

Austin Peay

The Magazine
for Alumni
and Friends
of Austin Peay
State University
Spring 2018



THE
**BEST
STORY**
IN COLLEGE
FOOTBALL

Austin Peay

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From the President



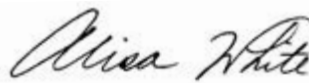
When the University community came together three years ago to develop a strategic plan, we identified several core values that are essential to Austin Peay's identity. One of those values calls for this institution to be an active member of the community, and the University's athletics department is a perfect example of how we demonstrate that value. Last fall, thousands of Clarksvillians rallied around our football team. On Saturday afternoons, students, faculty, staff, parents, children, business owners, Fort Campbell soldiers and alumni crowded

into Fortera Stadium to cheer on the Governors. During those games, I saw people of different backgrounds across many demographic groups come together as one large family. It was an exciting season and one I know Coach Will Healy is eager to replicate this fall.

In the last few years, Austin Peay has strengthened its commitment to these sports programs because of their value to the entire community. A robust athletics department also is an important factor in student success—one of the goals in our strategic plan—because research tells us that students who attend games and are active on campus are more likely to graduate. Clearly, athletics play a big role in the lives of student athletes, many of whom chose Austin Peay because of their opportunities to play. Ryan Ivey, athletics director, has worked to create a culture of winning within his department, and this past year has shown the fruits of his efforts.

Under Coach Taylor Mott, our women's volleyball team was named regular season champions and Ohio Valley Conference Tournament Champions last fall. In November, they traveled to California to compete on a national stage as part of the NCAA tournament. During Coach Matt Figger's inaugural season as men's basketball head coach, the Governors finished third in the OVC and made it to the quarterfinals of the CollegelInsider.com post-season tournament. Coaches Figger, Mott and Healy also all earned OVC Coach of the Year honors.

With 16 different sports teams, there's almost always an exciting, family-friendly event taking place on campus for our students and our community to support. I appreciate everyone who attended one of our teams' games during this successful year, and I look forward to cheering with you in the Dunn Center, at Fortera Stadium, on Cheryl Holt Field or one of our other sports venues during the 2018-2019 academic year.



Dr. Alisa White
APSU President

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EXCELLENCE

ON THE COVER

APSU running back and Dalton, Georgia, native Ahmaad Tanner



Women's volleyball players celebrate after being named OVC Tournament Champions. For full story, see page 30.



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS UNVEILS FINANCIAL TRADING CENTER

The College of Business took a major step forward last November when it officially opened the new Larry W. Carroll Financial Trading Center. The Center, located in the Kimbrough Building, allows business students to mimic the work of Wall Street's top traders by giving them access to the same tools used by financial professionals around the world.

In 2015, North Carolina businessman and APSU alumnus Larry Carroll contributed the project's lead gift.

Months later, Dr. Mark Green, Tennessee state senator and founder of the healthcare company AlignMD, along with his wife Camilla Green, funded the Dr. Mark and Camilla Green Stock Exchange Ticker Display. Family and friends of the late John K. Hopson, a longtime Montgomery County Farm Bureau agent, also supported the project with the John K. Hopson Innovation Rooms within the Center.



From left, Derek van der Merwe, Dr. Charles Moses, Billy Atkins, Camilla Green, Senator Mark Green, Dr. Alisa White, Larry Carroll ('76), Vivian Carroll, Martha Hopson ('80), Don Jenkins, Dr. Nell Rayburn and Kris Phillips ('91).



DOCTORAL DEGREE PROPOSED

In December, the APSU Board of Trustees unanimously approved a proposal for Austin Peay's first doctoral degree—an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership. The program, pending additional approval from the University's accreditor (SACSCOC), will begin this fall.



NEW DEAN ON CAMPUS

In January, Dr. Mickey A. Hepner became dean of the College of Business. Hepner previously served as dean of the University of Central Oklahoma's College of Business.



MAKING CONNECTIONS

Dr. David Rands, associate professor in the History and Philosophy Department, has worked closely over the last several months with Yoshio Koyama, a Japanese Outreach Initiative Coordinator. Koyama is helping APSU connect with Tennessee's Japanese-owned businesses. Japan is the state's largest foreign investor.



APSU RECEIVES \$1.3 MILLION FEDERAL GRANT FOR VETERANS

A new five-year, \$1.3 million U.S. Department of Education TRiO grant will allow Austin Peay to open a Veterans Upward Bound office to assist low-income veterans and veterans who are first-generation college students in applying and enrolling in post-secondary education.



EXPANDING INTO DOWNTOWN

Last year, the APSU Office of University Advancement relocated to the Jenkins Building, 318 College Street, marking the beginning of Austin Peay's expansion into downtown Clarksville. Pictured here is the Jenkins family at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



HONORING A LEGACY

In October, APSU unveiled its new John Morgan Walk of History, honoring the alumnus and former chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents.





A NEW ERA FOR ART

In August, the University opened the new Art and Design Building. Several areas in the building are named in honor of Judge Sam and Dee Boaz, June Love Heydel, Tom Malone and Charlsie Malone Halliburton, Marlon and Linda Crow, Barbara Beach, Jim and Dottie Mann, and US Bank, honoring retired vice president Joyce Taylor Norris.

Photographed is an exhibit in the Beach Student Gallery titled "Eclipse" by artist Jamey Grimes.

An Emerging **LEADER**

Kindyl King's journey from
China to APSU PELP program

In the late 1990s, a baby girl was abandoned at the gates of Fuzhou University in China. Last spring, that girl—Austin Peay State University mathematics student Kindyl King—received an honorable mention from the Barry M. Goldwater Foundation for its prestigious Goldwater Scholarship. That national recognition, however, is simply one of the many accolades King has accumulated during her exceptional academic career at Austin Peay.

