball great who was a member of the University's first athletic Hall of Fame class and enjoyed a 10-year major league baseball career, died Nov. 24 in Odessa, Fla.

A former Govs third baseman/shortstop, Stewart was inducted into the APSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978-79.

During his collegiate career, Stewart owned the program's highest single-season batting average when he hit .435 in 1961; he finished with a .369 career mark. As a senior, he was named All-Volunteer State Athletic Conference (VSAC) after he captained the Govs to an 11-4 record.

Stewart was a multisport star. He was named All-VSAC in basketball during 1961, averaging 10.4 ppg and All-Regional in the NCAA South Central tournament after leading the Governors to a 22-9 record.

In track, he held the school record in the 220-yard dash (22.6) for many years. The Opelika, Ala., native was named recipient of the Joy Award in 1961 as APSU's most valuable senior athlete.

After college, Stewart concentrated on baseball, where he played for the Chicago Cubs, Chicago White Sox, Cincinnati Reds and Houston Astros from 1963-1973.

After his playing days, Stewart served as a longtime scout, including 11 years with the Reds.

MEN'S GOLF INVITED TO PRESTIGIOUS FALL EVENT

The men's golf team has been invited to participate in a prestigious Fall 2013 event.

The Governors will play in the NCAA Regional Preview, hosted by the University of Missouri, Sept. 15-17, at The Club of Old Hawthorne in Columbia, Mo. It was recently announced Missouri and Old Hawthorne will serve as hosts to an NCAA Regional, May 15-17, 2014.

APSU is one of 12 teams committed to play in the event, along with the host Tigers (ranked 19th and coached by former Govs coach Mark Leroux), Memphis, Tulsa, Iowa State, Kansas State, San Francisco, Mississippi, Louisiana Lafayette, South Alabama, Nebraska and Akron.

"We feel very fortunate to play in such a great event with a bunch of top notch quality teams on a great golf course," APSU coach Kirk Kayden said. "It will give us a good indication of where we are as a team early in that year playing against this strong of a field. It also shows us that our program is moving the right direction and getting a lot of respect from the major conference schools."

'GOVS GIVE BACK' A SUCCESS

APSU's student-athletes were privileged to be part of "Govs Give Back" in early December for the third consecutive year, this time helping close to 300 families in Clarksville with holiday groceries.

The project, spearheaded by the APSU Fellowship of Christian Athletes, included volunteers from many Governors and Lady Govs sports teams through the Student Athlete Advisory Council.

"There are so many stories that would grip your heart," said Andrea Mangrum, APSU's local FCA representative. "I believe Austin Peay's student-athletes showed their true character, and our community should be proud to support the Govs and Lady Govs."

LADY GOVS GOLF SIGNS 2 MORGANS

It won't be hard for women's golf coach Sara Robson to remember the first names of her most recent signees.

They are both named Morgan.

The Lady Govs have announced the signing of Morgan Gardner, of Orlando, Fla., and Morgan Kauffman, of Chattanooga, to letters of intent for the 2013-14 season.

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ARIZA EARNS ALL-REGION HONORS

Junior women's soccer player Tatiana Ariza was named second-team All-South Region by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA).

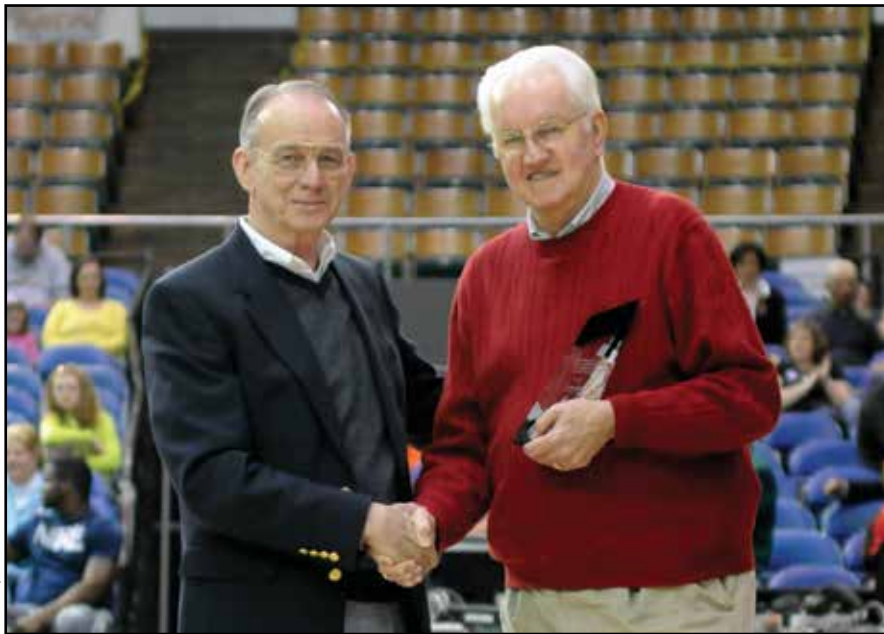
Ariza, the 2012 Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Year, scored 12 goals and assisted on eight others in 2012, after missing the season's first two matches due to her commitments with the Colombian National Team at the 2012 London Summer Olympics. Her 12 goals and 32 points led the OVC.

Nationally, Ariza finished 23rd in points per match (1.68) and 33rd in goals per game (0.63). Despite missing two games, she still finished ranked 42nd in total goals and 36th in points.



Brittney Sharr, Sports Information

MYERS RECEIVES DR. BANKS AWARD



Brad Kitley

Dr. Thurston Banks (left) presents Dr. Bruce Myers with the OVC Thurston Banks Award for Distinguished Academic Service.

Longtime APSU professor and faculty athletic representative Dr. Bruce Myers was named one of two recipients of the Ohio Valley Conference Thurston Banks Award for Distinguished Academic Service.

The award was established to recognize an individual (e.g. academic adviser, professor, tutor, etc.), with at least five years of service at one or more OVC member institutions, for his or her outstanding contributions to OVC student-athletes' academic success, learning and development as well for his or her overall commitment to the institution's athletics program.

