


Austin Deay

The Magazine for Alumni and Friends of  University



**FAREWELL
PRESIDENT HALL**

AP

Spring 2014

**NEW GOV
NEW LOOK**



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Your opinions and suggestions are encouraged and appreciated and can be shared by contacting us using one of the methods listed above.

INSIDE PHOTO

Runners were showered in colors during the first Gov Run event – a one-mile fun run making use of Austin Peay State University's new GOV Trails – in September 2013. Photo by Beth Liggett.



WHERE YOU SEE THIS ICON, CHECK OUT MORE PHOTOS IN OUR GALLERY AT WWW.APSU.EDU/MAGAZINE



On Jan. 2, APSU President Tim Hall announced he was leaving the University to become the president at Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. His nearly seven-year tenure at APSU, which marked a period of tremendous growth and national prominence for the University, will come to an end in May 2014.

PRESIDENT HALL ACCEPTS PRESIDENCY AT MERCY COLLEGE

“Lee and I will be departing Austin Peay at the end of the spring semester as I assume the position of president of Mercy College in New York,” Hall wrote in an email message to the campus community that day. “We do so with excitement and anticipation at the prospect of new challenges, but with a measure of sadness that we will be leaving a place where we have enjoyed some of the happiest years of our lives.”

Hall’s message indicated that the decision was not easy, but he felt it was time for a transition.

“We could have been happy at Austin Peay for many more years. Yet I doubted whether I could do the job the University deserves across that long a period. As it is, we will be working with an institution much like Austin Peay and hoping to help apply some of the things we learned here.”

The Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) has assembled a search committee, with the expectation to select a new president by July 1, 2014.

Under Hall’s leadership, the University underwent significant transformation through enrollment growth, performance and facilities, making Austin Peay the fastest-growing university in the state. When Hall began his presidency in 2007, APSU’s enrollment was 9,094. That number increased 16 percent during the next five years, with the University growing to 10,873 students in 2011.





The increase in students over the years also created a need for additional faculty. Since 2007, Hall has facilitated a net increase of 62 faculty lines, bringing the student/faculty ratio down to 19:1. This change allowed more opportunities for students to work closely with their instructors and professors, maintaining the personal attention that is a continued focus of the University.

As student and faculty numbers increased, the University needed a place to put them. During his tenure at Austin Peay, Hall has led efforts to open nine new facilities, with the latest four structures opening last fall. Governors Terrace, a three-building residential complex consisting of Martha Dickerson Eriksson Hall, Governors Terrace North and Governors Terrace South, opened in August 2013. The latest project, the Maynard Mathematics and Computer Science Building, opened in November.



APSU is pleased to announce the establishment of the Tim and Lee Hall Endowed Scholarship. Please consider contributing to this important scholarship, which will provide opportunities for deserving students and honor the legacy of our departing president. Contact the APSU Advancement Office at 931-221-7127.



Check out more photos in our *"President Hall through the years"* gallery at www.apsu.edu/magazine



NEW MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING OPENS

On Nov. 18, APSU opened its new \$6.7 million Maynard Mathematics and Computer Science Building, named in honor of local businessman and alumnus James Maynard ('56). In the coming years, the new building will serve thousands of students and faculty with its much-needed classroom and office space. The facility, which houses the APSU Department of Mathematics and Statistics and the APSU Department of Computer Science and Information Technology, joins the Sundquist Science Building and the Hemlock Semiconductor Building in creating a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) core on the east side of the campus.

James Maynard and his family join APSU President Tim Hall in opening the new Maynard Building.



Beth Liggett

HONOR SOCIETY RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF TOP TWO IN NATION

The APSU Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa was selected as the 2013 recipient of the ODK Presidential Award of Excellence. ODK is currently comprised of 314 chapters nationally (referred to as circles), and the APSU circle was one of only two nationally to be selected for this prestigious honor by the Omicron Delta Kappa Board of Directors. This marks the first time in the circle's 34-year history that they have received this honor after being named both a Circle of Distinction and Superior Circle for the last seven consecutive years.

"This is a true testament to the outstanding student leaders that comprise the membership of our campus circle," Gregory R. Singleton, APSU associate vice president/dean of students and faculty secretary for the APSU ODK Circle,

said. "To be one of the top two circles in the nation brings honor to both APSU and the over 1,300 members who have been initiated into the local circle since its founding in 1979."

APSU NAMED "BEST FOR VETS" IN TENNESSEE

When the national publication Military Times released its annual "Best for Vets: Colleges 2014" list in November, it named APSU as the top school in Tennessee for serving and supporting military veterans. The newspaper listed APSU as the 57th best university in the country for veterans to attend, and it gave the University four stars for the academic support it provides these students.

APSU JUMPS 18 SPOTS ON BEST COLLEGES LIST

The U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges 2014 rankings were released in September, and APSU jumped an astounding 18 spots, placing 69th in the Regional University South rankings. That category includes schools from the southeastern United States that offer a full range of undergraduate programs, with some master's programs but few doctoral programs. Last year, APSU ranked 87th in that category.

U.S. News & World Report, which surveyed nearly 1,800 schools nationwide, has released its Best Colleges rankings since 1983, and the list is often used by prospective students when determining where to attend.



WHERE YOU SEE THIS ICON, CHECK OUT MORE PHOTOS IN OUR GALLERY AT WWW.APSU.EDU/MAGAZINE

APSU NAMED MILITARY-FRIENDLY SCHOOL

APSU continued to be recognized for its dedication to veterans and active-duty military students with the announcement last September that it had once again been named by Victory Media as a Military Friendly School for 2014.

The honor ranks APSU in the top 20 percent of all colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide according to Victory Media, a veteran-owned business and publisher of G.I. Jobs and the Guide to Military Friendly Schools. The company surveyed more than 12,000 schools, according to the announcement.

"Inclusion on the 2014 list of Military Friendly Schools shows Austin Peay State University's commitment to providing a supportive environment for military students," Sean Collins, vice president at Victory Media and a nine-year Navy veteran, said.

STUDENTS PUBLISHED IN ACADEMIC JOURNAL

In July, the newest edition of the international journal *Tree-Ring Research* was published, and it included an article co-authored by two members of the APSU community.

Megan Hart, an APSU undergraduate biology major and member of the President's Emerging Leaders Program, and Rob Shepard, a recent APSU graduate now pursuing a graduate degree at the University of Arizona, co-authored the article, "Signal Strength in sub-annual tree-ring chronologies from *Pinus Ponderosa* in northern New Mexico."

"This is a great accomplishment and illustrates the type of top-notch students we are producing at Austin Peay," Dr. Christopher Gentry, director of the APSU Office of Undergraduate Research, said.

Tree-Ring Research is the peer-reviewed journal for the international Tree-Ring Society. The journal has been

published since 1934 as a principal outlet for tree-ring studies.

Hart and Shepard's article was published in Volume 69, no. 2, of that journal.

APSU PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MARKETING RECOGNIZED IN REGION FOR WORK

The Office of Public Relations and Marketing at Austin Peay State University has been recognized by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) – Southeast District III for its publications, graphic design and photography.

The University received an Award of Excellence in the category of print and digital publications. The printed piece selected for the honor was "Scoring New Beginnings," a fundraising and information

publication for APSU football alumni.

An Award of Excellence is one of the top distinctions a school can earn in any of the categories.

APSU received a Special Merit Award in the graphic design specialty piece category for "Congrats! APSU Acceptance Package." That personalized piece is sent to students accepted to enroll at APSU.

Beth Liggett, University photographer, also received a Special Merit Award in the inaugural category of overall best practice awards: best photographer of the year.

The awards were announced during the CASE III annual conference held in February in Orlando, Fla.

CASE District III advances and supports educational institutions in the southeastern U.S. by enhancing the effectiveness of the advancement professionals who work in alumni relations, fundraising, communication and marketing.

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON NEW GOVS STADIUM

On Nov. 16, after the last home game of the 2013 football season, members of the APSU community witnessed a ceremonial demolition of the 67-year-old Governors Stadium. Former football players and cheerleaders used gold sledgehammers to break away pieces of the outdated facility. Three

days later, demolition crews took a more professional approach as track hoes began tearing down entire sections of the building. By this fall, a new \$19 million stadium will occupy that site, positioning APSU to be more competitive in recruiting both athletes and nonathletes to campus.



Crews continue work on Governors Stadium in March as the renovation begins to take shape against the campus skyline.

APSU PHYSICS CLUB NAMED OUTSTANDING CHAPTER

Last year, members of the University's Society of Physics Students (SPS) chapter sent an email to the national organization loaded with 45 megabytes of attachments. Somehow, the email made it to College Park, Md., where officials probably spent weeks wading through hundreds of images and documents detailing all the activities the APSU club, known as Del Square Psi, had participated in throughout the year.

Last November, the national organization named Del Square Psi as an Outstanding Chapter for a zone that extends throughout most of Tennessee and up into Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois. Only three out of approximately 30 student chapters received this distinction.

"The other two in our zone are Louisville and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, which based on student body, they dwarf us," Chris Hayes, chapter president, said. "So, for us to win, it shows we're extremely active. Per capita, we have more people in our organization than they do."

PHI KAPPA PHI CHAPTER RECEIVES TOP DISTINCTION

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (PKP) at APSU was one of 19 chapters in the nation to earn the Chapter of Excellence distinction for 2012-13.

APSU's achievement was formally announced by the national PKP headquarters in Baton Rouge, La. APSU was awarded this national distinction in 2011 as well. Other chapters in the nation were honored with the Chapter of Merit award.

According to the national PKP, the Chapter of Excellence is given to chapters that excel in recognizing and promoting academic excellence in all fields of higher education and engaging the community of scholars in service to others.

By receiving the Chapter of Excellence distinction, APSU's chapter is being recognized as a thriving organization that meets frequently, holds annual initiations and applies frequently for Phi Kappa Phi's select scholarships, grants and fellowships.



ZONE 3 RECOGNIZED IN BEST AMERICAN ESSAYS 2013

Every October, the country's literary community eagerly awaits the release of the "Best American Series," celebrating

the top writing published in the U.S. in a given year. The anthologies are a Who's Who of a genre's current literary stars,

but it also highlights the nation's pre-eminent magazines and journals that feature these works.

Last September, Dr. Amy Wright, Austin Peay State University associate professor of English, was reading over the list of essays mentioned in the "Best American Essays 2013" when she noticed several familiar names. Wright is the nonfiction editor of APSU's Zone 3 literary journal, and that biannual magazine had five essays selected as "notables" in last year's "Best American" anthology.

"As an anthology, it's the highest accolade for an essay," she said. "It features all the best journals, the top-tier literary journals such as The Sun, Harpers, The Atlantic. It very much puts us in the same camp as those prestigious journals."