EARLY LIFE

The Min River cuts through the middle of Fuzhou's campus, and that afternoon in the 1990s, someone admiring this tranquil waterway likely heard a baby crying. The abandoned child was discovered and taken to a local orphanage. That's where Johnson City, Tennessee, residents John and Sheree King found her and adopted her as their daughter.

"Being a minority student and an immigrant to the U.S. has given me a different perspective throughout my academic career," King said. "It is a great privilege to have access to an education, and I work hard to take advantage of opportunities, such as the Goldwater Scholarship, because I do not want to take for granted the privileges I have been given."

APSU

King came to Austin Peay on a prestigious President's Emerging Leaders Program (PELP) scholarship. Determined to take advantage of the opportunities available at APSU, she began using fractional calculus to create a model

to diagnose liver fibrosis, an excessive accumulation of fibrous tissues in the liver, using magnetic resonance elastography (MRE) images. Her goal is to create a replacement for potentially dangerous liver biopsy.

Thanks to an Undergraduate Research Experience Funding (UREF) grant from Austin Peay's Office of Student Research and Innovation, King has presented her impressive research at the Southeast Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics at Duke University and other conferences throughout the Southeast. She also has submitted two scholarly articles to the academic journal, *Applied Mathematics and Computation*, and is currently writing a third paper.

BEYOND

Nearly 20 years after she was abandoned at one university, King has become a leading scholar at another university on the other side of the globe. She has applied to doctoral programs in mathematics at several prestigious schools, including Vanderbilt and Northwestern, and in her remaining time at Austin Peay, she is organizing a fundraiser for She's the First—an international scholarship and mentoring program designed to provide access to education for young girls in underdeveloped countries.

She hopes to someday use the scholarly background she developed at Austin Peay to affect larger change around the world.

"I would be more fulfilled by affecting a greater portion of society through a career in industry, such as analyzing and changing public policy," King said.

“ It is a great privilege to have access to an education, and I work hard to take advantage of opportunities. ”



THE GOV LIFE

Every APSU student has a story



Waqas Ahmed

Waqas Ahmed and his family left their native Pakistan in search of opportunity when he was in fifth grade. Ahmed's family found that opportunity in America — and Ahmed found the path to his future at Austin Peay State University.

“We belong to a minority that is persecuted in Pakistan, so there we weren't able to be successful and belong to a minority at the same time,” Ahmed said. “There was a limit to our success, and that was why we came to America.”

“

I think every kid thinks about going away for college, but when I visited Austin Peay, I fell in love with this place and its opportunities.

”

Since settling in Clarksville, Ahmed's father has become a successful practicing neurologist, while Ahmed has emerged as a leader on campus, serving in a number of student organizations, including, the President's Emerging Leaders Program, the Pre-Professional Health Society and the Student Government Association, all while pursuing a degree in biology with a focus in pre-med in the hopes of following his father as a doctor.

“I think every kid thinks about going away for college, but when I visited Austin Peay, I fell in love with this place and its opportunities,” Ahmed said. “It's close to home, I was accepted into a great program, and I received fantastic scholarships — it didn't make sense to go anywhere else.”

Read more Austin Peay stories at www.apsu.edu/alumni-magazine.



Kassandra Caseres draws a portrait inside the Art and Design Building.



“ *As a writer, I've found that people learn best when they're laughing or when they're nervous, and this collection hopes to do both.* **”**

- Bryanna Licciardi



A serial poet

Alumna pens collection featuring famous killers

Bryanna Licciardi ('11) went on a boring date

with infamous serial killer John Wayne Gacy.

“Toward the end of my Master of Fine Arts program in Boston, I fell asleep one night watching a documentary about (Gacy),” she said. “Not your typical bedtime story, I know, but I have a horror hobby. Anyway, this turned out to be a great idea, because I dreamt Gacy and I went out on a boring date, which I thought would make for a funny poem.”

That dream and the poems that followed led to Licciardi’s debut poetry collection, “Skin Splitting,” which was published last summer by Finishing Line Press. The collection includes works inspired by serial killers, such as Gacy and Jeffrey Dahmer, that explore the horror in mundane aspects of everyday life.

“As a writer, I’ve found that people learn best when they’re laughing or when they’re nervous, and this collection hopes to do both,” she said.

During her time as an English major at Austin Peay, Licciardi served as editor-in-chief of Red Mud Review, the University’s student-organized literary magazine. She received her Master of Fine Arts in poetry from Emerson College in 2014, and she is pursuing a Ph.D. in literary studies from Middle Tennessee State University.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for the OFFICE of APSU UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT



In 1989, former Austin Peay President Dr. Oscar Page established a program to develop leadership qualities in some of the University's top students. Known as the President's Emerging Leaders Program (PELP), the program went on to create a new generation of empathetic leaders who embodied the program's values of "honesty, humility, academic rigor, leadership and service."

You just read about Kindyl King, a current PELP student, and her incredible story of survival. But while her story is unique, what brought her to Austin Peay is not; she is one of many students drawn here by a PELP scholarship. But PELP is more than a scholarship; it's a community of leaders and learners. Through PELP, Austin Peay students put their talents and skills to work, getting involved on campus and in the real world, developing into the kinds of leaders that would make Dr. Page and the Austin Peay community proud.

Austin Peay takes pride in leading, and as it nears its 30th anniversary, PELP needs our support. I'm proud to say that Austin Peay provides educational opportunities, but higher education is not without cost, and the market is competitive as institutions seek to attract the best and brightest students. Your contributions, whether large or small, really do make a difference.

I know how powerful your support can be because you answered the call in a major way last April. We launched Gobs Give, our first-ever, 90-hour giving event, with the goal of raising \$90,000 in honor of Austin Peay's 90th anniversary. Your generosity exceeded anything we could have imagined, as we received 486 gifts from people in 26 states totaling \$148,301.