The award is named after Dr. Thurston Banks, who served the Tennessee Tech Department of Athletics for 31 of his 34 years on the faculty and served as the faculty athletic representative (FAR) for 25 years before stepping down in 2006. He was inducted into the OVC Hall of Fame in 2007.

Myers is the chair of the APSU Department of Computer Science and Information Technology and has served APSU for more than 40 years, including serving as the department's FAR since 1994.

He was named to the Faculty Athletics

Committee in the late 1980s and was appointed committee chair in 1995. In his role as FAR he was instrumental in APSU adopting priority registration that has had a positive impact on not only student-athletes but also all scholarship students attending the University. He has served on the NCAA Initial Eligibility Waiver Committee and NCAA Research Committee, the latter helping formulate data to help determine the Academic Progress Report (APR).

A longtime member of the Governors Club, he has been a member of the booster organization's executive committee since 1995. He has supported all the APSU athletic programs in a variety of ways and is often in attendance at a multitude of contests. Myers was inducted into APSU's prestigious Red Coat Society in 2011; the society serves as the Hall of Fame of service for the Governors Club.

Myers has served nearly 15 years as a member of the University's Athletic Hall of Fame Committee. He also has served as the official scorekeeper for home men's basketball games since the Dunn Center opened in the 1975-76 season.

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Gardner has participated in the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour, recording four Top 10 finishes, and captured the Junior Golf Association Championship of Broward County.

Gardner played prep golf at Coral Springs Christian Academy. Since not enough girls were available to participate as a girls golf team, Gardner not only played on the boys golf team but excelled, playing as the No. 2 golfer on the longer courses.

Kauffman moved from Paducah, Ky., to Knoxville for her most recent senior season. She helped Farragut capture the district tournament championship with a sizzling 7-under 65 for medalist honors. She also helped pace the Knoxville school to region championship and runner-up in the Class AAA state tournament, finishing 12th individually.

She has captured multiple titles and second-place finishes on the Southern Junior Golf Tour, Tennessee Golf Association (TGA) and Pepsi Tournament tours.

2 FOOTBALL GOVS NAMED TO ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT TEAM

Two APSU junior football players, defensive lineman Iosua Silva and offensive tackle Ben Stansfield, were selected to the Capital One Academic All-District 3 team, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

This is the second straight year Silva has earned such distinction, while it is the first honor for Stansfield. District 3 is composed of all Division I schools in Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia. Both players will have their names placed into consideration for Academic All-America honors.

Silva is an agriculture-sustainable development major. He also is a two-time member of the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll and a four-time Athletics Director's Honor Roll member.

A psychology major, Stansfield earned the Ohio Valley Conference Academic Achievement Award, having the highest GPA for the year in a conference-sponsored sport, in each of his first two college years.

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3 INDUCTED INTO APSU ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Gary McClure, APSU's all-time winningest baseball coach who has taken the Governors to five NCAA Regionals, and Dr. W. Cooper Beazley, whose dedication to APSU athletics and its athletes extends well beyond financial contributions and services, were inducted into the 2013 APSU Athletic Hall of Fame.

In addition, Andrew Lorentzson, who starred in basketball for Austin Peay in the mid-1930s when it was a junior college, also was inducted into the APSU's Athletic Hall of Fame through the new Honors category, reserved for those former athletes who competed at least 50 years ago.

The three were honored at a breakfast Feb. 9 and were introduced during halftime ceremonies of the Governors' basketball contest with Belmont. They became the 101st, 102nd and 103rd members of APSU's

Athletic Hall of Fame.

When McClure was named interim coach, Oct. 14, 1987, he was serving as graduate assistant, less than six months after being the program's student assistant. Now, a little more than 25 seasons later McClure has become a coaching icon in OVC baseball circles. Along the way his clubs have captured seven OVC regular-season titles along with five OVC tourney titles and subsequent NCAA tourney appearances. He also is a five-time OVC Coach of the Year.

Since becoming part of APSU athletics in 1986, Beazley literally has been on call to the athletic training room and APSU athletes on a 24-7 basis—making Governors' and Lady Govies' health care a priority. He has not accepted any remuneration for his medical service, instead donating those dollars back to the University.

In 1987, Beazley helped APSU to become one of the first athletic

training rooms in the country to convert to electronic records, long before they became critical in patient care. He was responsible for the reconstruction of the training room and rehab areas. He also donated countless dollars for rehabilitation equipment and modalities in the training room.

Andrew "Loro" Lorentzson played basketball, football and baseball during his two-year stay. As a football player, he was an end and placekicker. He was a third baseman in baseball while a forward in basketball.

When Lorentzson began playing in 1936-37, the school itself was known as Austin Peay Normal — a two-year institution — and its nickname was the Terrors. They played in the Mississippi Valley Conference, comprising mostly four-year schools.

It was basketball where he made his name. In fact, he was the first star for head coach Fred Brown. In 1936-37, despite playing against older four-year school competition, Lorentzson averaged 13.1 points per game, scoring a school-record 288 points.

Dr. W. Cooper Beazley (from left), Gary McClure and Loren McCamey Schanding, granddaughter of Andrew "Loro" Lorentzson, receive plaques that will be installed into the APSU Athletic Hall of Fame.



In addition, he twice has been named to the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll and has been a member of the Athletics Director's Honor Roll each semester. He was named the APSU Football Scholar-Athlete in 2012.

The CoSIDA Academic All-America and Academic All-District is organized and voted on by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

VOLLEYBALL ADDS PAIR OF PLAYERS

Volleyball coach Taylor Mott wrapped up her first season by signing two players during the November signing period, adding Syd Litchfield, of Carmel, Ind., and Peyton Walker of Knoxville.

Mott, who led the Lady Govs to a 17-16 record in her first season, sought to make immediate improvements to two key areas of her squad. Litchfield, a libero, should help the Lady Govs' defense and passing game after recording 546 digs as a senior at Westfield High School.