The Zone 3 essays selected as notables include Diane Kraynak's "Lazarus," Dinty W. Moore's "Buried Alive," Sarah A. Odishoo's "Eat Me: Instructions From The Unseen," Alison Stine's "The Last Hotel" and Nicole Walker's "Skin of the Earth."



Beth Liggett

APSU STUDENT SPOTS CATAclySMIC VARIABLE STAR

Mees Fix, an APSU physics student, thought he might be in trouble. He was outside of Chicago, analyzing white dwarf stars at Fermilab – the U.S. Department of Energy’s national laboratory – when he noticed something strange. One of

the stars was giving off way too much light energy.

“At first, I thought I broke something,” he said. “I figured I messed something up. I walked over to Dr. Smith and said, ‘check this out? What’s going on here?’”

Dr. Allyn Smith, APSU professor of physics and astronomy, was at the lab – as he is most summers – as a visiting professor. He called over his Fermilab colleagues and APSU physics student Samuel Wyatt, who was also conducting summer research at the famed laboratory, to look at what Fix had found. They soon realized he’d identified a cataclysmic variable star.

“It’s either a classic cataclysmic variable or a Nova-like cataclysmic variable,” Smith said. “Both are interesting. With the Nova-like ones, we could get a huge flare-up, and if this one is close enough, we could see it in the daytime.”

The unique cosmic body was hidden in the vastness of the night sky. It was first seen in the 1950s, but only observed about four other times since then.

“It took a young summer student to clean up the spectra that we recorded to identify it,” Fermilab scientist William Wester said in an article on the Fermilab website.

Physics students Mees Fix and Samuel Wyatt fill the camera-cooling liquid nitrogen dewar at Kitt Peak National Observatory during their summer research experience.



Contributed

HISTORY HONOR SOCIETY WINS BEST CHAPTER 5TH YEAR IN A ROW

Last fall, Dr. Minoa Uffelman was feeling a bit nervous. The APSU associate professor of history was eager to find out if the University’s Phi Alpha Theta (PAT) History Honor Society had won “Best Chapter of the Year” for an unprecedented fifth year in a row.

The National PAT headquarters usually sent her a congratulatory letter in August, but the month passed without any notification.

“I was checking my mailbox every day,” Uffelman, the chapter’s advisor, said. “I was beginning to get very nervous.”

But on the morning of Sept. 5, she checked her mail again and discovered

a familiar looking letter waiting for her. The University’s PAT chapter had in fact won “Best Chapter of the Year” for 2013.

“I’m thrilled to have been at the helm of this organization and have its excellence recognized five times,” Uffelman said. “We have not slacked off in any way.”

The PAT chapter received a \$250 check for winning the award. Each year, the club uses that money to purchase books for the APSU Woodward Library. In the last five years, the organization has donated \$1,250 to the library for new books.



Beth Liggett

The Ultimate Reality

Dr. Albert Bekus' adventures in heli-skiing





By Charles Booth
Assistant Editor

The soft, white powder is so alluring, so addictive, it causes sane men and women to spend small fortunes and put their lives at risk. The only way to find it is to hop into a Bell 212 Twin Huey helicopter and fly into some of the most remote regions on earth. The drug in question is the pure, untrampled snow that blankets the high mountain ranges of British Columbia. That's where adrenaline addicts, like retired Austin Peay State University professor Dr. Albert Bekus, gather each winter for the chance to experience the world's most pristine skiing conditions.

"There is such a high, such a sense of effortlessness," Bekus, 76, said. "It's like you're able to fly. You're on snow that is so light and so giving; your skis never touch anything solid. You get into your rhythm and it's as if you're doing the descent on clouds. It's an exhilaration that, combined with the adrenaline, just makes you totally satisfied in the moment. There's no past, no future. You're doing this, and it is the ultimate reality at that moment."

This "ultimate reality" is the byproduct of an extreme sport known as heli-skiing, but it comes with more than its fair share of danger – frostbite, avalanches, helicopter crashes. In 1991, a group of nine heli-skiers were killed in an avalanche on the Purcell Mountain range in Canada. Bekus was only a few peaks over from the tragedy that day, skiing another slope.

"I always felt that our fallen friends would want us to keep skiing, so that is what I have done," he wrote recently. And for the last 25 years, he's kept this promise, covering more than three million vertical feet in places few humans have ever ventured.

"The mountains, where I have experienced serenity and embraced solitude, have taught me who I am," Bekus wrote. "Exhilaration and satisfaction replace pride and ego after a difficult run. And to experience such extraordinary beauty in remote wilderness is beyond description."

But does that serenity outweigh the possibility of death that comes with each trip into the mountains?

For Bekus, it does.

Contributed

Beth Leggett



The Danger

On a rainy, November morning, he sat in his office in the campus' Memorial Health Building, looking through thick photography books on heli-skiing. He's a trim, athletic man, with a professorial gray beard, and his voice has a steady, engaging cadence that comes from a career of giving lectures on medieval literature. One look at him and you know he's an English professor. One look at his office – with a framed picture of Ernest Hemingway and another picture of a helicopter in the mountains – and you know he's also an adventurer.

“Being in that helicopter, you talk about adrenaline,” he said. “We've flown through stuff you wouldn't believe – storms and whiteouts with no visibility. And I've been in a few avalanches. Nothing massive. It's a little nerve-wracking and worrisome. I've been buried and had to get out.”

Three years ago, Bekus narrowly avoided an avalanche that buried his ski partner. It took the group about three minutes to dig him out.

“He quit skiing,” Bekus said. “That was his last run of his career. ‘Take me in,’ he said. ‘I'm finished.’ He panicked under there.”

Bekus leaned back in his office chair, and his eyes glazed briefly as he pictured himself on those distant slopes. Quitting isn't an option for him. The sport of heli-skiing, in spite of its dangers, is coiled too tightly around his being.

“This is not a simple sport,” he said. “It's very complicated, very technical, very precise. You ski down the moun-

| *Dr. Albert Bekus has skied more than three million vertical feet.*



tain, and you ski what's there. There are virtually no trails. Sometimes, you have to do a few jumps off cliffs. You have to ski through trees, and you look for lines, you look for space, not trees. When you find a good line, oh, man, those trees aren't even there."

The Addiction

Bekus didn't strap on his first pair of snow skis until he was 40. He preferred quieter vacations, often spending his winter breaks from APSU camping in the Florida Keys with just his fishing pole. Then, in 1978, his brother Dave

invited him to go on a three-day family ski trip to Killington, Vt.

"Since I'd never skied before, I took three days of lessons," Bekus said. "It was Christmas, and it was crowded."

On the drive back home, Dave asked his brother what he thought of skiing. Bekus confessed that he loved every minute of it.

"Dave said, 'Well, you're hooked because it was the worst conditions and worst weather we've ever had. If

you liked it, you're hooked,'" Bekus recalled. "I guess he was right."

From that moment on, the APSU professor's free time revolved around skiing. After submitting his final grades each December, he'd head off to ski slopes across the country. His spring break was also spent in the mountains, and during the summer, he often traveled to New Zealand or South America to hit the peak snow conditions in the southern hemisphere.

Then, on his 50th birthday, he decided he was ready for a new challenge – heli-skiing.

We've flown through stuff you wouldn't believe—storms and whiteouts with no visibility. And I've been in a few avalanches. I've been buried and had to get out.

– Dr. Albert Bekus



The Sport

In 1988, Bekus found himself boarding a Bell 212 helicopter at an isolated mountain lodge in British Columbia. He wore a radio transmitter and had spent the previous two days learning survival tips, such as what to do in an avalanche.

“When you’re buried, the first thing you do is open up a hole and take some of your spit to see if you’re upside down or not,” he said. “When the spit drops, you know which way to start digging if you can.”

Once all the gear was loaded, the helicopter whined as the rotor began spinning. Within minutes, they were in the air, flying over hundreds of miles of snow-covered mountains. Occasionally, the aircraft passed through thick clouds, obscuring the world around them.

“The helicopter pilot is like a God,” Bekus said. “He’s omniscient. Most of these guys are former military. Landing the group can be tricky, especially at 10-12,000 feet. There are wind currents, and many times there’s a sheer rock cliff and the rotors are inches from the cliff. Sometimes he gets in and tests the snow, and sometimes he thinks its going to fit solidly, but at the last minute, one of the skids gives and you have to pull up fast.”

That first day, the helicopter landed without incident. Bekus and the others exited the aircraft into a vast, white landscape. The morning light glared bright against the snow. By that evening, Bekus would have ice clinging to

his beard and a sunburn on the top of his cheeks.

The group’s guide, after testing the snow to make sure it was safe, led the skiers down the mountain. He instructed them to ski close and watch out for trees or snow-covered gullies. Bekus followed him, and that’s when he had a somewhat Zen-like, religious experience.

“It’s just wide open and beautiful,” Bekus said. “And excellent snow.”

Dr. Albert Bekus (far left) examines the snow capped mountains of British Columbia.





The Adventure

At most ski resorts, the snow is packed down hard by 10 a.m. Bekus likens the experience to “carving” down the slope, rather than “floating” or “flying.” But the pure, powdery snow is only a part of his addiction.

“This is serious, high adventure skiing,” he said. The adventure is what brings him back every year.

Late one afternoon, as the sky above the mountains turned orange and then pink, Bekus listened for the sounds of an approaching helicopter. Canadian law prevented the aircraft from making mountain pickups in the dark, so his group was in danger of being trapped in that wilderness all night. The snow was waist deep, and the temperature continued to drop.

“We weren’t very optimistic about getting out,” Bekus said. “So we started digging our snow cave. We were digging out, cutting branches. Our guide was preparing us for spending the night. Getting a fire going. We were all committed. We weren’t panicked, but we didn’t want to spend the night.”

The stranded skiers pinned their hopes on a pilot named Arnie. They were trapped in a narrow valley with sheer rock walls on either side.

“It was dark, and we were in a pickup that was like threading a needle,” Bekus said.

The icy cold made everything quiet, except for the howling of the wind or a branch snapping under the weight of too much snow. Bekus and the others strained their ears, trying to pick out the sound of a helicopter in the distance.

Finally, far off in the darkness, they heard it – Arnie was coming.

“You talk about jubilation,” Bekus said. “He came in, and this place was unbelievable to land in. There was a precipice all around us, and there was just enough space for that helicopter to fit.”

The skiers huddled together while the helicopter blades blew loose snow in all directions. After loading their gear, the group climbed inside for the flight back to the lodge.

“There was virtually no visibility,” Bekus said. “He was following the tops of the trees through the valley to get us out.”

The helicopter shook violently as it made its way through the dark. A few

years earlier, a helicopter had crashed into a nearby mountain. Bekus held on tight as the aircraft continued through the valley.

“When we finally got back and landed, we got out and the two skids under the helicopter were filled with tree branches from the tops of the trees we followed going in,” he said. “We plucked them all up.”