I'm excited to announce that Gobs Give is back this year, and we will, again, be raising funds for the different colleges' Funds of Excellence, athletics and student affairs. These innovation funds allow deans and directors in academic and student areas to provide students with the tools and opportunities they need to succeed.

As alumni and friends of Austin Peay, you can be proud of students like Kindyl and countless others whose accomplishments make your alma mater a better place every single day. Please don't hesitate to contact me or anyone in University Advancement to find out how you can be a part of the exciting things happening here at Austin Peay.

Let's Go Peay!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kris Phillips'.

Kris Phillips ('91)
Executive Director



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JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OR CREATE A CHAPTER

It is the goal of the APSU National Alumni Association to encourage and foster lifelong alumni participation, involvement and commitment. This group of dedicated alumni strive to strengthen the bond between the University and its alumni; create programs which match the interests and needs of the alumni; maintain and build upon the positive relationships with seasoned alumni; increase the participation and communication with younger alumni; and continue to serve as the primary communication link between the University and its alumni.

For more information on the APSU National Alumni Association, how to join the NAA Board or start an alumni group in your region, visit www.apsu.edu/alumni/chapters#Presidents, or email alumni@apsu.edu.



Maggie Kulback ('77) (left) and Terry Griffin ('80) were honored during the 34th Annual Candlelight Ball.

34TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT BALL AWARD WINNERS

Two deserving individuals were honored during APSU's 34th Annual Candlelight Ball held March 10, 2018, at the Omni Nashville Hotel. The Wendell H. Gilbert Award and the Spirit Award were presented to two APSU supporters for their outstanding achievement, contribution or recognition they have brought to Austin Peay.

WENDELL H. GILBERT AWARD—Maggie Kulback

Maggie Kulback ('77) retired from Jostens in 2008 after a successful 30-year career. During her time at Austin Peay, she served as SGA president and as First Lady of Austin Peay. Kulback is an active member of the Clarksville-Montgomery County community and has served the University in a number of ways, including chair of the Candlelight Ball Committee, co-chair of the Homecoming Committee and member of the Tower Club and the Gavs Club. In 2010, Barry and Maggie Kulback made a major gift pledge to the University. In honor of this gift, the atrium in the Maynard Mathematics and Computer Science Building was named the Kulback Atrium.

SPIRIT AWARD—Terry Griffin

Terry Griffin ('80) is the general sales manager for Budweiser of Clarksville, a position he has held since 1999. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from APSU in 1980. Griffin has served in a number of leadership positions in the Clarksville-Montgomery County community, including the Clarksville Jaycees, the Clarksville Golf Association, Manna Café and the Clarksville Area Chamber of Commerce. Griffin is a member of APSU Gavs Club, having served in a number of roles on its board of directors, including president.

2018 ALUMNI CALENDAR — OF EVENTS —

April 26

CSM Darol Walker Award
Ceremony & Breakfast

May 7

Govs Gathering, Dallas, Texas

June 5-19

Australia/New Zealand
Alumni & Friends Trip

June-August (dates TBA)
APSU Governors Gatherings
around the country
(For more information,
visit www.apsu.edu/alumni)

July 28

NAA Board Meeting

Sept. 1

**APSU vs. Georgia
Alumni & Friends Tailgate**

Oct. 6

Baseball Alumni Reunion

Oct. 27

APSU HOMECOMING

APSU vs. TN Tech

**50-Year Reunion
Class of 1968**

Alumni Village

For the most up-to-date alumni
event and National Alumni
Association information,
visit www.apsu.edu/alumni.



On May 5, 1975, a new fraternity was chartered at Austin Peay State University. The Theta Beta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi soon became a powerful force on campus, with its members engaging in numerous community service projects and serving as student government leaders. Those students would go on to become active alumni who shared a love for their alma mater. Last fall, several alumni members of Theta Beta Chapter returned to campus to present APSU President Alisa White with a \$25,000 check, officially establishing the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity/Theta Beta Endowed Scholarship.

“ We were able to convince a ‘faithful few’ that the money would fund a scholarship at our alma mater, while also honoring our fraternity’s legacy of service. ”
James Greenlee ('93)

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Kayle Davis waves to the crowd after being crowned the 2018 Miss Austin Peay on Nov. 5, 2017.



THE

BEST STORY

IN COLLEGE

FOOTBALL



Building a successful football program doesn't happen overnight, especially when you take a team with the longest losing streak in the nation. But even if no one else believed in Austin Peay's program, Will Healy saw potential: he just needed the right people to help him engineer a top-to-bottom overhaul. After he was hired in December 2015, Healy spent the next 24 months making a series of smart hires, engaging in heated recruiting battles and conducting unprecedented on-field success. In short, he helped draft what many sports journalists called the best story in college football.

“The Austin Peay Governors

might be Division 1 football’s best story in 2017,” Alex Kirshner, national sports reporter with SB Nation, wrote last November.

This story begins on a snowy January afternoon in 2016. A winter storm virtually shut down the city of Clarksville at the same time a group of 15 potential football recruits were visiting campus. Healy and his staff used the opportunity to create a bonding experience, with snowball fights and sled races. After that trip, 12 players committed to Austin Peay, giving the program a Top 10 Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) recruiting class.

Six months later, the team signed Jeremiah Oatsvall, who would go on to be APSU’s first player to be named OVC Freshman of the Year. Momentum continued to build for the program despite another winless season that fall, and in February 2017, APSU signed the No. 1 recruiting class in the FCS.

Everything came together on a warm September evening during the Governors first home game of the 2017 season. In front of a Fortera Stadium record 8,152 fans, the team routed Morehead State 69-13, ending a three-year losing streak.