Walker, an outside hitter, will help fill the gap left by departing senior Nikki Doyle. Walker recorded more than 1,200 kills during her career at West High School.

BAT GOVS SIGN 11 IN EARLY PERIOD

The Govs baseball team has taken advantage of its back-to-back trips to the NCAA Tournament, piecing together an 11-man early signing class in November. The Govs recruiting class included seven players from Tennessee as well as two from Missouri and one each from California and Kansas.

Dre Gleason, a first baseman from O'Fallon, Mo., will fill a big hole in the Govs lineup. He entered the winter ranked the No. 6 player in Missouri by PerfectGame.com after batting .314 as a junior.

Chase Hamilton, an outfielder from Arlington, Tenn., also enjoyed a stellar junior campaign, batting .339 with 24 RBI to lead Arlington High School to the 2012 Class AAA State Championship. He was ranked the No. 12 player in Tennessee by PerfectGame.com.

While Gleason and Hamilton highlight the 2014 class, the Govs sought to bolster its depth in the infield with five signees playing an infield position. APSU also added two outfielders and four pitchers in the early signing period.

WILSON EARNS BIBB SCHOLARSHIP



Landon Bibb (from left), Janet Wilson and Jeff Bibb.

Janet Wilson, a graduate assistant for the APSU men's basketball program, was named the recipient of the 2013 Dr. Leon Bibb Hall of Fame Scholarship.

Each year the scholarship award goes to a graduate student "with excellent integrity and character, desire to complete a graduate degree at APSU and a commitment to the success of the APSU Athletics program."

Wilson joined the men's basketball staff late last summer as director of basketball operations. She graduated cum laude from APSU with a bachelor's degree in business administration in August and is seeking a future role in sports administration.

HANKINS NAMED TO PRESEASON ALL-AMERICA TEAM

Jordan Hankins was named to the Louisville Slugger Preseason All-America team, selected by Collegiate Baseball newspaper.

Hankins, of Wentzville, Mo., was named to the Preseason Third-Team All-America. He was selected behind Connecticut senior L.J. Mazzilli (1st Team) and Texas junior Erich Weiss (2nd Team). Hankins was joined on the third team by Clemson junior Steve Wilkerson, Arkansas junior Dominic Ficociello and Vanderbilt junior Tony Kemp.

The honor is the first by a Governor. Hankins also was selected to the NCBWA Preseason Third-Team All-America on Dec. 12. He is the only second baseman selected to both the Collegiate Baseball and NCBWA preseason teams.

The honor follows a busy and successful sophomore campaign for Hankins. He played in all 64 games for the Govs last season and was second on the team in average (.336), home runs (10) and runs batted in (66). More impressively, he recorded 16 strikeouts in 250 at-bats, a ratio of one strikeout every 15.6 at-bats that ranked 16th among Division I players.



DOYLE BECOMES LADY GOVS' 1ST 3-TIME ALL-OVC SELECTION



Britney Spain, Sports Information

Senior outside hitter Nikki Doyle became the first APSU volleyball player to receive three first-team All-Ohio Valley Conference honors when she was selected to the 2012 All-OVC team in November.

Doyle was the only APSU player named to the 14-member All-OVC team.

Doyle, of Santa Maria, Calif., finished the regular-season with 422 kills, becoming the first APSU volleyball player to record three 400-kill seasons during their career. She finished conference play with an impressive 247 kills, second most in the league, and a .222 attack percentage. Her 3.64 kills per set this season ranks sixth all-time at APSU.

BAILEY SELECTED AS OVC SCHOLAR-ATHLETE



Britney Spain, Sports Information

Senior men's tennis player Sean Bailey has earned one of six prestigious Ohio Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete Awards for 2011-12, the conference office announced last fall.

Bailey was one of six selected recipients determined by a vote of OVC faculty athletics representatives. Candidates must have performed athletically with distinction, earned at least a 3.25 GPA and conducted themselves in a manner which has brought credit to the student-athlete, his or her institution, intercollegiate athletics and the OVC. The award is based on academic and athletic criteria/accomplishments achieved during the 2011-12 school year.

"Sean is truly an exceptional young man," said head coach Ross Brown. "He is a tremendous tennis player and student-athlete, as well as a tireless worker in all areas of his life."

Since the award's inception in 1981, 20 APSU athletes have earned a Scholar-Athlete award from the OVC. Bailey is the 13th male to be honored.

Bailey, the 2012 OVC Men's Tennis Player of the Year and APSU's Most Outstanding Male Athlete, continues to collect accolades from what has been a stand-out career at APSU. A second-team All-OVC selection as a freshman, Bailey's junior campaign saw him post a 19-5 singles record, including a 7-0 OVC mark. He recorded a team-best 21 victories as a sophomore and went 20-6 in doubles play.

Bailey, a double major in corporate communication and French, is a two-time OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll honoree and CoSIDA Academic All-District selection. Bailey was APSU's 2012 Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

APSU A CERTIFIED WILDLIFE HABITAT



Beth Liggett

Dr. Dewey Browder (right) instructs APSU physical plant workers, Chris Ritenberry (left) and Stephen Thompson (center), where to hang birdfeeders.

The Austin Peay State University campus isn't simply a home for some 11,000 students. Squirrels, rabbits, birds and a few feral cats have also taken up residence in the bushes and trees surrounding the red brick, Georgian-style buildings. They come here because of the abundance of food, water and shelter, but they stay because the campus offers these creatures a safe place to raise their young.

Those four reasons are what led the National Wildlife Federation to designate APSU as a Certified Wildlife Habitat in January. A plaque announcing this new certification was recently mounted to the Japanese garden next to the University's Woodward Library.

"I have long wanted to see our campus designated as a wildlife habitat because we have a nice assortment of birds and squirrels and a few rabbits," Dr. Dewey Browder, chair of the APSU Department of History and Philosophy, said.