That night, the pilot joined the skiers at the lodge’s bar.

“We bought Arnie a drink that night. ‘Arnie, your drinks are on us tonight,’ we said. He was legendary.” **AP**

Dr. Albert Bekus, left, prepares for a helicopter ride into the wilderness.



30TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT BALL



Tony Centonze

The Candlelight Ball Committee hosted the 30th Annual Candlelight Ball at the historic Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum located in Nashville. Three hundred and fifty guests, including APSU alumni, friends and supporters, joined the committee for a

memorable night. Over its 30-year history, over \$340,000 has been raised to assist in APSU projects and to fund the Candlelight Ball Scholarship Fund. More than 20 deserving APSU students have benefited from this scholarship.

Candlelight Ball Committee (from left to right): Andrea Goble, Marcia Campbell, Margaret Lyle, Britney Campbell, Mary Turner, Brittney Reigle, Co-Chair Mary Luther, President Tim Hall, Co-Chair Pam Loos, Fran Jenkins, Nancy Ankoviak, Cindy Greene, Nicole Aquino Williamson, Kimberly Silvus and Candy Johnson

HONORING THE LEGENDS OF GOVERNORS STADIUM

On Nov. 16, 2013, APSU paid tribute to the legends and memories of the past 67 years in Governors Stadium. The day included an alumni brunch, tailgate festivities, halftime alumni recognition and a post-game reception.

Following the APSU football game against SEMO, APSU athletes, alumni and supporters participated in a ceremonial demolition to begin the stadium's long-needed renovation.



Beth Liggett

Hendricks Fox takes a swing at the old stadium using a gold sledgehammer.

ALUMNI BENEFITS

The APSU National Alumni Association offers a number of benefits to APSU alumni, including a complimentary subscription to Austin Peay Magazine, an Alumni Membership card with benefits and a free APSU email account. With an APSU email account, you'll have speedy access to OneStop, the online portal through which you can check email, request transcripts, read university news and more.

Along with your Alumni Membership card, you have access to benefits. For information on benefits provided by the following companies, visit www.apsu.edu/alumni and click on the "Benefits" link.

- ClearValue
- Liberty Mutual
- Universal RX
- CS Benefits Dental & Vision
- CaptionCall

ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT BALL AWARD WINNERS

Spirit of Austin Peay Award

Joel Wallace

After serving as an office manager for then-Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, Joel Wallace earned his juris doctor degree from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. He joined the Clarksville law firm Cunningham, Mitchell and Rocconi in 2006 and was named partner in 2012. He is currently serving his second term on the Clarksville City Council, where he represents the city's Ward 9.

Since his return to Clarksville in 2006, Wallace has been active in the Austin Peay State University Governors Club and the University's athletic booster organization. He served as that organization's president from 2010-11.

Wendell H. Gilbert Award

Ben Kimbrough

Ben Kimbrough ('51) is a retired banking executive with a reputation for serving and supporting APSU. In May 2003, he and his wife Margaret ('52) jump-started

APSU's first capital campaign with a pledge of \$2 million from the couple's estate, plus \$150,000 during the campaign. A year later, he was named the recipient of the 2004 Regents Award for Excellence in Philanthropy.

He has served as a member and past president of the APSU Foundation Board of Trustees, a member of the APSU Foundation Investment Committee and past president of the APSU National Alumni Association.



President Hall and members of the Candlelight Ball Committee join this year's awardees, Ben Kimbrough (left center) and Joel Wallace, at the Candlelight Ball luncheon.

Beth Liggett

2014

ALUMNI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For the most up-to-date alumni event information, visit www.apsu.edu/alumni or call 931-221-7979.
For the most up-to-date Center of Excellence for the Creative Arts event information, visit www.apsu.edu/creativearts

May 22
New York Alumni Reception

June 17
Alumni & Friends IRELAND Trip with Dr. Tim Winters
Visit www.apsu.edu/alumni-travel or email keanr@apsu.edu for information.

June 30
Columbia, Tenn., Alumni Reception

July 21
Chattanooga, Tenn., Alumni Reception
Chattanooga Lookouts game

Aug. 7
Memphis, Tenn., Alumni Reception
Memphis Redbirds game

Aug. 14
Nashville, Tenn., Alumni Reception
Details TBA

Aug. 18-19
Charlotte/Raleigh, N.C., Alumni Reception

Nov. 7
President's Emerging Leaders Program 25th Reunion Dinner
Information TBA

Nov. 8
HOME COMING 2014
APSU vs. TSU
Details TBA





ON THE SOUTHERN FRIED ROAD

APSU Alumna Pens Cookbook About The South's Best Food Trucks

Story by Charles Booth • Photos by Beth Liggett and Taylor Slifko

Heather Donahoe ('04) called room service at 9 p.m. on a Saturday night and ordered 12 strips of bacon. The gentleman taking her order paused. “How many people will be eating, Ms. Donahoe?” he asked. She was alone in her room with several tote bags overflowing with groceries. If 12 strips of bacon sounded suspicious to him, she’d better not mention the deep fryer packed away in her suitcase. Outside her window, the winter night settled over New York City. In seven hours, she’d be on the national morning television show “Fox and Friends” discussing her new cookbook, and the hosts wanted to sample some of the goodies mentioned in those pages. The only problem was the producers at Fox didn’t have a kitchen for her to use.

“I had to prepare nine recipes that night,” Donahoe said. “I was deep frying deviled eggs in my hotel room.”

Luckily, the recipes were ideal for cooking in small spaces. That’s because Donahoe had spent the previous summer traveling through the south collecting recipes from some of the region’s tiniest eateries for her book, “The Southern Food Truck Cookbook.”

Food Trucks

The idea of mobile eateries is nothing new. The concept stretches back to at least the 19th century, with chuck wagons serving meals to pioneers, cowboys and gold rushers heading west. Those wagons evolved into the trucks that served quick meals at work sites and sporting events. But in the last few years, young, professional chefs realized these vehicles offered a cheap way to open a restaurant.

“A lot of the people who run these food trucks have worked in James Beard Award-winning kitchens,” Donahoe said. “They’re top-tier chefs. They might not be able to afford to open a whole restaurant, but they can afford to buy a beat-up, old delivery truck and have it transformed into a food truck.”

The concept of high-quality food trucks took off in New York, Chicago and on the west coast. That’s where Donahoe was living in 2012, working as the managing editor of “Washington Restaurant Magazine.” She spent

her workweek meeting with food writers and professional chefs, but on weekends she’d head up to Portland, Ore., to sample the booming food truck scene.

“Portland has a well-organized and stable food truck industry,” she said. “I knew how good that food truck scene was, and I was interested in seeing how the south was interpreting that trend.”

Thanks to her freelance job with Thomas Nelson Publishing, writing copy for book jackets, Donahoe was given the opportunity to follow this growing interest. One afternoon, an editor complimented her writing and asked if she had any ideas for a book.

“Food trucks have been such a big thing on the east coast and west coast for a long time, and I noticed they were really gaining popularity in the southeast,” she said. “So I proposed traveling around and seeing what all these food trucks were doing.”

“Heather was a special student writer. I think what set her apart from a lot of other fine writers from those years was her willingness to leave the safety of her room, her own desk, and go find a story. It takes time to develop as a writer. It’s wonderful to see her success.”

—Barry Kitterman

Food and Writing

Donahoe arrived in New York City on a cold, overcast afternoon in late October. Bundled in a purple overcoat, the 32-year-old brunette hurried to a Whole Foods in the Chelsea neighborhood to buy supplies for her “Fox and Friends” appearance. She left the grocery loaded with tote bags and headed straight to her hotel for a night of cooking.

This didn’t really bother her. When she was a girl growing up in Mt. Juliet, Tenn., Donahoe flipped through cookbooks at night. Her favorite bedtime story was the 1982 “Southern Living Cookbook.”

“I loved the food photographs,” she said. “I always was just kind of absorbed by cookbooks.”

As she grew older, another interest developed – writing. When it came time to attend college, she picked a small liberal arts school in Clarksville, where she quickly made an impression with the school’s writing faculty.



Skekinah Ellis buys an orange soda from the La Casa Taqueria's food truck, parked next to the APSU campus.

“Heather was a special student writer,” Barry Kitterman, author and Austin Peay State University professor of creative writing, said. “I think what set her apart from a lot of other fine writers from those years was her willingness to leave the safety of her room, her own desk, and go find a story. She wrote for the old ‘Capsule’ magazine and for ‘The All State.’ It takes time to develop as a writer. It’s wonderful to see her success.”

Donahoe studied the different genres of creative writing – fiction, nonfiction, and poetry – offered at APSU, and she learned to take risks through writing workshops.

“When I think about some of the things I learned at Austin Peay, I think about the things I learned from Barry and Malcolm (Glass) and David Till, and some of the things they taught me are still things that run across my mind when I’m writing now,” she said. “I don’t know that I could have gotten a better foundation for being a writer anywhere. It was the absolute perfect environment for me.”

She would go on to work as a journalist with *The Leaf-Chronicle*, and later *The Tennessean*, before moving to Washington state. But her growing interest in food trucks brought her back to the south.

Road Trip

In July 2012, Donahoe set out in her car for a three-week road trip throughout the southeastern United States. Four days into her journey, she found herself in a brutally hot Richmond, Va., wondering if she’d made a mistake. Would anyone go out into 100+ degree temperatures to eat at a food truck? Would she leave the comfort of her hotel room,

with the air-conditioner blasting, to find out?

Donahoe reluctantly left and headed to the Food Truck Court at the Hardywood Park Craft Brewery. That’s where she found the BOKA Tako Truck, which offers meals like its famous shrimp and grits taco.

“I got there, and there were like 400 people there,” she said. “They were standing there, drinking their craft brews, sweating and waiting for tacos. That was the turning point. That’s when I realized people are really excited about these food trucks.”

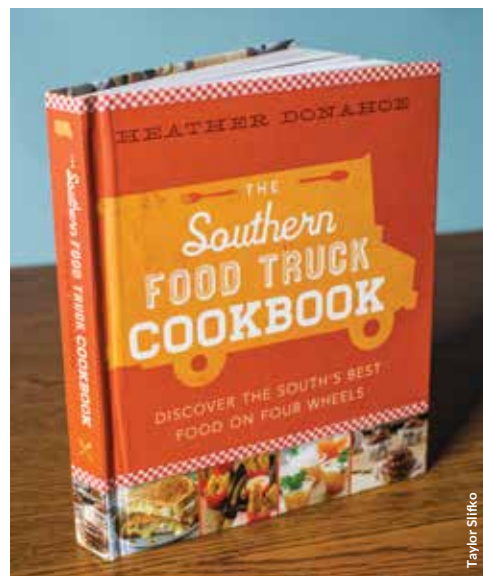
From Virginia, she headed south to Durham, N.C., to try Triangle Raw, a vegan food truck parked outside another brewery. The owner offered Donahoe some pad thai, which she reluctantly accepted.