“I’ve been here for four years, and this is the greatest feeling its ever been,” Max Ewoldt, an offensive lineman, said while watching fans tear down the goal posts.

That feeling only grew during the next few months with wins over Murray State, University of Tennessee at Martin, Tennessee State and Southeast Missouri State.

On Nov. 4, the Governors defeated Tennessee Tech, earning the team’s first Sgt. York Trophy.

“I think if you look at where we were last year and then tell me that we would win the Sgt. York Trophy just one season later, I would have called you crazy,” Healy told Governors Sports Network play-by-play announcer Brian Rives after the game. “You can’t tell these kids that. Those kids believed we would be here.”

APSU finished the season a few weeks later with a 28-13 win over Eastern Illinois, giving the Governors eight regular season wins to tie the program record

for victories set in 1977. The team finished 25th in a 24-team field for FCS Playoffs, narrowly missing the program’s first playoff birth. But in the weeks that followed, sports writers and fans lauded the program with Healy receiving the Roy Kidd OVC Coach of the Year and the Eddie Robinson Award, making him the FCS national coach of the year.

“This award is a testament of Coach Healy’s ability to lead a group of individuals, to make them believe in a vision—a dream at the time—

and then put in countless hours of work, dedication, perseverance and love for each other to make that vision a reality,” Ryan Ivey, APSU athletics director, said.

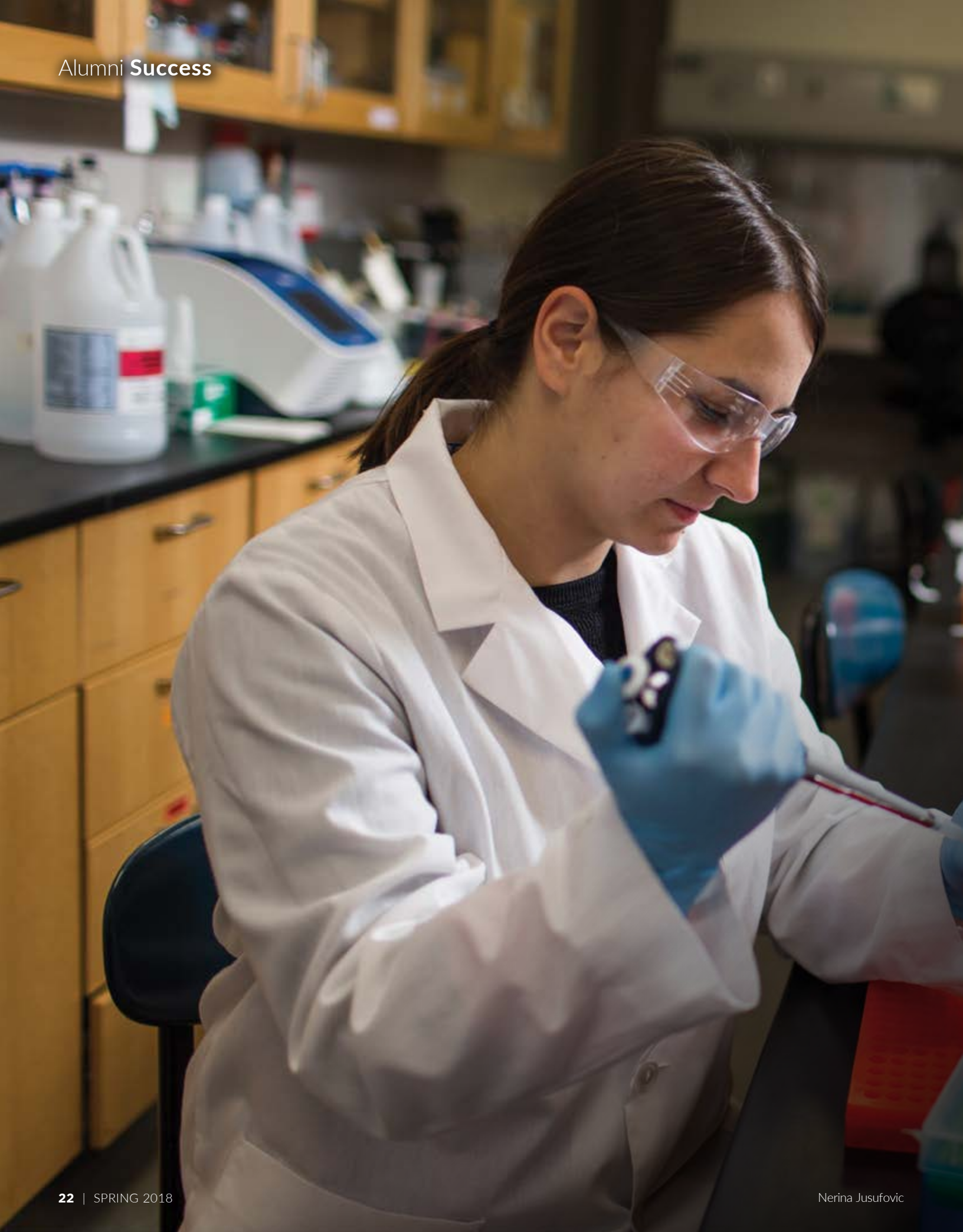
Now the team is ready to build off this momentum with another big season. That season starts Sept. 1 with the team taking on last year’s national champion contenders the Georgia Bulldogs.





AUSTIN PEAY STATE UNIVERSITY

LET'S GO PEAY



A Better Life

From Bosnia to The Peay

By definition, Austin Peay State University alumna Nerina Jusufovic is a refugee; a victim of the war that raged in her home country of Bosnia and Herzegovina, forcing her family to seek a fresh start in the United States. She was just four years old. But in truth, Jusufovic is an American; a child who learned English by watching “Sesame Street,” a teenager who rooted for Team USA during the Olympics and World Cup and an adult who recently completed her master’s degree in biology from Austin Peay.