Browder previously had his own garden designated as a Certified Wildlife Habitat, and last fall he worked to get the APSU campus a similar designation. He met with Michelle Rogers and Katherine DeWein, both of the APSU biology department and Clarksville's Warioto Chapter of the National Audubon Society. They helped put together the application for the CWH designation.

In honor of this recognition, elaborately decorated birdfeeders were installed around campus. The birdfeeders were built by a construction design class at the Austin Peay Center @ Fort Campbell.



Beth Liggett

Participants in this past year's Homecoming 5K Run conquered Emerald Hill in the event's new course. Runners from all age ranges compete to test their endurance and ability each year during APSU's Homecoming 5K Run.

1950s

BETTYE GILES ('50), of Martin, Tenn., remains active in various support roles in academics and women's athletics at the University of Tennessee-Martin, which last fall unveiled a bronze statue of her in front of the Athletic Complex at UTM.

1970s

D. WILSON OVERTON ('72), a certified public accountant and consultant residing in Dickson, Tenn., has joined the TriStar Bank Board of Directors.

THE REV. DR. LARRY W. ELLIS ('75) was recognized in September in San Mateo, Calif., for his 25 years of service in spiritual and community service. He is the senior pastor at Pilgrim Baptist Church in San Mateo.

REP. RON LOLLAR ('75), of Bartlett, Tenn., was re-elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives, District 99 in the November 2012 election. He was first elected to the seat in 2006.

1980s

LINDA HAYES ('80), a retired educator who taught at David Lipscomb High School in Nashville and in the Dickson County school system for 29 years, has joined the TriStar Bank Board of Directors.

RANDY JANOSKI ('80), of Chapel Hill, Tenn., is a saxophone artist for his ensemble, the Randy Janoski

Quartet. He is featured in the July 2012 issue of the Antigua Winds newsletter.

STEVE PHILLIPS ('80), of Centerville, Tenn., graduated in May with a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the Nashville School of Law and passed the bar exam in July. He will be in private practice in Centerville.

KAY DREW ('81), head of school for Clarksville Academy, is chair of the Clarksville-Montgomery County Industrial Development Board for the 2012-13 term.

DAINA HUNTER ('81), a job specialist for Cheatham County, Harpeth and Sycamore high schools, teaches a course called Jobs for Tennessee Graduates, a senior-only elective course that helps students develop essential employability skills.

TONY MARABLE ('81) was selected as the 2013 NAMEPA (National Association of Multicultural Engineering Program Advocates) President's Award for Academia, which honors members who make a difference in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

GINA BINKLEY ('84), an artist and photographer in Nashville, Tenn., judged the 2013 Regional Juried Photography Exposition organized by the Downtown Artists Co-op in Clarksville.

JAMES ROBERT HOWELL ('84) has published a crime novel, titled "Echoes of Shannon Street."



Contributed

APSU alumni and friends ventured to Italy for the 2012 Alumni Trip. Accompanying the group was APSU professor Dr. Dewey Browder.



Contributed

APSU Future Alumni Members take time out to volunteer at an animal shelter this past fall. The Future Alumni Members (F.A.M.) is an organization offering APSU students opportunities to connect with their peers, get involved on campus, learn about the traditions of APSU and develop relationships with APSU alumni while also being a vital part to the growth of the National Alumni Association.

COL. PAUL BONTRAGER ('88) is commander of Task Force Destiny, 101st Combat Aviation Brigade at Fort Campbell, Ky., now providing support to Regional Command East in Bagram, Afghanistan.

1990s

REV. CAROLINE FARMER ('90) is pastor of both Pleasant Valley and Shady Grove United Methodist churches in Union City, Tenn.

PATRICIA MORRIS HAMMOCK ('90) co-authored a book about the history of Meharry Medical College in 2009. The book is titled "An Act of Grace: The Right Side of History." She is the executive assistant to the senior vice president of academic support, operations, technology and planning at Meharry.

JEFF HARDIN ('90), professor of English at Columbia State Community College, had his poem "Immeasurable" published in The Southern Review journal.

DR. BETH BATSON ('91) recently was named the human resource, student services and policy supervisor for Cheatham County Schools. She previously was principal at Cheatham Middle School.

WILLIAM EDWIN HOGAN ('91), of Ashland City, Tenn., recently received the Cheatham County Conservation Farmer of the Year, Conservation Farmer of the Year Award for Middle Tennessee Area 6 and the Conservation Farmer of the Year for the Middle Tennessee Division awards.

SOLDIERS STUDY AG TECHNIQUES AT APSU FARM



Charles Booth

APSU adjunct professor of agriculture Bob Moore instructs members of Fort Campbell's 5th Special Forces Group and the Tennessee National Guard on agricultural practices.

The goat, a runt in terms of size, limped around a make-shift pen set up on the grounds of the Austin Peay State University Environmental Education Center, or APSU farm. His hoof was overgrown and infected, prompting APSU adjunct professor of agriculture Bob Moore to pull out a pair of metal trimmers and clip back the gnarled, black growth as if it were simply a long fingernail.

Moore held up the trimmers and suggested everyone bring a pair with them to Afghanistan. Issues such as infected goat hooves are a common problem for farmers in that war-torn country, he said.

Along the perimeter of the fenced-in pen, members of Fort Campbell's 5th Special Forces Group and the Tennessee National Guard stood with their arms folded across their chests. They nodded as the goat jumped back to its feet and trotted away from Moore.

For the last year, these types of demonstrations have occurred regularly at the APSU farm. The University's Department of Agriculture is working closely with the military to train soldiers in how to assist Afghan farmers still using archaic crop production and livestock practices. It's part of the military's growing focus on helping the Afghani population build up their country.

Moore, who previously served in Afghanistan as a member of the Tennessee Army National Guard's first Agribusiness Development Team, is sharing his experiences with soldiers about to deploy to that region.

"They're trying to get a background in agriculture," he said on a chilly Thursday morning in November. "We call it 'Ag 101.'"