“I love pad thai, but the idea of vegan pad thai just didn’t appeal to me at all,” she said. “They make the noodles out of zucchini and seriously, vegan or not, it’s some of the best pad thai I’ve ever had.”

Her adventure took her through Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Tennessee. When she returned to Washington, the self-described procrastinator spent the next six months testing recipes and writing her travelogue through the south. In August 2013, Thomas Nelson published “The Southern Food Truck Cookbook.”

Publicity

At 3 a.m. on Oct. 27, Donahoe dressed, packed the food she’d prepared into boxes and hurried into the dark morning to hail a cab. She took a few deep breaths as she made her way to Times Square. She’d



“The Southern Food Truck Cookbook” was published in 2013 by Thomas Nelson.

appeared on national television in September on QVC, but the Fox morning show promised a larger audience.

Her nervousness, and the stress of the previous evening’s cooking marathon, didn’t show when she appeared on camera. In three minutes, Donahoe “southernized” a hamburger by adding fried dill pickles, Vidalia onion sauce and pimento cheese; treated hosts Clayton Morris and Rick Reichmuth to deep fried deviled eggs; and showed off a buttery cornbread salad.

By that afternoon, she was on a plane heading out of New York. On the flight, she thought about her next book, wanting to focus on the gourmet snacks people eat between meals. She closed her eyes; with no more TV interviews scheduled and the book’s publicity tour winding down, it was time to rest. But her thoughts quickly shifted to the upcoming weekend, which promised to be even more hectic. Seven days after her appearance on “Fox and Friends,” Donahoe got married. **AF**

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR A RECIPE FROM DONAHOE’S BOOK!





Interested in sampling some of the cuisine profiled in Donahoe's book? Here's a recipe from Charlotte's The Tin Kitchen food truck.

PINEAPPLE PICO DE GALLO

Makes about 6 cups

Gather it up

- 5 cups pineapple chunks
- 2 jalapeño peppers, seeded and minced
- 3/4 bunch cilantro, chopped
- 1/2 red onion, diced
- Juice of 3 limes
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt

Make it happen

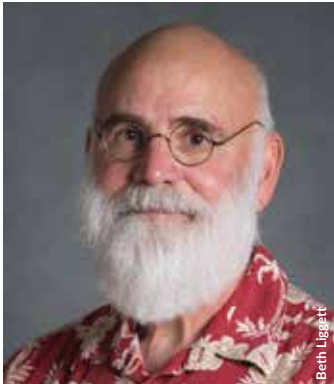
In a large bowl, combine the pineapple, jalapeños, cilantro, onion, lime juice, pepper and salt and mix well. Chill in the refrigerator for a few hours and serve.



WHERE YOU SEE THIS ICON, CHECK OUT MORE PHOTOS
IN OUR GALLERY AT WWW.APSU.EDU/MAGAZINE



KITTERMAN AWARDED NEA FELLOWSHIP



Barry Kitterman, professor of creative writing, was awarded a prestigious Creative Writing Fellowship in fiction from the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA).

Only 38 writers received the award, with Kitterman being Tennessee's sole NEA fellow for 2014. His work was selected from among more than a thousand writers as deserving of the honor, which brings with it an award of \$25,000.

"This is a formidable group of both emerging and well-established writers," Amy Stolls, NEA acting director of literature, said. "They demonstrate an impressive range of styles and subject matter. We are proud to recommend each of them for an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship."

The NEA's fellowships are meant to encourage the production of new works of literature by providing writers with the time and financial support to write. Since 1990, 66 of the 109 recipients of the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry and Fiction were previous NEA Literature Fellows.

Kitterman is the author of the 2008 novel, "The Baker's Boy," which won the Maria Thomas Peace Corps Writers Award for Fiction, and the 2011 story collection, "From the San Joaquin." He is currently at work on his second novel.

PROFESSORS PRESENT ON ZOMBIES AT NASHVILLE COMIC CON

In October, four APSU professors presented a panel discussion on the implications of a zombie apocalypse at Wizard World's Nashville Comic Con 2013. **Dr. Amy Thompson ('99)**, associate professor of biology, and **Dr. Antonio Thompson ('98)**, associate professor of history, are co-editing a new scholarly book on the subject, "The Real World Implications of a Zombie Apocalypse." McFarland Press will publish the book in Spring 2014.

The book will consist of 20 chapters that examine the zombie apocalypse from historical, political, military, neurological and biological perspectives. It also will examine the legal and financial implications of such a disaster. The Thompsons are both contributing chapters as are two of their colleagues – **Dr. James Thompson**, biology professor, and **Dr. David Steele**, chair of the APSU Department of Sociology. Thompson and Steele also presented at the event.



LEWIS PUBLISHES TAP DANCE TEXTBOOK

Dr. Lisa Lewis, associate professor of health and human performance, has spent much of her life in a pair of tap shoes. As a young dancer, she trained under tap legends such as Gregory and Maurice Hines and Al Gilbert, and she later traveled the country during her career as a professional dancer.

But it wasn't until Lewis started teaching tap that she realized something was missing. There were no beginner-level textbooks on tap dancing for high school or college students. That is no longer the case. In June, Human Kinetics published Lewis' new book, "Beginning Tap Dance," as part of its interactive dance series.

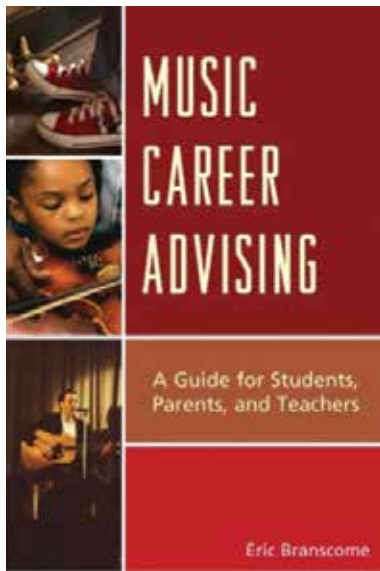
"It's the very first tap textbook that a university can pick up and use," Lewis said.

The book is unique because it is based on the online tap dance

classes she previously taught at Middle Tennessee State University. Those classes included online videos demonstrating dance moves.



BRANSCOME OFFERS MUSIC CAREER ADVICE WITH NEW BOOK



Dr. Eric Branscome, associate professor of music, has written a new book, "Music Career Advising: A Guide for Students, Parents and Teachers."

The book includes chapters on the different types of music degree programs offered at colleges and universities and what types of career fields are available to graduates with those degrees.

"For parents and teachers, they want to know when and if the student will be employable," Branscome said. "This book tries to answer a lot of the different questions they ask. But this field is really much more diverse than most people think."

UFFELMAN CONTRIBUTES TO NEW BOOK ON PROGRESSIVE TENNESSEE WOMEN

Dr. Minoa Uffelman ('82, '83), associate professor of history, contributed a chapter to a groundbreaking new book, "Tennessee Women in the Progressive Era: Toward the Public Sphere in the New South," published by the University of Tennessee Press. The book, a collection of scholarly works examining women's reform efforts in Tennessee from 1890-1930, features Uffelman's essay, "Tomato Clubs as Salvation: Canning Clubs for Girls and the Uplift of Southern Rural Society."

"Canning was a new, cutting-edge technology at that time," Uffelman said. "These agricultural reformers wanted to teach rural women how to can, and that would be good for food preservation and improve nutrition. Rural women could sell their canned vegetables or they could barter. Reformers really thought they could lift southerners out of poverty."

Uffelman's essay is the result of years of work, dating back to her time as a doctoral student at the University of Mississippi. While conducting research for her dissertation, she discovered a collection of Virginia P. Moore's papers. According to Moore's headstone, she was "One of the First Five Home Demonstration Agents in the World."

BROCKMAN'S NEW BOOK EXAMINES FORGOTTEN GERMAN POET

The late poet Eva Strittmatter was in danger of being forgotten outside her native East Germany, but last summer, **Dr. Beatrix Brockman ('04, '05)**, assistant professor of German, published the first critical work on the poet, "Nur fliegend fängt man Worte ein: Eva Strittmatter's Poetik" ("Only In Flight Do You Catch Words: the Poetics of Eva Strittmatter"), through

Oxford University's Women in German Literature series.

"This work is an admirable study, clear, cogent, well-organized, judicious, which will become the standard work on its subject," Dr. Helen Watanabe-O'Kelly, professor of German Literature at Oxford, said. "It is immaculately produced and written with clarity and verve."



Beth Liggett



Beth Liggett

WITH GREAT CHANGE COMES GREAT OPPORTUNITY

— *APSU unveils new brand identity* —

A glance at Austin Peay State University shows a campus on the rise as Tennessee's fastest-growing university. A closer look at the athletics department reveals a program bolstered by a multimillion-dollar renovation in progress at Governors Stadium along with new video boards in the Dunn Center—all presenting a great opportunity.

In order to capitalize on growth and increase brand recognition, the development of an innovative and cohesive athletics brand identity became paramount. On April 1, APSU University Athletics unveiled a new visual identity series and brand marks, bringing consistency in logo marks and typography across all of APSU's sports programs. This strength in consistency better distinguishes the history and traditions unique to Austin Peay, while also representing its strategic vision moving forward.

The Governor icon, which pays homage to former Tennessee governor and University namesake Austin Peay, has evolved over the years from a jovial, round-headed gentleman in the 1940s and '50s to a

mustachioed, dignified character in the 1980s.

The new 'Gov' is a modernized, forward-facing gentleman with a stern look, meant to represent a stronger, sleeker mascot while keeping the base trappings of Austin Peay's iconic figure.

"The updated brand components – of which the new Governor mascot emblem is the most significant piece – have been carefully developed with the fan experience in mind," said Jeff Bibb of BLF Marketing, Clarksville. "Austin Peay alumni and fans can look forward to purchasing visually striking and boldly branded apparel to show their passion and support for the University's athletics program."

The red coat, top hat, monocle and classic necktie take on

symbolic meaning long found within the Governors Club infrastructure. These four symbols represent the organization's donation levels, giving the department's valued donors a personal connection with the Goves new appearance.

The 'AP' mark, which has been a university-wide symbol since the mid-1970s, also is getting a sleeker look. Slight adjustments will greatly increase the University's marketability through merchandising.

"The AP logo is one of the most recognizable brand marks in the OVC," said Mike O'Malley, a longtime member of Wendy's National Advertising Board and APSU Governors Club member. "Any changes or adjustments made had to be well thought out. These changes may be subtle,

but they create a cleaner, more readable mark that will work better in all uses."

The new marks are designed to appeal to a younger generation while maintaining the logo's sophisticated look and will be adopted by the University as well.