During her graduate career, Jusufovic studied under Austin Peay biology professor Dr. Chad Brooks, exploring how Lyme disease functions in dogs and pursuing new vaccine possibilities for canines. Before completing her graduate degree, Jusufovic presented her findings at the 127th Meeting of the Tennessee Academy of Sciences, earning second place at the meeting’s student poster competition. A 4.0 student, Jusufovic was selected to carry the gonfalon for the College of Graduate Studies during Austin Peay’s 2017 Winter Commencement exercises.

Jusufovic said she intends to continue her education with the goal to one day earn her Ph.D. in infectious diseases.

“We’re not a huge research institution, but I’ve been able to do quite a few things here that people who don’t know about Austin Peay would be surprised I was able to do,” Jusufovic said. “Austin Peay has been wonderful to me; they’ve provided me with everything I needed and I think, academically speaking, I’ve been able to learn everything I could need to learn by choosing to come here.”

In every way imaginable, Jusufovic’s “normal” American story was the ideal outcome after her family fled their troubled home in pursuit of the American dream.

“My family was one of the few that were allowed to come here after all of the genocide and ethnic cleansing that was taking place in Bosnia,” Jusufovic said. “By the time we left in 1996, things were starting to improve, but my parents—especially my mother—knew that there would be a better opportunity for us if we came to America.

“Now as an adult, I think of it this way: America is where I’m from. I’m an American citizen, my parents and sister are American citizens. Yes, I still love Bosnia, but I have assimilated, not separated, and I identify as an American.”

“
Academically speaking, I’ve been able to learn everything I could need to learn by choosing to come here.
”

Alumni **Success**

A Southern Living

Canada native Wilt finds
success in the South

The winters can be harsh in Ontario, Canada, with snow stretching across the landscape and the sun appearing for only a few hours each day. Not many people from the province find their way to Austin Peay State University, and even fewer go on to careers celebrating the culture of the American South. And then there's Abbi Wilt, APSU alumna and associate digital editor at Southern Living Magazine.

"Being a Canadian, I guess it's ironic that I work for a magazine that covers Southern culture, and it's something that my coworkers like to remind me of all the time," Wilt said. "But I fell in love with the culture here, and I'm able to do the things that I'm truly passionate about."

While earning a bachelor's degree in communication at Austin Peay, Wilt thought she might pursue a career in public relations. Then shortly before she graduated, she was offered an editorial fellowship with Time Inc.

"I could have taken a higher-paying job in public relations, but I'm a writer through and through, and I knew (Time Inc.) would allow me to work under some of the best editors in the business, so I thought I'd do it for a year and see where it went from there," Wilt said. "My fellowship was supposed to last from June 2015 through June 2016, but I was hired on in February 2016 when

they decided they wanted to create an entirely new position for me."

Wilt now produces and manages all of the magazine's food, home, style, garden and travel video content. And she credits her alma mater for preparing her for her career.

"I'm grateful for my time at Austin Peay because I was able to learn from professors who cared about my passions, and the

opportunities I received there prepared me for what I'm doing today," Wilt said. "I knew I had found my place when I first toured Austin Peay's campus, and if I had to choose a school again, I'd still pick Austin Peay."



A Southern Living magazine article authored by Abbi Wilt.

“ I was able to learn from professors who cared about my passions, and the opportunities I received there prepared me for what I'm doing today. ”



Jeremiah Simmons operates the lathe for metal fabrication in the newly established engineering physics lab located in the Technology Building.

ENGINEERING PHYSICS

Last fall, a handful of students became the first engineering majors in Austin Peay State University history. Specifically, the students were enrolled in the University's new Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.S.E.) degree program, with a major in engineering physics.

The 120 credit-hour program is designed to familiarize students with multiple engineering disciplines, such as mechanical, electrical and chemical engineering, while focusing heavily on engineering design. Austin Peay is now one of the few university's in the country that offers an engineering physics degree, which will prepare students for

numerous types of jobs in the engineering field. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a national shortage of trained engineers has led to a demand of more than two million jobs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics related occupations.

According to the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, "Advanced manufacturing job creation in Tennessee far outpaces national growth, at 27.1 percent job growth in Tennessee compared to 8.7 percent nationally from 2010 to 2015."



Engineering physics students identify various computer chips that make up the motherboard of a computer.

“This program will put us in a good position to provide graduates for those new companies coming to town, both in recruiting new companies and helping the ones that are here,” Dr. Russ Longhurst, associate professor of physics, said. “Our vision is to have really good relations with local industry, with our students working for them.”

The University is currently seeking accreditation for the program through the American Board of Engineering and Technology.

For more information, contact physics@apsu.edu.

Jo Lynn Tyner works with a robot that balances itself through the use of a proportional integral derivative controller (PID controller). The robot is similar to a Segway or a hoverboard, but has been modified to balance itself on two wheels without a rider.



The Right Fit

Maynard family finds a partner in APSU

Last December, Joe Maynard, co-owner of ECHO Power Engineering, attended a holiday concert with Austin Peay State University President Alisa White, and he did something that evening that surprised his close friends and family. He wore a blazer.

“Everybody was shocked,” he said.

Maynard prefers blue jeans and during the winter months, a comfortable sweatshirt. His office, in the basement of his home, isn’t heated or air conditioned, but from that room’s small desk, he oversees a \$30 million power engineering company, whose customers include the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), The Tennessee Valley Authority and NASA.

“This is the world headquarters of ECHO Power Engineering,” he said jokingly, waving a hand through the quiet room. Two years ago, Maynard moved his family to Montgomery County, bringing the company with him, and one afternoon last spring,

he sat in his basement office and decided to contact the nearby university—Austin Peay.