Through the department's "Ag 101" program, soldiers come to the farm and first visit with APSU assistant professor of agriculture Dr. Rodney Mills. He works with them on cattle, focusing on subjects such as handling facilities and beef production. Then they meet with Dr.

Don Sudbrink, chair of the APSU Department of Agriculture, and Dr. Jim Goode, professor, for a quick lesson on plant and soil sciences.

On their last day at the farm, the soldiers listen to Moore as he explains the specifics of agricultural development in Afghanistan. On that particular Thursday in November, he talked to the group about potential projects, such as building greenhouses, developing beekeeping programs and vaccinating cattle against foot and mouth disease.

He also explained how wheat yields are drastically low in Afghanistan, even though those farmers use more seeds and fertilizer than American farmers. He attributed the low output to that fact that Afghan farmers simply toss their seeds onto the ground.

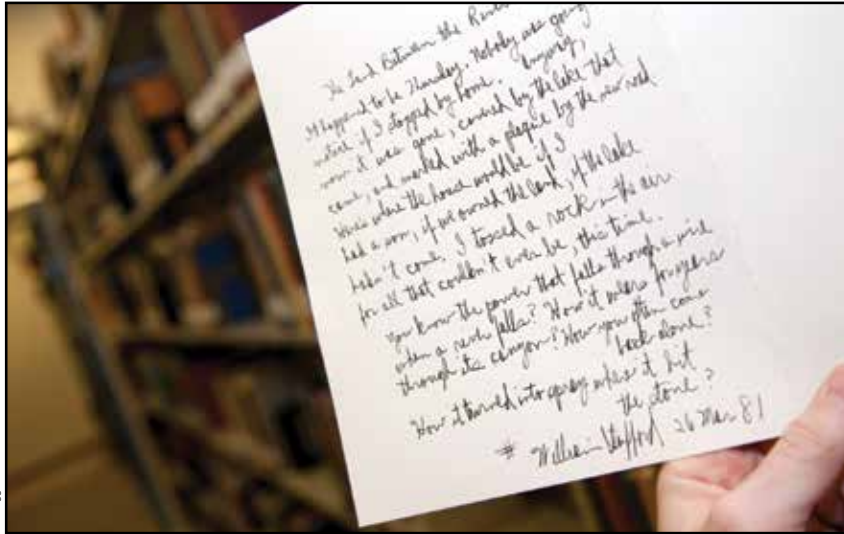
"You can duplicate the yields of U.S. wheat if you cover your seeds up," Moore said. "Their typical wheat yields were 10 bushel to the acre. In the U.S., a good yield of wheat in Tennessee is 70 bushels an acre. Under 40 bushels, our farmers are filing for crop insurance. You get 20 bushels in Afghanistan, your name is in the paper. You're a major producer."

Col. Jason Glass, with the Tennessee National Guard, was one of the soldiers standing around the pen that afternoon, watching Moore work with the injured goat. In a few months, he'll lead the Guard's second Agriculture Development Team to Afghanistan.

"We're up here getting Ag 101 training," he said. "We have 10 agriculture specialists on our team. We asked (Moore) to put this demonstration on to give resources to these guys."

Sudbrink, the chair of the department, said they hope to continue this collaboration with Fort Campbell and the Tennessee National Guard. The relationship provides the soldiers with knowledge and resources they can take with them to Afghanistan, he said, while allowing the agriculture department to support the U.S. military.

LOST STAFFORD POEM FOUND IN LIBRARY



Beah Leggett

The original poem written by famous author and poet laureate, William Stafford, dated March 26, 1981.

On a Wednesday morning in April 2012, Kentucky journalist and author Carol Niswonger was busy combing through the archives at Austin Peay State University's Woodward Library, conducting research for her new book on *Land Between The Lakes*, when she discovered something a bit unusual. Tucked away in a thin, manila folder was a short, hand-written poem titled "The Land Between the Rivers."

"When I started to read it, I said, 'that's it perfectly,'" Niswonger said. "The poem, it epitomized the feelings of that area. It had such an emotional attachment to the land and the surroundings. I thought the poet was someone who lived there."

But Niswonger didn't recognize the name signed at the bottom of the poem. Maybe it wasn't by a local poet, she thought. So one afternoon, she decided to Google the name, "William Stafford." That's when she realized she might have discovered an original copy of a poem by one of the 20th century's great American poets.

"There it was – William Stafford, poet extraordinaire," she said. "It just can't be him, I thought. It didn't have written down there, 'I am a famous poet.'"

Stafford, who died in 1993, was the 20th poet laureate of the United States and the author of 62 books of poetry. A non-profit organization, The Friends of William Stafford, maintains an extensive archive of the poet's works and personal journals. Niswonger

emailed the Oregon-based group a scanned copy of the poem, and Dennis Schmidling, the organization's board chair, authenticated the handwriting as belonging to Stafford. The poem was also confirmed as being one of Stafford's, published in the journal *Plainsong*, and in his collection, "An Oregon Message."

"I was awe struck," Scott Shumate, APSU digital services assistant, said. "It's probably the biggest thing we've found. There's so much here. The only time I get to look at a lot of it is when someone comes in to do research."

The poem was discovered among the papers of Dr. Joseph Henry, a former APSU professor who conducted extensive research on the Land Between The Lakes area. How exactly Stafford's poem found its way into that collection is a bit of a mystery. What is known is that the poet visited APSU numerous times during his life. And the handwritten poem was on the back of a poster, advertising a reading by Stafford on March 27, 1981, at the APSU Wesley Foundation.

"He was early on one of the poets we brought to Austin Peay when Malcolm Glass and I started the visiting writers series," Dr. David Till, poet and emeritus professor of English at APSU, said. "We liked him so well, and he liked us so well, we brought him back in the '70s, '80s and early '90s. He was not just a good poet, he was a great moral force."

Shumate said the library is working to preserve the poem, and they hope to display it sometime in the future.

