

Roane State | Today



About the cover



Deputy Governor Dave Cooley pauses on the Tennessee State Capitol steps outside his office on a recent summer day.

2	Contributors
4	Letter from the President
5	Roane State Presents
6	Vistas
8	Reflections
9	Spirit
10	Up Close
12	Featured Alumnus
14	Spotlight
16	The Freshman Experience
18	Déjà View
19	News Notes
20	Class Notes
22	Foundation
23	Calendar

Contributors

Roane State Today

Wade McCamey
President

Melinda Hillman
Dean of Institutional Advancement

Tamsin Miller
Interim Director of Alumni Relations

Gail Russell
Interim Coordinator of Alumni Relations

Tammy Stanford
Editor

Sandi Roberts
Graphic Designer

Jeremy Pulcifer
Illustrator

Pecola Ewing
Secretary

Contributors
Richard Baskin
Neil Crosby
Jeff Gary

Send correspondence and address changes to:

Roane State Community College
Alumni Relations
276 Patton Lane
Harriman, TN 37748

(865) 882-4503
alumni@roanestate.edu



We want to hear from you. Tell us what you think about the alumni magazine and what you'd like to see in future editions.

The Alumni Relations website allows you to e-mail the Alumni Relations staff and other alumni. The site also has a digital copy of this magazine, including forms that you can send online instead of mailing.

www.roanestate.edu/alumni



Contents

The Roane State Community College Alumni Magazine Volume II, Number 2 Fall/Winter 2003-2004

All That Jazz |

Roane State's music students tune in to technology in the MIDI lab.

10

You Can Get There From Here |

Rockwood's Dave Cooley is a big man on the state government campus.

12

Class Dismissed |

Roane State professors are passionate about their after-hour hobbies.

14

Grace Under Pressure |

The first few days of college are always a challenge. The Freshman Experience helped Rebecca Turner waltz right through.

16

Letter | from the President

The 2002-03 academic school year proved to be an exciting time for Roane State Community College. Not only did the year see the establishment of an Alumni Relations office, but it also brought about some exciting growth opportunities for our students and community.

In May, another 539 graduates were added to our list of alumni. Among these graduates were 58 students who graduated magna cum laude, 35 summa cum laude and 62 cum laude. In addition to this academic achievement, Roane State was the only college to receive a perfect 100 score on the 2002 state performance funding evaluation by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Performance funding rates the college in 10 areas—among them the scores of graduating students on exit exams and licensure tests; job placement rates; and alumni surveys. We are extremely proud of this recognition.

Other accomplishments this year saw the completion of the Roane County Campus project, which upgraded our electrical systems, replaced old and built new sidewalks and finished with new landscaping and streetlights. The Campbell County Higher Education Center has completed the design phase of the new campus. The Scott County Higher Education Center tripled the size of the student lounge and the community is now working to double the size of the Howard Baker Jr. library. Our newest expansion of educational opportunities will be in Fentress County. We hope to expand class offerings beginning spring 2004 using a “smart” classroom in a local facility that will also house a college representative to assist students.



We remain an institution in the midst of transformation and our future is rich with promise. Enrollment for fall was up by 3 percent, serving 5,385 students from 50 counties across the state, as well as out-of-state students and even a few from foreign countries. We continue to expand services to our students and to our communities we are fortunate to serve.

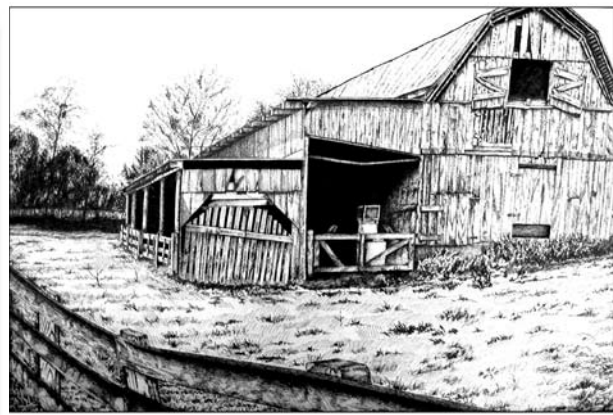
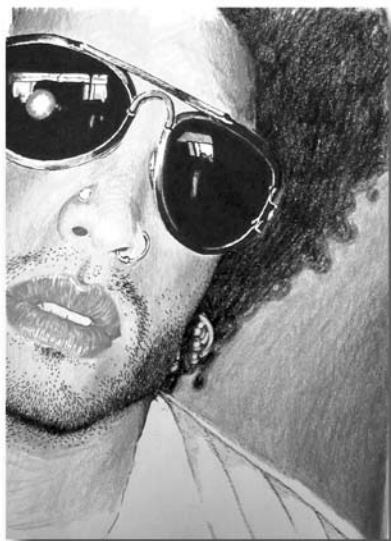
The Roane State Community College Foundation recently completed a feasibility study to measure the level of support for a major gifts campaign to raise funds for scholarships, faculty development, individual campus projects and the health sciences programs. We found the support to be overwhelming and our alumni told us that they would like to be a part of this campaign. Very soon, you will be learning more about how you can become a leader or lend your support to this campaign.