“My business partner Scott Carroll and I were looking for ways to give back to the community, so I sent an email through the website,” he said.

A few weeks later, the University’s Athletics Department announced that the club level inside Fortera Stadium was being renamed the ECHO Power Club Level thanks to a 10-year, \$575,000 partnership with the company.

“We didn’t want to go with Middle Tennessee State University—that’s too big now,” Maynard said. “We really wanted to work with something smaller. I have a granddaughter that may go to Austin Peay and a potential granddaughter-in-law that goes to Austin Peay. My best friend, he’s an alum. It’s a good school.”

But something else about the school appealed to Maynard. He learned that Austin Peay is the state’s

largest provider of higher education to a population that’s important to him—veterans. Maynard retired from the U.S. Army having spent most of his career as a prime power production specialist with the Corps of Engineers. In that position, he traveled the world, developing critical infrastructure to developing nations. The military is where he met his wife Cathi. She also served in the U.S. Army as did his son Joe C. Maynard, his daughter-in-law Andrea and his grandson Joe C. Maynard, Jr. For 43 consecutive years, a member of the Maynard family has been on active duty with the military.

“Our company does a lot of charity, and we’re really passionate about veterans, kids and the homeless,” Maynard said. “Austin Peay is a good fit. It has a good vet program over there.”

Last fall, Maynard’s son and daughter-in-law provided free tickets to Austin Peay’s Military

Appreciation Game for all current and former military. Earlier this spring, the family made another generous gift to the University, establishing the Joe and Cathi Maynard Baseball Field at Hand Park and the Joe and Cathi Maynard Softball Stadium. This family and company, with no previous connections to Austin Peay, are now becoming one of the University’s strongest supporters. And Maynard plans to continue the relationship, particularly in regards to the University’s new engineering programs.

“We’re hoping we’ll get employees out of it,” he said. “We’re wanting to influence engineering to do more with our power side. My partner and I want to sit down with the dean (of the College of STEM) and say, ‘here’s a big hole in our world that we see. And if you can start putting this type of program together, you can be a pipeline to ECHO Power and our utility customers.’”



“ We’re really passionate about veterans, kids and the homeless. Austin Peay is a good fit. It has a good vet program over there. ”





Redshirt junior Christina White celebrates during the OVC tournament finals.

Dream SEASON

APSU VOLLEYBALL WINS BIG

There aren't enough words to describe the magic of Austin Peay State University's 2017 season. Sure, it's been successful; Taylor Mott's squad became the first Austin Peay team to hang a trio of banners—regular season champions, tournament champions and the coveted banner for advancing to an NCAA tournament—since the 2012 baseball team.

But that doesn't quite cover everything.

Before losing to UCLA in the first round of the NCAA tournament, the Govs became the OVC's first 30-win team since 1995, shattering the program record for wins in a single season. Included among those were 14 conference victories—Austin Peay's most since 2010—and an early-season demolition of Missouri.

Put it another way—the Govs won 24 combined in 2014 and 2015, but they won 30 games this season. Many of the important players on this team—the magical, dominant, opponent-destroying Austin Peay juggernaut of 2017—were involved on each of those teams, so what a difference a few years can make.

“When you have so much changeover in coaches, it's hard to get kids and parents to buy into the dedication,” Mott said. “Just being here and loving on our kids, and taking care of them makes a difference.”

The Govs went to another level in the OVC tournament, rallying back from one-set deficits in the semifinals

and in the championship game. The last time that happened was 2010—when the Govs did it to win their previous tournament title.



Senior Ashley Slay was selected OVC Offensive Player of the Year.

Add it all up and the Govs are in uncharted waters. Freshman Brooke Moore, who enjoyed an All-Newcomer season in her first APSU campaign, was

named Tournament MVP. Prior to that Saturday, the last time a freshman was OVC Tournament MVP was...never. Other talented performers include Ashley Slay, the OVC Offensive Player of the Year, and Kristen Stucker, the Setter of the Year and the kind of scholar-athlete that comes along once in a generation.

Mott, the league's Coach of the Year, displayed the perfect touch and tone with this team, learning when to rein them in and when to let the Govs be themselves. She's the perfect coach, with the perfect cast, at the perfect time.

“I've been coaching a long time,” Mott said after earning her first conference tournament title as Austin Peay head coach. “I learned a long time ago that you have to let kids be themselves. You can't make them into something they're not. By allowing them to be who they are, they have a role and are comfortable with who they are, and it meshes really well for us. They have fun, and I don't ever want to crush that. This should be fun.”





Terrence Holt ('10), Bob Swope ('51) and Erik Barnes ('10)

THREE JOIN ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

On Feb. 17, 2018, the University's Athletics Department welcomed three inductees into the 41st class of the APSU Athletics Hall of Fame. Terrence Holt, an All-American kick returner who electrified crowds and terrified opponents, and Erik Barnes, the only player in

program history to earn both OVC Freshman of the Year and Player of the Year during his illustrious golf career, were inducted as part of the 2018 class. Bob Swope, who starred on the diamond, gridiron, hardwood and course during his career, was the Honors category representative.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL GETS NEW HOME

Last October, the finishing touches were put on the newest addition to the University's recreation offerings with three beach volleyball courts located on the Winfield Dunn Center's front lawn. The new courts are being used by the Governors beach volleyball program, which began its second collegiate campaign this spring.

The beach volleyball courts were made possible through the cooperation of Austin Peay Athletics and University Recreation. The newest facility has seating for more than 300 Governors fans thanks to the hillside located next to the courts. Admission is free for all regular-season volleyball games.