MARCIA WALKER LOGAN ('92), of Ashland City, Tenn., is a teacher at Cheatham Park Elementary School in Springfield, Tenn.

ADAM WELCH ('92) is the coach of the boys' golf team at Clarksville High School, where he also teaches science.

LT. COL. JASON BRIDGES ('94) is commander of the 2nd Brigade Special Troops Battalion at Fort Drum, N.Y.

TIMOTHY DECKER ('94) is the assistant online program director for media arts and animation with the Art Institute of Pittsburgh.

ELENA MARTINA ASKEY SOUTHERN ('94), of San Jose, Calif., had her first novel, "Clinging to Deceit," published in April 2012.

LT. COL. MILE WILLIAMS ('95) is commander of the 1st Brigade of the 222nd Aviation Battalion at Fort Eustis, Va.

CHRISTOPHER S. GREEN ('96) has joined the Nashville, Tenn., office of TTL as the environmental group leader. He is a registered professional geologist in Tennessee, a member of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) and president of the SAME at Fort Campbell, Ky.

AMIE WILSON ('97) is director of the information technology department for the city of Clarksville. She also is a member of the Leadership Clarksville Class of 2013.

DR. NABRAUNDA DICKERSON ('99) is assistant principal at Byrns Darden Elementary School in Clarksville.

2000s

SAMUEL M. BARLOW ('00) recently was promoted to the rank of gunnery sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps. He also is a member of "The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band and performs with the Marine Chamber Orchestra and the Marine Chamber Ensembles at the White House and elsewhere throughout the country.

KAREN WILLIS ('02), of Clarksville, was sworn in Oct. 5, 2012, as the first black female assistant district attorney in Montgomery and Robertson counties. She also was sworn in as a U.S. assistant attorney for middle Tennessee.

BRANDON M. HARRISON ('04), manager of advisory services for Kraft Healthcare Consulting in Nashville, was awarded the certification of Fellow with the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

ALUMNI RECALL MEMORIES MADE IN OLD RESIDENCE HALLS



Beth Liggitt

College-day memories evolve from many aspects of university life—classes, faculty, fellow students, athletics, student activities, food, and even buildings. At alumni gatherings, talk of days gone by can be emotionally evocative, especially when the discussion turns to parts of the university no longer present. Last fall, those conversations often focused on Rawlins, Killebrew, and Cross—residence halls being demolished to make way for new ones that will not only change the appearance of campus but also continue reshaping and transforming residence hall life at APSU.

The \$29 million project (scheduled for completion in Fall 2013) will fast forward previous efforts to add cohesiveness and identity for residences on the west side of campus. But all of the new construction cannot erase the memories and bonds formed in the old halls. If walls could talk, those that shaped Rawlins, Killebrew, and Cross would likely have incredible tales to share—nostalgic reminiscences, raucous recollections, (and, of course, times of serious studying), all eliciting smiles, laughter, occasional tears—and

myriad other emotions that mirror the ups and downs of campus life. The walls are gone, but the memories are indelibly recorded in the minds and hearts of those who lived in the buildings.

Recently, we put a request on Facebook to capture old remembrances. Katie Venable wanted to know if scarlet fever counted. No doubt it does since she remembers a long bout with the disease while she lived in Killebrew. (A President's Emerging Leader's graduate, Venable now lives in Istanbul, Turkey.)

Mekia Arianna Abree Hickman remembers the night her shower flooded her room. And, how about those all-night poker games in Rawlins, David Sowell asks. Or can anyone remember the putt-putt course constructed across two rooms? Andrew Fudge does.

Wayne Criswell recalls good times playing cards, staying up all night, and talking with Lawrence Baggett, Genie Shumate, Georgia Kennedy and Chris Brandon. Yes, buildings disappear but memories linger, and new memories will be made in the residence halls making their debut next fall.

MELISSA TYNDALL FOX ('04, '07)

was accepted into the Low-Residency Program in Creative Writing at Murray State University, where she is currently an M.F.A. candidate in poetry. She also was selected to present on the Science Fiction & Fantasy - Supernatural panel at the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Association. She presented "Ganking Peter Pan: How Sam and Dean Have Full-on Swayze-d' Generational Stereotypes" in mid-February.

JENNIFER ANDERSON ('05), of Pleasant View, Tenn., is principal of Sycamore High School in Pleasant View.

TREVA GORDON ('05) debuted her stage play "Deception: Fooled by a Feeling" on Feb. 9 at APSU

MAJ. GUY HERR ('06) was promoted to Army major in November 2012. He has been an instructor in the APSU Department of Military Science and Leadership since November 2011.

DR. MELONY SEMBERGER ('06), assistant director of communication in the APSU Office of Public Relations and Marketing, received third place in the Best General News Story category during the 2012 Kentucky Press Association Excellence in Newspapers Contest. A freelance writer for the Todd County Standard in Elkton, Ky., she also received honorable mention in the Best Business/Agribusiness Story category.

LORIE SNYDER ('07) is assistant principal at Moore Magnet Elementary School.

MARSHAL FOX ('09), of Northampton, Pa., recently joined the Bethlehem (Pa.) Police Department as a police officer.

1ST LT. SHAMAI LARSEN ('10) ran on the Joint Base Lewis McCord 10-Miler Team that won the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) female 10-mile race on Oct. 10, 2012, in Washington, D.C.

KALEY DREW ('12) is owner of Couture Crush in Clarksville and a member of the Leadership Clarksville Class of 2013.

TRENT GAASCH ('12) recently joined the U.S. Army and was one of eight students nationwide to receive the Army's 2013 Health Professions Scholarship Program for optometry. He is attending school in Memphis and is president of the Southern College of Optometry Class of 2016. While he attends school, he will hold the lieutenant rank in the Army Reserve. After he graduates, he will begin his formal military training and pin on the rank of captain in active duty.

In Memory

JAMES MCKINLEY GRIGGS ('40), 94, of Franklin, Tenn., died Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012. He was a World War II veteran, retiree of DuPont and member of Hermitage Hills Baptist Church.