While many opportunities lie before us, none is more compelling than our potential for leadership in our communities. I believe this is where you, our alumni, will make the greatest contribution. We believe the education and skills you received while at Roane State have been fundamental to your success - and your success is our success. I hope that you will take the time to help us help our students prepare for a rewarding career and a meaningful life.

Wade B. McCamey

Roane State Presents

performing and visual arts



Roane State student Ranji Jackson's artwork was featured in the most recent "Caney Creek Sampler."

Alumni Help Keep the Arts Alive...

You may know that Roane State has vibrant programs in art, music and theater, but have you seen the school's newest outlet for artistic talent? "The Caney Creek Sampler," Roane State's magazine for the arts, has brought literature together with the visual and performing arts.

There have been several literary magazines in the school's history: "Messages from the Grotto," "Cordless Works," "Metamorphosis" and "The Raider Report," to name a few. The last of these, which was also called "The Caney Creek Sampler," made its final appearance in 1994.

In 2001 the title was revived, this time to be used for a magazine of all the arts. Poetry, fiction, drama and essays on topics of general interest remain integral to the magazine, but technology has allowed the student-run magazine to incorporate more of the arts. Painting, drawing, sculpture and photography are now recorded digitally and reproduced in the magazine. And in the most recent issue, the inclusion of a compact disc has meant more color art and, for the first time, original music by bands and solo artists.

For the Spring 2004 issue, the magazine staff plans to add video clips of theatrical works produced by Roane State students, faculty, staff and alumni. That's right—alumni are invited to submit their work to the "Sampler" staff for consideration. Published work by former students includes the essays of Ben Overby (Bledsoe County) and the anime and poetry of Destre Redmon (Morgan County).

For complete information for submitting your work, see our website at www.rscartsmag.com. This site also tells you how to order back issues and reserve your copy of the coming issue. If you have questions, contact Dr. Baskin—"Sampler" faculty advisor—through the website e-mail link.

Roane State strives to serve the needs of its students and community. Help "keep the arts alive" at Roane State by sending us your work and by "investing" in a copy of the magazine (only \$5, CD included). We are a talented community!

Dr. Richard Baskin



"Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck
Classic theatre at its best! This drama centers around a man who tries to take care of his mentally retarded friend and shows that caregivers can be overwhelmed by the magnitude of their responsibilities and driven to act in ways they might not otherwise.
RSCC Playmakers, November 6-8, 13-15.
(865) 882-4589.

Holiday Concerts

The Roane State Community College Music Department presents the annual **Holiday Concerts**, consisting of traditional and not-so-traditional holiday music featuring the **Concert Choir and Celebration**. This year will feature special performances by the Music Faculty of Roane State. Join us as we catapult into the joyous holiday season! **RSCC Concert Choir, November 20-22.** (865) 882-4580.

Faculty Recitals

Details not available at press time. **RSCC Music Faculty, February 1.**
(865) 882-4580.

"Baby with the Bath Water" by Christopher Durang. This is a comedy about parenthood, skewered with gleeful wit and characteristically outrageous humor centering around two parents who look proudly at their new offspring, a bit disappointed that it doesn't speak English, and too polite to check its sex. **RSCC Playmakers, February 12-14 & 19-21.** (865) 882-4589.

Madrigal Dinner

This feast has become a Roane State tradition. Choral Director **Cindy Claborn** and her students create a **Renaissance banquet hall** where audience members are treated to an elegant dinner, period music by performers in medieval costume, and humorous skits to lighten the mood and enhance the fun of the evening. **(Roane County Campus) RSCC Concert Choir, March 18-20.** \$25 per person. Advance reservations required.
(865) 882-4580.

"School House Rock—The Musical"
A high-energy musical based on the children's classic show "School House Rock" which first aired on TV 30 years ago as animated shorts with songs about grammar, math, and science that were tucked strategically between other Saturday morning cartoons. This stage version features the best numbers from the series, such as "Conjunction Junction" (what's your function?), "Three is a Magic Number," "Interplanet Janet" (she's a galaxy girl!) and "I am a Bill" (waiting here on Capitol Hill). **RSCC Playmakers & RSCC Music Department, April 13, 15-17, 20 & 22-24.** (865) 882-4589.