STUCKER NAMED TO COSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA TEAM

Volleyball setter Kristen Stucker was one of 21 student-athletes named to the 2017 Academic All-America Division I volleyball teams as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). She was a Second-Team Academic All-America honoree and the 32nd Governor student-athlete to ever receive Academic All-America recognition. Stucker also was one of six Ohio Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete honorees. The OVC Scholar-Athlete Awards are the highest individual honors that can be earned by OVC student athletes and are given annually to three men and three women for their accomplishments in both the classroom and athletic arena and because of their leadership abilities.



KOLAROVA NAMED NEW SOCCER COACH

Naomi Kolarova, who registered 118 wins in 12 seasons at Tennessee Wesleyan, was named head coach for Austin Peay State University women's soccer team in December. Kolarova led Tennessee Wesleyan to the NAIA National Quarterfinals last season. She is the second head coach in the Governors soccer history, taking over for Kelley Guth who resigned in November. Guth led the program since its inception in 2002.



DELONG NAMED APSU SOFTBALL COACH

Rodney DeLong was named the newest Austin Peay State University softball head coach last semester. DeLong served as an assistant coach at Georgia Tech last season. Prior to that, he was head coach at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma. DeLong began his college coaching career at Cameron in 2013, where he led the Aggies softball program to consecutive NCAA Division II Softball Tournament appearances—the first in program history.



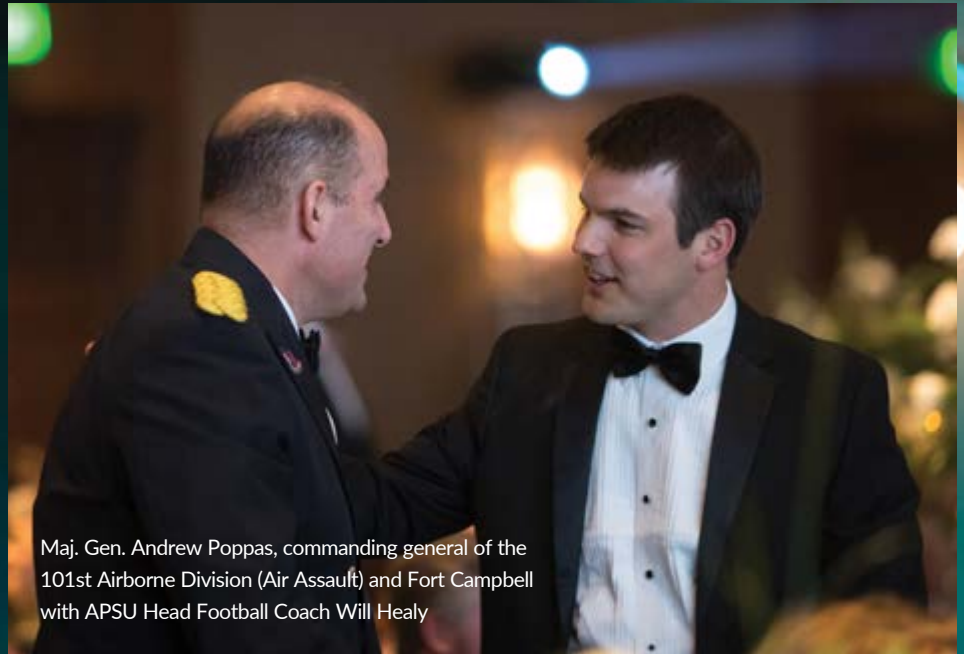
Kellie Clouser, Nicole Rye, Meagan Bibb and Casey Tenholder



Leonard Tharpe, President Alisa White, Tom Chester, Betty Chester and Stephanie Tharpe



The 34th Annual Candlelight Ball committee members are, standing from left, Kathryn Minniehan, Kayla Morgan, Marcia Campbell, Andrea Goble, Britney Campbell, Sally Allen, Kimberly Wiggins, Betsy Baggett, Stephanie Lanham and Fran Jenkins. Seated from the left are Adrienne Beech, Jennifer Moore, co-chair Christina Clark, co-chair Andrea Herrera and Adrienne Beasley.



Maj. Gen. Andrew Poppas, commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell with APSU Head Football Coach Will Healy

The 34th Annual Candlelight Ball hosted a record crowd of more than 500 attendees, raising more than \$104,000 that will help fund scholarships.



Class Notes

BILLY WAYNE BATEMAN ('71, '75)

recently retired as band director and teacher from Forrest School in Chapel Hill, Tennessee. The Marshall County Board of Education recently named the school's band building after Bateman in recognition of his years of dedicated service to his students, the school and the Chapel Hill Community.



ED DAVIS ('69, '73) was inducted into the Christian County High School Hall of Fame as a coach. He coached cross-country and track at the school for 41 years. He was also inducted into the Kentucky Track/Cross-Country Hall of Fame as a coach. Davis coached

a total of 44 years, including one year as assistant coach at Austin Peay State University and two years at Fort Campbell. His career includes 170 regional champions, 22 state champions and seven All-Americans.

PHILLIP ANDERSON ('71), who has advised farmers around Owensboro, Kentucky, for 45 years, was awarded Crop Consultant of 1997 by No Till Farmer magazine, Southern States field associate for the year 2009, Daviess County Rural Life Lifetime Achievement Award 2015 and Kentucky Certified Crop Adviser award for 2016, as well as nominated for Farm Bureau Distinguished Service to Agriculture in 2016. He currently works at Stanley Crop Service in Owensboro.

To submit APSU class notes, contact Charles Booth at BOOTHCW@APSU.EDU.

DR. JACK W. SITES, JR. ('73, '75)

retired recently after a 36-year teaching/research career in the Department of Biology at Brigham Young University. After attending Austin Peay and a one-year stint with The Nature Conservancy, Sites completed his Ph.D. and post-doctoral studies at Texas A&M University. He then moved his family to Utah, where he taught undergraduate classes in animal diversity, vertebrate anatomy, herpetology, conservation biology and evolution; taught graduate classes in population genetics and speciation; and served as curator of herpetology in BYU's research collections. He conducted research throughout North and South America and to a lesser extent in Australia and Africa.