JOHN RICHARD MOORE ('63, '71), 71, of Gallatin, Tenn., died Sunday, July 22, 2012. He taught and coached at Rockdale County High School from 1963-70 and later became athletic director and head basketball coach at Volunteer State Community College, where he worked from 1971-2011. As quarterback at APSU, he set 11 national records. He was inducted in 2002 to the Tennessee Community College Hall of Fame and was honored by Vol State with the dedication of the John Richard Moore gymnasium.

DONALD BARRY DIXON ('65, '72), 68, of Stafford County, Va., died Saturday, Aug. 4, 2012. He retired in 1999 after more than 30 years with Stafford County Public Schools as a teacher, assistant principal and principal. In 2006, the Donald B. Dixon-Lyle Ray Smith Middle School was named in his honor.

JIM PERRIN ('70), 65, of Hopkinsville, Ky., died Monday, Oct. 15, 2012, after a long battle with lung cancer. He was the former APSU head softball coach, 2004-08. He was 75-136-2 in his four years directing the program. Prior to his return to APSU, Perrin spent more than 30 years coaching six different sports at Christian County High School in Hopkinsville, capturing a state title (1988) and two runner-up (1985-86) efforts as head coach of the wrestling program. In softball, he enjoyed the most success with a 633-147 mark over 20 seasons, including three slow-pitch state titles and a fast-pitch championship in 1996. He also won 19 district championships

Class Notes

and eight region titles. Perrin was named Kentucky Coach of the Year four times. He is also a member of the Kentucky Fast Pitch Hall of Fame, as well as an inductee into the 25th class of the Dawahares/Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. After leaving APSU, Perrin became athletics director at Trigg County High School in Cadiz, Ky., and coached the softball team during the 2009 season. He returned to Christian County High School as softball coach in July 2011. He was a member of Hillcrest Baptist Church.

RETIRED COL. DR. VIRGIL THOMAS DEAL

JR. ('71), 63, of Fayetteville, N.C., died Sunday, Dec. 16, 2012, in a plane crash near Fayetteville. He was the acting chief of surgery at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Fayetteville. He retired with 31 years as a surgeon for the U.S. Army. Deal entered the military in 1974 and became one of a very few Special Forces-qualified Army senior medical leaders. He received many commendations from his military service, including a Bronze star in Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He had a surgical practice in Clarksville for a time and served as a volunteer for Montgomery County's K9 Search and Rescue Team.

FRANCES MARIE MITCHELL ('71), 90, of Nashville, Tenn., died Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2012. She enjoyed a long career teaching in middle Tennessee, primarily second grade. She taught for more than 30 years, mostly at Harpeth Valley and Gover Elementary schools. She was a member of the South Harpeth and Bellevue Churches of Christ.

JAMES SWEAT ('71), 63, died Thursday, Aug. 30, 2012. He was Palm County (Fla.) Fire Rescue's first division chief of operations who later became the county's fire marshal until he retired in 2005. He also helped the county to establish paramedic services.

MERCY E. TRABEDRA ('72), 61, of Clarksville, Tenn., died Thursday, March 29, 2012. She was the school director and founder of the Academy for Academic Excellence. She was the former band director at New Providence Middle School and Clarksville High School. She also served as a hospital homebound teacher and adult education instructor.

DR. MARSHA KENT SAVAGE ('73, '74), 60, of Knoxville, Tenn., died Thursday, Nov. 1, 2012. She taught at the University of Florida and later Stetson University. She served as a technical editor at Oak Ridge National Laboratory for nearly 24 years.

RETIRED COL. MICHAEL P. BROWN ('77), 56, of Groton, Conn., died Sunday, May 13, 2012. In addition to APSU, he earned master's degrees from Webster University, Murray State University and Army War College. After graduation, he received his U.S. Army commission in the field artillery and went on to complete 30 years of active and reserve service, reaching the rank of colonel. At the time of his death, he was assistant director of the Mohegan Tribal Gaming Commission.

HOMEcoming 2012 WINDOW DECORATING WINNERS



Last October, APSU student organizations and Clarksville downtown businesses teamed up to showcase their "True Colors" for the 2012 Homecoming celebration. Participating businesses allowed student organizations to decorate their front windows using creativity, collegiate pride and school spirit. The winners of the 2012 "Franklin Street Homecoming Decorating Contest" were Lovin' Spoonful and Chi Omega Women's Fraternity.

CHARLES MURPHY HEATHMAN ('77), 61, of Pleasant View, Tenn., died Friday, Oct. 5, 2012. He was a member of the senior men's Bible class at Pleasant View First Baptist Church and a U.S. Marine Corps veteran.

GOLENA MICHELLE RUCKER BELL ('81), 53, died Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012, at her residence in Rutherford County. She was employed by Murfreesboro City Schools for more than 30 years. She was an APSU basketball standout who was the first female player at APSU to score 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds.

MARIAN BEARDMORE ('83), of La Crosse, Wis., died Friday, Sept. 29, 2012. She worked at Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center for 19 years before retiring Dec. 31, 2011. She was a member of Wesley United Methodist Church in La Crosse.

JAMES MERRITT BADDLEY ('87), 47, of Nashville, Tenn., died Saturday, Aug. 25, 2012. He was the owner and operator of Academy Tire in Lebanon, Tenn., and was a member of the Society of Industrial Engineers.

MISTY EASTHAM ('99), 36, of Grovetown, Ga., died Sunday, Oct. 16, 2011. She was a lifetime member of the Girl Scouts, receiving a Gold Award. She was a member of Stevens Creek Church in Grovetown.

SHANNA LYNN MOSS ('08), 35, of Clarksville, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2013, at Gateway Medical Center in Clarksville. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Clarksville.