"Austin Peay has sustained a culture of excellence in the classroom, in competition and in our community because of outstanding people and leadership," said APSU Athletics Director Derek van der Merwe. "We are going to build on this solid foundation with a set of initiatives that will help to invite and engage our community to experience the great things happening at this University. I invite you come to campus to see how this University is growing



and flourishing.”

The arrival of van der Merwe as Austin Peay director of athletics has sparked a renewed focus on the athletic department’s brand. It’s an all-encompassing endeavor incorporating the department’s core values of excellence, tradition, integrity, opportunity and community, along with new branding marks and typography to make the Austin Peay brand more identifiable.

While the marks were designed by nationally-recognized design firm Joe Bosack and Co., which has created sports logos for Mississippi State, Boise State, UNLV, the Atlantic Coast Conference and the Southeastern Conference, the concepts were homegrown.

For approximately seven months, a team of Austin Peay staff, students, student-athletes and alumni, along with local business and community leaders, worked to develop an image that represents the mission and core values on which the department stands. The concepts were brought before a number of diverse focus groups that included Austin Peay’s Staff and Faculty Senates, the President’s Cabinet, Student Government Association, Governors Club and individual athletic teams.

“Developing an innovative and consistent brand identity for APSU Athletics though its logos and marks was no easy task to take,” said Kevin Carter (’77), a member of the Governors football 1977 OVC Championship team. “The process had to build on the history and

traditions of Austin Peay Athletics, while representing its mission and core values.

“Van der Merwe and his staff did an outstanding job of including all stakeholders in the process. The end result is a number of marks that meets the needs and expectations of those stakeholders.”

“This new identity represents a lot of positive change that will quickly transform the way our students, alumni and community engage this campus,” said SGA President Mike Rainer. “This is something we can all be proud of.”

Customized typography for use across the athletics department also will be included in the new redesign. The combinations will be used with the updated Governor and ‘AP’ logo, in addition to specific identities for various team sports, the Governors Club and the Peay!Nuts student fan club. LetsGoPeay.com will change servers in June with an updated website layout, and new video integration will be among the new features visitors to the site can expect.

Merchandise featuring the new identity will begin showing up at area retailers during the summer. All University athletic squads will be outfitted with the new marks beginning in fall 2014. **AP**

“The updated brand components have been carefully developed with the fan experience in mind. Austin Peay alumni and fans can look forward to purchasing visually striking and boldly branded apparel to show their passion and support for the University’s athletics program.”



The sophisticated new AP mark.



The stronger, sleeker new Gov

AUSTIN PEAY
GOVERNORS

The new wordmark using customized typography

-Jeff Bibb of BLF Marketing

STANSFIELD, SILIVA RECEIVE ACADEMIC ACCOLADES

A pair of senior APSU football players received high accolades for their academic success last year. Offensive tackle Ben Stansfield and defensive lineman Iosua Siliva were named Capital One Second-Team Division I Academic All-Americans as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). They also were named to the 16th annual Football Championship Subdivision Athletics Directors Association (FCS ADA) Academic All-Star Team. It was the first time APSU had multiple players named to the Academic All-America team in the same season.

Through his first six APSU semesters, Stansfield failed to make anything but an A as a pre-law/psychology major. Earlier in the fall, he was awarded the prestigious Ohio Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete Award, the highest individual honor bestowed on league student-athletes. He was a member of the President's List (4.0 GPA) all six semesters and has earned the Ohio Valley Conference Medal of Honor, having the highest GPA for the year in a conference-sponsored sport in each of his first three college years.

After three years, Siliva held a 3.94 GPA in agricultural-sustainable development. He is a four-time member of the President's List along with two other semesters on the Dean's List (3.5 GPA). He also is a three-time member of the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll and a six-time Athletics Director's Honor Roll member. He received the OVC Medal of Honor in 2012-13 for having the highest GPA (4.0) for his respective conference sport.

A Vailoa, America Samoa native, Siliva was chosen as the Fox College Sports Student-Athlete of the Game when the Gobs played host to Tennessee Tech in the 2012 season finale.

Ben Stansfield (78), above, and Iosua Siliva (91), below, were named Capital One Second-Team Academic All-Americans by the CoSIDA and selected to the FCS ADA Academic All-Star Team last fall.



Brittney Sparn - APSU Sports Information



Brittney Sparn - APSU Sports Information

VAN DER MERWE ATTENDS U.S. ARMY BOWL

Austin Peay State University Athletics Director Derek van der Merwe represented the University, its athletic department and its ROTC program at the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, the nation's premier high school football all-star game, in early January.

The game, which featured the nation's 90 best players in a classic East vs. West match-up, was played in San Antonio's Alamodome, Jan. 4.

APSU's nationally recognized ROTC program nominated van der Merwe to be a part of this year's prefootball game activities, and he was selected to represent APSU.

"Since joining the Clarksville community in July, it has become very apparent to me that Austin Peay's relationship with the military is unique and special," van der Merwe said. "With good reason, this University has been recognized as one

of the friendliest military universities in the country.

"As a new member to this community, I have an obligation to learn about the importance of this relationship and to act by creating connection in our community to Fort Campbell. I am honored to have this opportunity, I am thankful to Austin Peay's ROTC program for the nomination."

GOVS RECRUIT STRONG TALENT FOR 2014-15 SEASONS

Guard Josh Robinson, who was the second-leading scorer in the St. Louis Metro area in the 2012-13 season, has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball at APSU for 2014-15. Robinson was named Class 4A second-team Missouri All-State last spring. In addition, he was selected all-conference and chosen Archdiocesan Athletics Association (AAA) Large Division Offensive Player of the Year.

Austin Peay men's golf coach Kirk Kayden returned to his Ohio roots to snare the first signee for the Govs 2014-15 recruiting class. Justin Arens, the Ohio Capital Conference (OCC) Player of the Year, has signed a letter of intent to play for the Governors.

AnnaMichelle Moore, who had three Class A-AA Top 10 state golf tournament finishes in her Clarksville Academy career, has signed a letter of intent to play for the Lady Govs.

ARIZAS AMONG LADY GOVS SOCCER PLAYERS HONORED

Four Austin Peay women's soccer players were honored at the 2013 Ohio Valley Conference postseason awards banquet, prior to the start of the OVC Tournament. Seniors Tatiana and Natalia Ariza were both named first-team, while fellow senior Andy Quiceno was a second-team honoree. Freshman Gina Fabbro earned a spot on the All-Newcomer team.

KELLEY, STAPLETON, KIRTLEY, SEARS INDUCTED INTO APSU ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Two of the greatest Governors athletes in their respective sports and the department's longtime sports information director were inducted into APSU's Athletics Hall of Fame in February. In addition, a former superb football/basketball player who paid the ultimate price in defense of his country, was selected to the Hall of Fame as part of its Legends category.

Nick Stapleton, the greatest scoring point guard in Austin Peay history who remains one of two Governors to tally more than 2,000 career points; Shawn Kelley, arguably the best "big game" pitcher in APSU history whose 2007 NCAA dual with Vanderbilt's David Price remains as the best single-game pitching performance in APSU history; and Brad Kirtley, who has publicized Austin Peay sports for the past 30 years, were elected to APSU Athletics Hall of Fame. Reedy Sears, a wide receiver for the football team and a 5-9 guard

on the basketball team in the early 1940s was chosen from the Legends category. He was killed during World War II.

From left, Nick Stapleton, Shawn Kelley, Brad Kirtley and John Sears, the brother of the late Reedy Sears



ALUMNI CELEBRATE HISTORIC 2003-04 SEASON

Former basketball alumni and coaches came together this past February to celebrate more than 75 years of APSU basketball. More than 150 alumni and family members returned to the campus for a basketball reunion. Alumni, including the men's 2003-04 undefeated regular season team, were recognized throughout the night's games.

A Governors Basketball Alumni Chapter has been established to reunite former players and staff and to assist in the support of our basketball programs. For information on the Gobs Basketball Alumni Chapter or to assist in the formation of a Lady Gobs Basketball Alumni Chapter, call the Alumni Relations Office at 931-221-7979.



RICHARDS EARNS FIRST-TEAM ALL-OVC



Senior Xiamar Richards finally got her elusive first-team All-OVC finish, leading Austin Peay women's cross country team to its best finish in the Ohio Valley Conference

Women's Cross Country Championships since 2010. The Lady Gobs finished sixth as a squad in the 2013 running at Eagle Trace Golf Course.

Richards finished fifth overall, 25 seconds behind Eastern Kentucky's Una Britton, the individual champion, with an 18:07.95 run in the eight-kilometer race.

Her fifth-place finish was the best by a Lady Gov since Bertha Castillo's fourth-

place showing in the 2008 event. With her second-team honors in 2011 and 2012, Richards becomes Austin Peay's first-ever, three-time All-OVC honoree.

LADY GOVS SOCCER THWARTED IN CHAMPIONSHIP BID

Shelby Olszewski's late goal against Southeast Missouri lifted Austin Peay to the semifinals at the 2013 Ohio Valley Conference tournament, but the Lady Gobs were thwarted by eventual champion Morehead State in a 4-2 semifinal loss. Olszewski hit the game-winner in the 85th minute against the Redhawks, heading in a corner kick from Natalia Ariza to break the tie. She scored the go-ahead goal in the Lady Gobs semifinal match against Morehead State in the 70th minute, but three late goals

from the Eagles ended Austin Peay's run in the tournament.

Olszewski and Gina Fabbro earned all-tournament honors for Austin Peay. The tournament concluded the career of eight seniors – Natalia Ariza, Tatiana Ariza, Andy Quiceno, Joceline Quiceno, Emily Kink, Corey Osborn, Haylee Shoaff and Morgan Zigelsky – who led the Lady Gobs to three OVC Tournament appearances and a 47-28-5 record during their Austin Peay careers.

HAMPTON INDUCTED INTO RUSSELLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Former Austin Peay basketball standout Maurice "Squeaky" Hampton was inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame of his prep alma mater, Russellville High School in Kentucky on Feb. 7. Hampton starred for APSU from 2002-06. He left APSU ranked fifth in both career three pointers made and attempted while being ranked 15th in scoring with 1,320 points.

After graduating from APSU in 2007, he played professionally overseas until retiring after the 2012-13 campaign.

Helping in honoring Hampton was another former Russellville High School star, Charles "Bubba" Wells, APSU's all-time leading scorer and current Gobs basketball assistant coach. The school surprised both Hampton and Wells that night by retiring their respective jerseys.



NEW SCHOLARSHIP TO HONOR LEGENDARY BASKETBALL COACH

For 34 years, if you wanted to play basketball at Clarksville High School, you had to first survive the grueling practices of that school's legendary coach, **Ben Fendley ('51)**. The U.S. Marine Corps and Korean War veteran knew what his players were capable of achieving, so he made sure they went home exhausted each night.