RONALD BUTLER ('76)

was recently named research and development manager for Superior Graphite in Chicago, Illinois. He will be based at the Hopkinsville, Kentucky, facility. Butler previously served as senior process engineer for Nyrstar Clarksville Inc.

MICHAEL "MIKE" ROSS HAMILTON ('86)

Hernando County, Florida's, first state wrestling champion, was recently inducted into the Hernando High School Athletic Hall of Fame.



RON EDMONDSON'S ('86, '89) newest book, "The Mythical Leader: The Seven Myths of Leadership," was published last August. Edmondson is pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, Kentucky.



TONI DELANCEY ('97) was named deputy director for the Farm Credit Administration's Office of Congressional and Public Affairs. In this position, she oversees the Farm Credit public affairs activities and staff and assists with certain congressional affairs

activities. DeLancey earned her Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. She received her Master of Arts degree in speech, communication and theater from APSU and her Ph.D. in communication from Regent University in Virginia Beach, Virginia.



EMMANUEL (MANNY) TYNDALL ('98, '06) recently retired as Inspector General of the Tennessee Office of Inspector General (OIG), which identifies, investigates and criminally prosecutes individuals committing fraud connected to TennCare, the state's healthcare insurance program. Tyndall has been

with the OIG since its inception in 2004 and was one of the first five special agents hired to work in the agency's criminal investigation division. A graduate of the FBI National Academy (Session #223) and the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, as well as a U.S. Army retiree, Tyndall has more than 35 years of experience in law enforcement. He is an adjunct instructor in the Middle Tennessee State University Department of Criminal Justice Administration. In late January of this year, he testified before the U.S. Senate Committee for Homeland Security and Government Affairs on the unintended consequences of Medicaid and the opioid epidemic.

CALVIN JOHNSON, JR. ('00) was recently named head football coach at Deer Park Junior/Senior High School in Cincinnati, Ohio.



JOSHUA G. FLETCHER ('09, '10) recently self-published his first novel, "American Z," as an ebook. The novel is centered on a deeply rooted and disturbing evolution of the Zombie in America and the scientific T.S.O.M.B.I.E. project.

MACON ST. HILAIRE ('16) graduated with a Master of Letters degree in technical art history from the University of Glasgow in the United Kingdom.



IN MEMORY

Dr. John Benjamin Bond ('52)
March 30, 2017

Reuben Clay Taylor ('80)
Oct. 17, 2017

Sara Wood
former chair of the APSU
Department of Physics
July 2, 2017

Willie T. McKinnie ('75)
Oct. 17, 2017

Dr. Joel Hargrove ('57)
Aug. 15, 2017

Charles Nelson Boehms ('86)
Oct. 19, 2017

Juanita Spurgeon ('79)
Sept. 9, 2017

LaTrina Alfred
Oct. 19, 2017

Don Lambert
Sept. 22, 2017

Jeannette J. McMurray
Oct. 28, 2017

Ray Elliott Ford ('57)
Sept. 27, 2017

Kenneth Wayne Head ('72)
Nov. 13, 2017

John F. Mayfield
Sept. 29, 2017

Hilda Hageman
Nov. 15, 2017

Leonard Arthur Wilson
Oct. 2, 2017

William Kane
Nov. 25, 2017

Larry Kelly Walden ('91)
Oct. 4, 2017

Tami Fraley ('81, '87)
academic associate to the
dean for the College of STEM
Nov. 29, 2017

Michael E. Morris
Oct. 4, 2017

Andrew Buhler
Dec. 4, 2017

Ramona Hamilton Shaw ('51)
Oct. 5, 2017

Billy E. Marshall
Dec. 19, 2017

Edward Nance
Oct. 11, 2017

Wallace Stanford Crain
Dec. 20, 2017



GOVS GATHERING 1

Each year, President Alisa White, Athletics Director Ryan Ivey, Vice President for Advancement, Communication and Strategic Initiatives Derek van der Merwe and the staff of the APSU Alumni Relations and University Advancement offices meet with Austin Peay friends and alumni on campus and around the country. Events held throughout the year include alumni receptions and gatherings, homecoming events, pregame/sporting events

and alumni chapter sponsored activities. There are no fees associated with membership in the National Alumni Association or specific alumni chapters. To find an alumni group in your area or if you are interested in organizing one, call the APSU Alumni Relations Office at 931-221-7979. For a complete look at the upcoming alumni event schedule and an updated list of alumni groups, visit www.apsu.edu/alumni or email alumni@apsu.edu.



2



Taylor Slifko, APSU

- 1** Participants compete in the annual Homecoming Alumni Golf Tournament on Friday, Oct. 20, 2017, at Swan Lake Golf Course.
- 2** APSU softball alumni annual reunion was held in April 2017 and hosted by the NAA Softball Alumni Group.

- 3** Students and alumni gather to celebrate being a part of the APSU legacy with a luncheon and pinning ceremony on Thursday, Aug. 25, 2017.
- 4** The Class of 1967 was recognized for their 50-year anniversary in October during Homecoming, allowing them to reminisce and celebrate being a Gov.





5

5 ROTC Cadet Mikhail Creech and NAA President-Elect Joe Shakeenab attended the APSU Military Alumni Chapter Dinner during Homecoming.

6 The APSU National Alumni Association Board met for their biannual meeting in the ECHO Power Club Level in Fortera Stadium in July. Executive Board: (front row, from left) President-Elect Joe Shakeenab, President Nicole Williamson, Vice President Tom Chester, Past President Makeba Webb and Dr. Tim Leszczak, faculty representative.



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