DR. JAMES X. CORGAN JR., former chair of the APSU Department of Geology who served for 25 years, died Monday, Aug. 20, 2012, at Baptist Hospital in Nashville, Tenn. Corgan wrote and published more than 300 articles and papers. His most recent publications were several articles in the History of Tennessee Medicine in 2010. In 2012, he contributed a major part of his research material to the Curator of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Calif. He was an active participant in regional, state and national geological societies, serving on committees and presenting several papers. Corgan was the first recipient of the Hawkins Award given at APSU for excellence in teaching.

B. CHRISTOPHER HARDIN, (33), associate professor of theater and dance, died Thursday, July 19, 2012. Before coming to APSU in 2007, he was the coordinator and instructor of Project Imagination: Playground for Teen Actors at Theatre Tuscaloosa in Tuscaloosa, Ala. He was an adjunct theater instructor at Shelton State Community College and an instructor of theater and dance at the University of Alabama during 2003-06. During the summers of 2004 and 2005, he was an adjunct instructor at Birmingham-Southern College. From 2000-02, he was a theater instructor, Oklahoma State University. Hardin had impressive experiences in both performing and directing.

EDWARD EUGENE IRWIN, (82), of Clarksville, died Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013, at Spring Meadows Healthcare. He was a retired APSU professor of languages and literature and professor emeritus. He was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Alpha Theta, Friends of the Library, Clarksville Cellarmasters and ROMEO.

DR. WILLIAM GLENN STOKES, (90), Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012, at his home in Austin, Texas. Stokes was professor emeritus of mathematics and former chair of the APSU Department of Mathematics from 1960 to 1985. In August 2012, Stokes was honored at the groundbreaking of APSU's new Maynard Mathematics and Computer Science Building, where a classroom in the new facility will bear his name. He served in Europe in World War II in the Army's 59th Infantry. After the war, he attended college on the G.I. Bill, receiving his bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics from Sam Houston State. After a few years, he returned to school and earned a Ph.D. from Peabody College, now a part of Vanderbilt University.



Darral Sheffield

APSU's Military Alumni Chapter officers (from left) Joe Shakeenab, secretary, Alberto Mendoza, vice president, and Thomas Mercer, president, display their official chapter charter during their homecoming chartering reception last October. For more information on joining the Military Alumni Chapter, call 931-221-7979.

APSU LEGENDS: A PLAGUE OF PIGEONS



On a Sunday morning in 1967, a young man with a crew cut strolled across the Austin Peay State University campus carrying a .22 rifle. It was early, the morning sun still low, so not many people saw him. Once he passed Harned Hall, which was a women's residence hall at the time, he lifted the rifle. Gunfire echoed across the quiet campus. Birds flew up out of the trees.

Most of the APSU students sleeping in their dorm rooms didn't get out of bed. A few might have groaned and put pillows over their heads. Others probably closed their windows if it was a nice day. The shooting was a common occurrence most weekend mornings. The man outside was just Jonathan Wert, a biology graduate student tasked with clearing the pigeons off of campus.

"Pigeons in those days were a pill," Dr. Edward Chester, emeritus professor of biology, said. "There were big flocks of them everywhere. They were prominent. It wasn't unusual to see 200 or 300 pigeons."

The birds roosted atop the buildings, cooed loudly and left large messes on the sidewalks and red bricks around APSU. The smell was pungent on hot days, and when it rained, hardly anyone wanted to go outside.

"There was a guy in the Clement Building that put up a big plastic snake, and he hanged it outside the window to try and keep the pigeons away," Chester said. "When that didn't work, he put up a plastic owl outside."

The problem troubled then APSU-president Joe Morgan. When he looked out his window in the Browning Administration Building, he saw pigeons fluttering around the iron stair rails and the large trees. Something had to be done. The solution came from next door, in the

McCord Building. That's where Dr. Marvin Provo, coordinator of the University's general biology program, worked.

"One day, Dr. Provo and I were going into the McCord Building, and we noticed a flock of pigeons on the landing on top of the building near the walkway entrance," Wert, who earned his Ph.D. from the University of Alabama in 1974, said. "I told Dr. Provo that I shot expert in the Marines, and that I could easily reduce the pigeon problem that existed around the McCord, Browning and Clement buildings."

Provo liked the idea. Not only would it rid the campus of the pigeons, but it would also provide him with free bird specimens to dissect in his classes. Morgan, the deans and Provo formed a cabal to depose the pigeons. They developed a plan with Wert as their enforcer. Shooting was restricted to Saturday and Sunday mornings when the campus was less populated. They also stipulated that Wert was to use rat or bird shot, not a single projectile, so as not to damage any buildings.

"We never had any issues because most people knew the problem and understood the solution," Wert said. "The people that saw me knew what I was doing, and they never complained about me carrying a rifle and shooting on campus."

Wert estimates he shot about 50 pigeons between 1966 and 1968. When those little weekend hunts were over, he collected the bodies off the campus lawns, took them back to the biology lab room and put them in five gallon buckets of formaldehyde.

"Can you imagine what it would be like today, a guy on campus shooting pigeons?" Chester asked.

If you know of any APSU legends, either true or unconfirmed, please contact Charles Booth at boothcw@apsu.edu.

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WOMEN IN ATHLETICS OBSERVES 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX



It's not too late to support the Women in Athletics endowment. To make a donation or pledge, call the **APSU Office of University Advancement**, 931-221-7127.

Austin Peay State University recently wrapped up its second Women in Athletics celebration, a time to laud all current and former Lady Governors athletes.

This year's event, held April 5-6, also was a time to spotlight the 40th anniversary of Title IX, monumental federal legislation first enacted in 1972 that requires gender equity in sports and other key educational programs receiving federal funding.

The law states, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

When Title IX became law on June 23, 1972, it changed the landscape of collegiate athletics. Title IX's impact over the last 40 years have been profound, and APSU takes this opportunity to commemorate the success and excellence of those individuals who have worn the Governor's jersey with pride through this milestone.

Every two years, the Women in Athletics event will focus specifically on one sport and/or milestone. The goal is to celebrate women's achievements in athletics and raise awareness and money for the women's athletic programs.