"You had better be prepared to give him everything you had in practice every day, or there was no place for you on his team," Wayne Pace, former CHS player and former chief financial officer and executive vice president for Time Warner Inc., said. "Practice was brutal; games were the treat."

His players endured this daily punishment because they believed in Fendley. During his three decades of coaching, he led CHS basketball teams to 621 wins, including five state tournament appearances and a state runner-up finish in 1964.

"His players were so important to him," Geri Fendley, his wife, said. "A lot of them became very good friends of ours. He was a coach that his kids knew that he cared for them. Not because he said it, but because he showed it."

Fendley passed away in June 2013 at the age of 84, and now many prominent former players want to honor the legacy of their coach and friend with the creation of an endowment to fund the Ben Fendley Athletic Scholarship at Austin Peay State University. Fendley, a 1951 graduate of APSU, played both baseball and football at the University, and he was inducted into the APSU Hall of Fame in 1979.

"Playing under Coach Fendley was a very special part of my growing up in Clarksville," Pace said. "He taught his players values for life such as teamwork, honesty, loyalty, integrity, pride, self discipline and determination. I am pleased



to be able to contribute to a fund in his name and encourage others to contribute something as well, no matter how much, as every amount helps carry on the legacy of what this special man stood for and taught his students and players."

The scholarship will be awarded annually to student-athletes playing football, basketball or baseball at APSU.

"It's something I know he would treasure, as we do," Geri said. "This would be the best thing we could do for him."

Many of Fendley's former players went on to extremely successful careers, and they often credit their former coach for teaching them the value of hard work.

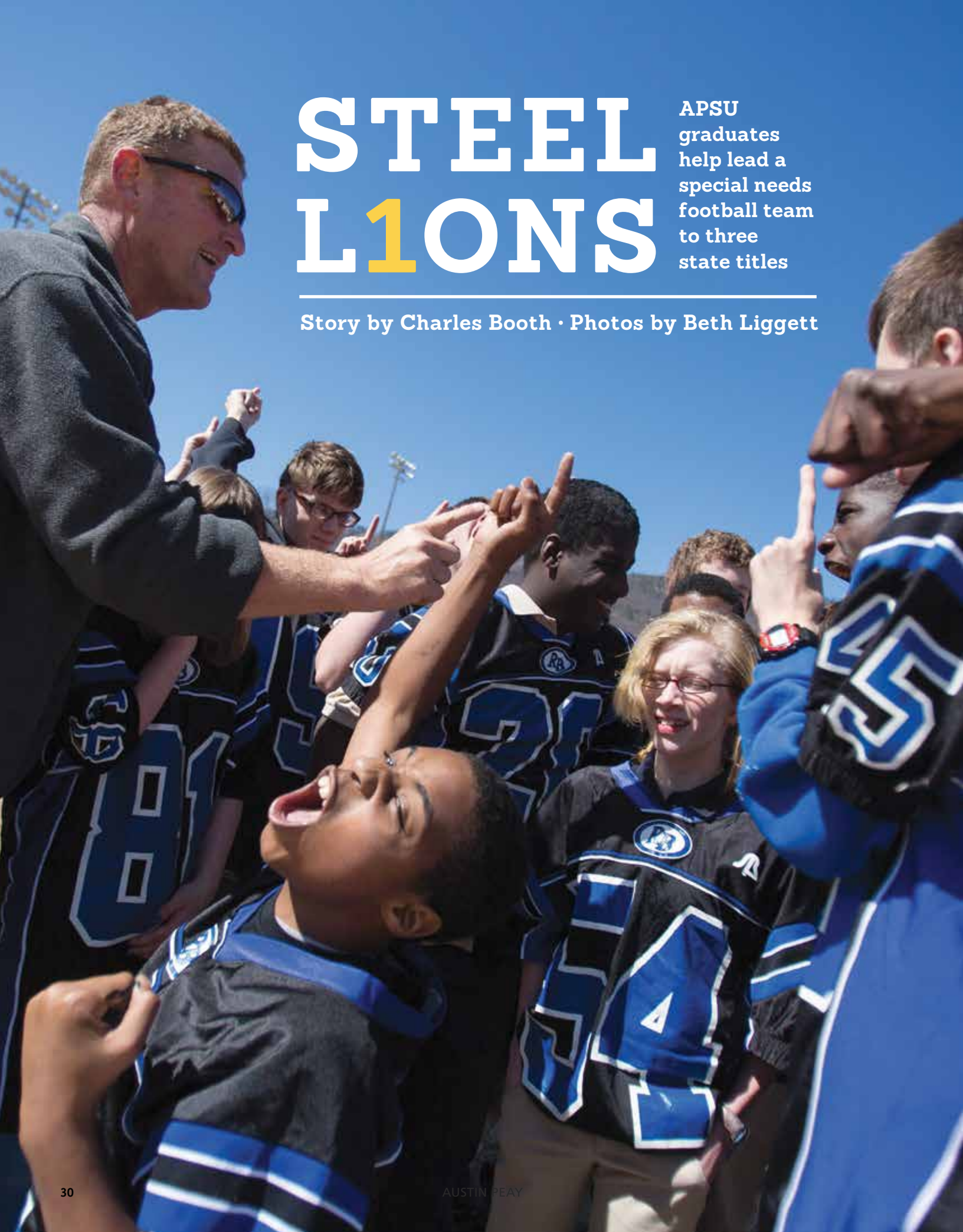
"Coach Fendley made sure that we were in shape and could play great defense," Tommy Head, former Tennessee state representative, said. "He taught me a lot about life and he jump-started my career. He's one of the best coaches I ever had."

"He kept me out of trouble, and without Coach Fendley, I would not have achieved the success that I've had in my life," Charlie Patterson, a retired local businessman, said.

The endowment, once fulfilled, will honor Fendley by providing deserving student-athletes with the opportunity to earn a college education at APSU. Anyone interested in contributing to the Ben Fendley Scholarship should contact the APSU Advancement Office at 931- 221-7127 or advancement@apsu.edu



Coach Ben Fendley sits with his 1963-64 Clarksville High School basketball team. The team made it to the state finals that year.



STEEL L1ONS

APSU
graduates
help lead a
special needs
football team
to three
state titles

Story by Charles Booth · Photos by Beth Liggett



CHATTANOOGA – The Red Bank Lions flag football team hustled onto the field that December afternoon, eager to prove why they’re considered the best in the state of Tennessee. The season was long over – the grass had turned a dull yellow and the trees covering the hillside to the west were gray and bare – but the players reunited at Chattanooga’s Red Bank High School, two weeks before Christmas, for a special exhibition scrimmage.

On that unseasonably warm and bright afternoon, the players experienced an early bout of spring fever, laughing and telling jokes as they lined up on the 10-yard line. Richard Wozniak ('81), the Lions' coach and a former All-American defensive tackle for Austin Peay State University, handed a football to Micah Hutcherson, the team's center.

“He can snap it out of the shotgun,” Wozniak said as he walked slowly backward from the line of scrimmage. “No one else does that but us.”

When Hutcherson leaned forward and put his right hand on the football, the rest of the players calmed down. For a moment, everything was quiet except for the passing traffic on a nearby street, and

a breeze passed low over the football field, making the air rich with the odor of mud and grass. The young athletes on both sides of the line of scrimmage waited, their nerves in check, for Hutcherson to snap the ball.

“It’s like they’re playing for the Super Bowl every single time they play,” Kristi

“It’s like they’re playing for the Super Bowl every single time they play. It gives me chills thinking about it.”

–Kristi Totherow ('79)

Totherow ('79), a special education teacher at Red Bank Middle School and Wozniak's sister-in-law, said. “It gives me chills thinking about it.”

Totherow stood in the end zone, her arms folded across her chest, and watched Hutcherson hike the ball to quarterback Cody Reed. At that moment, defensive lineman Brandon Minton came alive, rushing across the line of scrimmage.

“Get him, Brandon,” Wozniak yelled.

What happened next took a mere three seconds. Just as Minton was closing in, Reed threw a high spiral toward the sideline. That’s where Devonte Clark, a utility player filling in at wide receiver, was running at a full sprint. The pass, at first, seemed overthrown, but Clark stretched out his arms and then his fingertips and he somehow was able to pull the ball to his chest. Touchdown.

There was a burst of applause from the small group of spectators gathered in the end zone, but Wozniak was busy preparing his team for the second play of the day. At 54, he still has the athletic build of a defensive tackle and the thick, reddish hair he was known for on the APSU campus. He should be an intimidating presence having spent 28 years with the Metro Transit Police in Washington, D.C., but his players swarmed around him after each play.

“We’re going to overload the left side for what we call a Micah special,” Wozniak said.

The team set up for another pass play, but this time the defense was ready. Minton charged forward, causing Reed to under throw the pass to his receiver. The efficiency of the team on both sides

Micah Hutcherson snaps the ball out of the shotgun during a scrimmage.



Red Bank Lions demonstrate that the game isn't "warm and fuzzy."



of the ball is staggering to witness. Especially considering that the 10 players who make up the Lions are enrolled in the special education programs at Red Bank Middle and Red Bank High schools.

“A lot of these kids love the sport, but they’ve never had the opportunity,” Totherow said. “So, this is their first opportunity to play football.”

The opportunity to not only play but to excel at the sport is being provided by this small family of APSU graduates. Totherow, as the schools’ Special Olympics coach, organizes schedules and serves as a cheerleader for the team. Wozniak uses his knowledge of the game to make sure the team wins, and Marci (’81), his wife and also Totherow’s sister,

“A lot of these kids love the sport, but they’ve never had the opportunity. So, this is their first opportunity to play football.”

-Kristi Totherow (’79)

raises money so the Lions can travel across the state to play.

Since this trio joined forces in 2010, the Red Bank squad has earned three consecutive state titles at the Tennessee Special Olympics Flag Football Tournament. They’re the team to beat.

“I’m not saying that we’re the best,” Clark, the receiver, said bashfully as he returned to the huddle, “but we’re GREAT!”

In 2009, the Tennessee Special Olympics added flag football as a five-on-five, noncontact sport for both males and females. Totherow, having more than two decades of Special Olympics coaching experience, volunteered to bring the new sport to Red



Kristi Totherow (top), Richard Wozniak (middle) and Marci Wozniak (bottom) are the coaching staff of the Red Bank Lions.



Bank Middle and Red Bank High schools.

“A lot of people think special needs and they go, ‘awe,’” she said. “But this is not warm and fuzzy. This is intense competition.”

With only two or three plays in the team’s playbook, that first season was a reasonable success. The Lions didn’t take home any trophies, but Totherow’s students enjoyed the game. The next year, however, she had a secret weapon – her brother-in-law.

In 1977, Wozniak left his home in Savannah, Ga., to play defensive tackle for then APSU football coach Boots Donnelly. The Governors won the Ohio Valley Conference title that year, and Wozniak would go on to become a key member of the team’s defense. The Nov. 14, 1979 edition of *The All State*, APSU’s student newspaper, described him as the most consistent player all year. “At 6-5, 230 pounds, No. 74 has been a mainstay at defensive tackle the last two years.”

While at APSU, he met Marci and Kristi, the daughters of APSU mathematics professor Dr. Ernie Woodward. The sisters were extremely close, and after spending 28 years in Washington, D.C., the Wozniaks retired to Chattanooga, buying the condo next to Totherow.

“After we moved here, Kristi asked me to help out with the team, and I said, ‘Sure, I’d love to,’” Wozniak recalled. “But when I came in, she gave me a whistle and a shirt and said, ‘You’re now the head coach.’”

That night, he sat on his back deck with a notebook and wrote out page after page of football plays. He expanded their playbook to include around 15 plays. Totherow worried that might be a bit too much for the team. The members of the Lions have nicknames like Flash and Smiles, and their enthusiasm for the sport sometimes inspires a player to strike a Heisman pose while running for the end zone. But some of them have difficulty

distinguishing their right side from their left side.

To fix this little hiccup, Wozniak issued red and white wristbands to his team. If the quarterback calls, “white, run, Devonte,” the players know Clark will run with the ball down the right side of the field because that’s the color of the wristband on his right arm. This innovation allowed Wozniak to expand the playbook, and it provided more students with an opportunity to score.

“Every kid that wants to play has a play,” Jim Hutcherson, Micah’s father,

said. “There’s going to be a play specifically for that kid. It may not work, but he’ll have a play. It took my son four years to catch a pass, but he caught one.

The flag football season is distilled down to one intense day in Nashville, with participating teams competing in up to four 40-minute games in a single afternoon. The Red Bank Lions spend two and a half months preparing for this daylong tournament.

Kristi Totherow and Richard Wozniak call out plays during a scrimmage.





The students meet with Totherow and the Wozniaks on the football field every day at noon to run through the plays. Once a week, the coach of the high school football team provides a few of his players to scrimmage against the Lions.

“That was very helpful,” Wozniak said. “Our players were able to respond to kids who didn’t know our plays.”

The students improved on the field, but something else happened. Their teachers noticed a shift in their behavior at school.

“Working with the kids, it builds their ability,” Stacy Morrell, with Red Bank High School, said. “Micah has gotten stronger every year. The feeling of getting that ball and catching it builds him up. And this teaches them discipline and responsibility. If you want to do something, you have to show us you’re going to be responsible.”

The Red Banks Lions have won three state titles.





In October of 2013, the Red Bank Lions traveled to Lighthouse Christian Academy, Antioch, for the one-day Special Olympics tournament. The team calmly took the field, ready to defend their title. On the sidelines, Wozniak remembered all the broken plays and dropped balls during the last two months of practice. Then, the whistle blew.

“When it was game day, everything we worked on that never worked in practice actually worked,” he said. “Boy, they came to play. They were focused. It was just wonderful.”

In the final game of the afternoon, the score was close heading into the half. Wozniak and the others wondered if they’d three-peat. Then, a player named Ladarius Gordon, or L.G., was handed the ball. He’s an athletic young man who sometimes runs the wrong way down the field.

“Coach told me, don’t run one way, run the other way,” L.G. said. “That’s how I knew. He hiked the ball, and I started running.”

L.G. scored his first touchdown that afternoon.

“I told my mom, and she said, ‘Really? I didn’t know you could get a touchdown,’” he said.

The game soon turned in the Lions’ favor. A few more touchdowns solidified their lead, and when the final whistle blew, the team remained state champions.

The simple fact is the Lions are the best. They have the gold medals to prove it, and anyone watching the scrimmage that December afternoon would have seen how seriously they take the sport.

“Most of them have an interest in playing, have a grasp of what football is about,” Wozniak said. “Now, they not only see it on television, but they’re able to interact and able to do the skills. They just blossomed.”

That success can be deceiving. It makes the whole thing look easy. But the 10 members of the Red Bank Lions worked hard with their coaches and fought for every touchdown scored in the last three years.

“It’s tough for me, but I like it,” Micah said. “You have to focus a lot. You have to. But I like everything about it. I think the team is great. It was amazing that the team came in first place.”

The exhibition scrimmage came to an end, but the players lingered around the end zone, in no hurry to go back inside. The coaches also seemed to be taking their time, and suddenly it became clear that they were more excited than the young student-athletes.

“People often say, ‘thank you for your time,’” Totherow said. “I go, ‘wait a minute. It’s a two-way street.’ I get just as much out of it as they do.” **AP**



The Red Bank Lions players take a breather during practice.



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1 APSU celebrates "Blast from the Past," Homecoming 2013! On Saturday, Oct. 26, the Homecoming Day festivities began with the annual 5K Race outside the Pace Alumni Center at Emerald Hill. Photo by Beth Liggett.

2 GOV Run is a new tradition the Future Alumni Members Organization started in 2013. More than 500 community members, alumni and students came together for this unifying school pride event. Photo by Beth Liggett.

3 APSU Distinguished Alumni were recognized at the 2013 Homecoming Alumni Awards Brunch. From left, Jim Charlet ('63), Lt. Gen. Ronald Bailey ('77), Justin Dickens ('03), President Tim Hall, National Alumni Association President Brandon Harrison ('04), Bill Joe Jeans ('68), Robert Smith ('81) and Susan Wright Cole ('86). Not pictured: AJ Ellis ('03). Photo by Beth Liggett.

4 The Pitts Family is believed to have the largest number of APSU alumni among its members, with more than 20 graduates. Last November, family members gathered on campus to celebrate the establishment of The Robert C. and Sue F. Pitts Endowment. Dr. Karen Stubenvoll ('80) created the scholarship to honor her parents and their commitment to higher education. In honor of this donation, a classroom was named after Robert and Sue Pitts in the Maynard Mathematics and Computer Science Building. Photo by Beth Liggett.

5 APSU professor Dr. Dewey Browder and APSU alumni and friends ventured into the historical landmarks of Europe this past June. This was a 13-day trip that stretched from Paris, France, to Frankfurt, Germany. Photo contributed.

6 APSU alumni and former baseball players take part in the annual APSU Homecoming Golf Tournament at Swan Lake Golf Course. From left, Justin Browning ('06), Jake Peterson ('06), Shawn Kelley ('06) and Brad Daniel ('06). Photo by Beth Liggett.



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1960s

PEGGY S. MESZAROS ('63), director of the Center for Technology Impacts on Children, Youth and Families at Virginia Tech, was featured as the cover story for the University of Kentucky's Alumni Magazine, where she earned her M.S. in 1972.

DAVE SMALL ('68), a member of the 1962-63 Ireland High School basketball team in Indiana, is featured on the cover of a new book about the team, "One Small Town, One Crazy Coach: The Ireland Spuds and the 1963 Indiana High School Basketball season," by Mike Roos.

1970s

JACK JACKSON ('74) was inducted into the Eastern Kentucky University Athletics Hall of Fame. He was a member of the school's 1962 men's track mile relay team, which posted a 22-3 record that year. Jackson was one of the first African-American athletes to compete on an intercollegiate athletics team at Eastern Kentucky.

KEVIN C. KENNEDY ('78, '79), senior attorney at The Kennedy Law Firm, appeared on the Trinity Broadcasting Network. He was interviewed by Pastors Joe and Yolanda Morgan about the legal profession and biblical principles.

1980s

RICK FOREST ('80) was recently awarded a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. He is currently chaplain and coordinator of the Pediatric Bereavement Care Program at Kosair Children's Hospital in Louisville, Ky.

KATHIE FULGHAM ('84) was named public relations director at Southside Creative Group in Chattanooga. She previously served as project manager to Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield and as communication manager for the Tennessee Aquarium and IMAX 3D Theater.

RALPH SOWELL ('84) was elected president-elect for the Society of Tennessee Archivists, the statewide professional

advocacy organization for archives, historical societies, library special collections and historical preservation at the STA annual conference held in Knoxville.

Olivia Cole, daughter of **GRANT COLE ('87)** and **SUSAN (WRIGHT) COLE ('86)** signed a National Letter of Intent to play NCAA Division I Women's Lacrosse for the nationally ranked University of Florida. Susan played basketball at APSU for four seasons and was a member of the University's inaugural softball team.

NICK YOUNG ('89), school superintendent in South Hadley, Mass., recently co-authored a book, "Collapsing Educational Boundaries from Preschool to Ph.D.: Building Bridges Across the Educational Spectrum."

1990s

MATT B. HOOPER ('99) was recently honored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving as Tennessee's Prosecutor of the Year. A career prosecutor, he is a 2002 graduate of Washington University School of Law.

ALUMNI RAISE MORE THAN \$5,000 FOR DIABETES RESEARCH

Four years ago, Austin Peay State University alumni Frazier ('99) and Sally Garrett Allen's ('00) lives changed when their son, Garrett, was diagnosed with

Type 1 diabetes. Since then, he has had more than 10,000 finger prick blood sugar tests and 5,000 shots. Garrett also has changed his infusion set (a small tube

inserted into his skin) more than 100 times since getting on the insulin pump in February 2013.

The Allens now are dedicated to finding a cure for diabetes and have become leading advocates in Middle Tennessee for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). They currently serve as the Montgomery County JDRF Support Group Leaders. In the past four years, the Allens have put together a "walk team" for the annual JDRF Walk For A Cure. This past event took place on Sept. 28, 2013 at the Bicentennial Mall in Nashville.

The JDRF Walk For A Cure raises money that goes directly to research. Each year, the team has raised more than \$5,000 and is awarded the Golden Shoe Award, a top award for walkers.

For more information on this event and diabetes research, visit <http://jdrf.org>



2000s

DR. MELONY SEMBERGER ('06),

assistant professor in the Murray State University Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, was named a 2014 Business Journalism Professors Seminar Fellow. One of 14 faculty members from the across the nation selected for the prestigious program, she served her fellowship from Jan. 2-5, 2014, at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University in Phoenix. The Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism sponsored the fellowship.

MICHELE TYNDALL ('06, '09),

project manager in the APSU Office of Public Relations and Marketing, and **DR. MELONY SEMBERGER ('06)** presented "Something Special: Collaborating to Customize Material to Target New Donors," at a session at the Council for Advancement and Support Education's District III Conference held in February in Orlando, Fla.

MICHAEL RYE ('08) was named assistant vice president of commercial business banking at First Advantage Bank. He began working at the bank in 2007 as a credit analyst in the credit administration department.

ALYSSA FERNANDEZ ('12) spent last summer as an intern for Youth Villages, a private nonprofit organization dedicated to helping children and families live successfully. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in social work from the University of Tennessee.

BIRTHS

MARLA KISSACK ('02) and her husband Brian Kissack announced the birth of their daughter, Briella Kathryn, on May 17, 2013.



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APSU LEGENDS



NTSU — OR — NUTS

Instead of the cheer "Let's go Peay," what do you think of "Let's go NUTS"? That was an option, albeit not a serious one, in the mid-1960s when University officials considered changing the school's name. For a brief moment, it seemed that Austin Peay State College would become North Tennessee State University or, as some students hoped, Northern University of Tennessee State (NUTS).

"There was a lot of humor around the naming, but most of it isn't appropriate for print," Dr. Richard Gildrie, emeritus professor of history and co-author of "A History of Austin Peay State University: 1927-2002," said.

The proposed name change was part of a national movement in the late 1950s and early 1960s to identify state colleges as geographic universities. A debate arose locally on whether Austin Peay State College should become a university, and if it did, should the Austin Peay name stay.

"At that point in history, state's were taking their state colleges and renaming them to serve regions within the state," Gildrie said. "At Austin Peay, the problem was, are we really in a region? There's Middle Tennessee State University and East Tennessee State University, and we're stuck up on the Kentucky border."

Gildrie noted that the state's long border made it difficult to determine why the school should represent the entire northern portion of Tennessee. But an article in The All-State newspaper, quoted in Gildrie's book, argues for a new name, stat-

ing, "Although everyone agrees that Austin Peay was a great man and did much for the development of education, it appears that a geographic name would be more appropriate for the institution."

By 1966, it appeared that Austin Peay would be renamed North Tennessee State University, but in the Nov. 16, 1966, issue of The All-State, freshman Donnie Wheeler opposed the idea, saying, "If there is a change, everybody will have to buy new sweatshirts."

Then-student Melissa Pitt also argued against the change, saying, "If the name is changed to NTSU, then it will be common like MTSU. In 50 years, what would be the point of having the mascot as Governors or buildings named after them? Oh, yeah, we'd miss that great cheer, 'Go Peay.'"

According to Gildrie's book, in late 1966, "the faculty, students and alumni voted in favor of changing the name to North Tennessee University," but the community wouldn't have it.

"The local patriotism, the Clarksville local patriotism said, 'You're out of your mind,'" Gildrie said. "They said, 'It's Austin Peay. It's been Austin Peay. It's going to be Austin Peay.'"

And they were right. In September 1967, the regional college named for a Tennessee Governor was renamed Austin Peay State University.

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

KEITH WILSON'S TENACITY

“His is a story of amazing courage, faith and hope,” Dr. Bert Randall said.

The Austin Peay State University professor of philosophy was referring to his former student, Keith Wilson ('13), who died on Dec. 29, 2013. Sixteen days earlier, on Dec. 13, Wilson graduated from APSU with his bachelor's degree in philosophy with specializations in philosophy, religious studies and diversity studies.

What makes his story so amazing is that it took him more than two decades to earn his degree. The health problems that would eventually lead to his death plagued his academic career from the day he started at APSU in 1992. But unlike so many others, Wilson refused to give up.

“You can look at his transcript and see when medical problems got worse,” Randall, Wilson's adviser, said. “He might make a low passing grade or not pass a class. But he never complained, never blamed it on anybody. He came back and took the class again. Just kept working at it.”

On a warm December afternoon, just days before the APSU Winter

Commencement Ceremony, Randall treated his tenacious student to a celebratory lunch at Shoney's. Wilson sat in his wheelchair with a wide smile spreading across his face. His long journey for a college education was coming to an end.

“It kept me busy and gave me things to think about other than dialysis and other medical procedures,” he said that afternoon. “It motivated me and gave me a goal to look forward to. To get a degree is a blessing. To have had the mentors and teachers at APSU was and still is a blessing.”

Over the years, medical emergencies and hospital visits interrupted his classes, and medications often made it difficult for him to concentrate on his homework. But Wilson never made excuses for his setbacks.

“There were times when the grade went to ‘F,’ and it was difficult,” he said. “And you say, ‘what did I do? I thought I tried as hard as the other students. But a lot of times when you look back over it, you didn't.’”

His attitude impressed Randall. In his 42 years of teaching at APSU, the philosophy professor rarely came across a student so dedicated and honest.

“I admired the fact he never made excuses,” Randall said. “He kept working. I know he was discouraged. He became a hero for me in terms of just not giving up.”

Randall was determined to see Wilson graduate, so in early 2013, he contacted the APSU Office of the Registrar for help deciphering Wilson's 20 years worth of credit hours. Patrice Cheatham, assistant registrar, and Jasmine O'Brien, graduation coordinator, diligently went over Wilson's record to see what classes he was missing.

“Without their compassion, concern for Keith and professional competence, I would not have known how to advise him so that he could fulfill all the requirements for graduation,” Randall said.

On Dec. 13, Wilson woke up early, put on a suit and then slid a black gown over it. On his head, he wore a mortarboard. A few hours later, Randall guided Wilson's wheelchair to APSU President Tim Hall, who congratulated the new graduate. Earning that diploma had become his life's goal, and at that moment, Wilson knew he'd achieved something extraordinary.



Beth Liggett

IN MEMORY

DR. ANDREW NEAL BARRASS ('74, '76), associate professor and principal investigator for the Center of Excellence for Field Biology, died on Feb. 3, 2013, at the age of 62. He was known for his research on bats and was instrumental in discovering the first case of White Nose Syndrome (WNS) among bats at Dunbar Cave.

KEITH AUSTIN CAUDILL ('04) died on July 15, 2013. He was a member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, and he taught history at Montgomery Central High School.

RUTH EVELYN CHATO ('55), a homemaker and member of First Baptist Church, died on Dec. 20, 2013 at Signature HealthCare of Clarksville.

DONALD BRUCE CORLEW ('65), a self-employed financial product salesman, died on Nov. 13, 2013. He was a member of Austin Peay's Red Coat Club and a longtime member of Antioch United Methodist Church.

DAVID CUMMINGS ('71) died on Dec. 25, 2013. Along with partners, he established and operated Mann, Smith and Cummings Insurance Agency in Clarksville. Cummings was a Certified Insurance Counselor and belonged to the Insurers of Tennessee and NAIFA Hall of Fame.

ALLISON ELAINE FLINT ('01) died on June 21, 2013. She received a B.S. degree in communication arts/public relations from APSU and an MBA from University of Phoenix. She was a member of the Iota Upsilon chapter of Delta Sigma Theta and the National Urban League Young Professionals.

MARGIE SMITH FORD ('82), a retired teacher, a former principal of Norman Smith Elementary School and a member of Sango United Methodist Church, died on Dec. 12, 2013.

HOWARD DOUGLAS GROVES ('66), owner of Mid Atlantic Products in Nashville, died on Dec. 24, 2013. He was a member of Rye's Chapel United Methodist Church.

KEN LANE HARRIS ('90) died on Jan. 3, 2014, at Gateway Medical Center. He

was the owner of Harris Woodworks and a deacon and member of Hilldale Church of Christ.

BLAKE ANDREW JENKINS ('05) died on Nov. 21, 2013. He graduated from the National Automotive Dealers Association and worked in several capacities at Jenkins and Wynne. While at APSU, he was a business major and member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. He also was a member of the Downtown Clarksville Kiwanis Club and Grace Community Church.

BETTY LAWRENCE ('90) died on Nov. 12, 2013. She was a proud army wife and worked as a nurse supervisor for Holy Redeemer.

DULCINIA (TINA) MCTOY-WHITE, a counselor in the APSU Educational Opportunity Center, died on Dec. 23, 2013. She worked with the EOC for more than 25 years.

MELBURN R. MAYFIELD, a former APSU faculty member, died on Sept. 20, 2013. He began his career at Austin Peay in 1957 as an associate professor of physics, having retired in 1987. During his tenure at APSU, Mayfield served in various capacities, including the director for the Center for Teachers, vice president for development and executive director for University Advancement.

JOHN WILLIAM MOSELEY SR. ('94, '96), associate professor in the APSU Department of Communication, died Feb. 9, 2014, at the age of 66. An active faculty member for 18 years, he played an integral role in establishing many of the broadcast efforts at APSU, including the establishment of GovTV Channel 99 and live broadcasts for APSU commencements and sporting events. He also was instrumental in establishing APSU's sports broadcasting program.

KATHRYN PASCHALL ('50) died on Nov. 16, 2013, at her home in Franklin. She served as a university librarian for 40 years, holding positions at Bethany Nazarene College in Oklahoma and Bethel College in Mishawaka, Ind. She retired to Nashville in 1989.

GAIL ROACH, administrative assistant II in the Department of Public Management and Criminal Justice at the Austin Peay Center @ Fort Campbell, died on Sept. 20, 2013. She began her career at APSU in 1994 as a temporary employee, eventually rising to the position of secretary II in 1997.

BOBBY EARL RORIE ('59) died at Spring Meadows Healthcare. He was a chemist with the Tennessee Department of Transportation and a Korean War veteran. He also served eight years on the Cheatham County School Board and taught one year with the Moore County School System.

LARRY SAFKO ('90), a regionally acclaimed photographer and writer and co-owner of Third Eye Photography and Foto-1, died on Dec. 15, 2013. He taught public speaking and photography and recently retired from the Department of Human Services. His works are on exhibit in area government offices, businesses and homes.

SAM J. SALERNO ('68) died on Sept. 19, 2013, after an extended battle with cancer. A U.S. Army veteran, he worked for many years in contract sales for Sears before becoming an industrial engineer working as a management analyst for the federal government.

DR. WAYNE E. STAMPER, a retired APSU faculty member, died Dec. 10, 2013. During his 30 years at APSU, he served as professor of chemistry, dean of the graduate school and AIDP grant, executive assistant to the president and chair of the Department of Engineering Technology.

PERRY STORY ('13) died on Nov. 19, 2013. He was a member of the AGR fraternity, a technician with West Tennessee Utilities and a member of McAdoo Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

MABEL YORK ('72, '76) died on Oct. 21, 2013, after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's disease. She taught in the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System for 20 years.

Alumni Relations Office

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For information, contact
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THE LEGACY SOCIETY

In the fall of 2013, Austin Peay State University welcomed more than 20 new members into the University's Legacy Society. This organization was created in 2010 to recognize, in a meaningful way, all those who share a commitment to the future success of this vital institution. Legacy Society members do this through gifts that build the endowment, allowing income from this perpetual fund to support all areas of the University.

You can make a commitment to APSU and join the Legacy Society by including the University in your will, trust and other estate plans. If you have already made provisions for APSU in your will or through another type of planned gift, contact us so we can welcome you into the Legacy Society and thank you personally for your support.

If you would like more information about how planned gifts can be an integral part of your estate planning, contact the Office of University Advancement at 931-221-7127.