Vistas |

a spotlight on a few of the people who make our places unique

Roane County Campus

Sisters Julie and Emily Lassiter were academic stars at Oakdale High School, and they've continued that tradition at Roane State. Julie (top photo, left) has completed her studies at Roane State and has transferred to Tennessee Tech University. Emily (top photo, right) is currently enrolled at Roane State.

Explaining her goal to be a high school math teacher, Julie said, "I've always known that I wanted to be in education. In middle school I had a math teacher who was absolutely wonderful. She was so excited about math and seemed like she really loved what she did. I've loved math ever since I had her class."

Julie would like to earn her master's degree so that teaching at the college level is another option. "Who knows, I may come back to teach at Roane State!"

Emily—who plans to become a nurse practitioner—was inspired by a St. Jude Children Research Hospital television commercial. "That made me really want to do something for those kids. I decided that I would really like to make things fun and optimistic for them"

Both are happy they started at Roane State. Said Emily: "At Roane State, you are still with a few of your friends now and then but you also meet a lot of new people. The teachers also have more one-on-one time for students." Julie agreed and added, "I went to a really small high school and it would have been a huge change for me to go from a class of 23 to a university. Roane State seemed like the perfect transition."



Oak Ridge Campus

Roane State's 2002-03 freshman of the year is Nikki Hamby of Clinton. After finishing her degree at Roane State, Nikki plans to transfer to the University of Tennessee to study marketing.

Nikki is chairman of the Oak Ridge Campus Activities Board, president of the Student Government Association and Roane State's student representative to the Tennessee Board of Regents.

She chose Roane State partly because the academic scholarship package the school offered eased the financial burden on her family. "Since Roane State gave me a full 'ride,' it was the best choice for me," she said.

Nikki also completed Roane State courses while still in high school through the college's Advanced Studies program. She says, "I really like the people at Roane State. My (high school) guidance counselor highly recommended the college."

Nikki is the daughter of Charles and Rebecca Hammons and the late Steven Hamby.



Campbell County Campus

Mother-daughter duo Elizabeth and Brenda Wilson are going places. And their journey started at Roane State. Mom Brenda is majoring in business management, while daughter Elizabeth aims to be a registered nurse.

For Brenda, the trip toward a career in business was delayed and detoured several times. She had always intended to go to college, but opted to focus on marriage and family after she graduated from high school. Then, she said, "I had a couple of jobs that played out last fall." So she headed for Roane State. She plans to use the management skills she learns to assist husband Jimmy with his small business.

A 2002 graduate of Campbell County High School, Elizabeth has always wanted to be a nurse. Her long-term goal is to be a medical missionary. "I would like to go to Peru," she said.



Cumberland County Campus

David Rosser has a "full-time" life in every sense of the term. The single dad is the primary caregiver for his two young sons. He works full time as an LPN at Cumberland Medical Center. And he's a full-time student at Roane State, planning to become a registered nurse.

(Cumberland County continued)

David says his parents “help out a lot,” but he’s still the one pulling 12-hour work shifts, holding his own in one of Roane State’s toughest study programs and being dad to Darren, 8 and Timothy, 9. (My sons) ask me all the time when I’m going to get out of school. I don’t have any actual, full days off,” he noted. David is motivated by a desire to make a better life for himself and his sons, and also by a drive to “help people” by upgrading and expanding his nursing skills.

Why did he opt for Roane State? Convenience was one reason, obviously. And, he says, “It’s one of the top nursing schools in the state.”

Knox County Campus

It’s only natural that Will Smith of Knoxville is enrolled in Roane State’s paramedic program. “My father and grandfather were firemen, and my sister and mom work at hospitals,” he said. “So this is a family tradition.”

Will—who has worked as an EMT-IV for Rural/Metro Ambulance for nine years—said he’s tackling the tougher paramedic training because the timing is right. “My wife is finishing up her Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee, so it was my turn to go back to school.”

Will says Roane State’s EMT/paramedic instructors “hold themselves to a high standard. They’re up to date and very well informed.” While Will is attending an accelerated program on the Roane County Campus, the paramedic program is based at the Knox Campus.

Will and his wife, Charity, have a three-year-old daughter, Alexandria.



Loudon County Campus

Jody Burnett got a hand up at Roane State Community College. Now she’s reaching out to help others.

The Roane State student plans to be a probation officer for people with mental disorders. She sees the work as vital, especially after so many mental health facilities have been shut down across the country.

The Lenoir City woman knows what it’s like to be discouraged because of a disability. “I’ve been told I can’t do this or I can’t do that because I have a disability,” said Jody, who has Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and also has physical medical conditions. “Roane State has opened the door to let me see what I can do.”

Jody says she’s a “slow learner.” That hasn’t stopped her from winning academic awards at Roane State, including membership in Phi Theta Kappa, an honor society.

“I want to show others with mental disorders that there is a light at the end of the tunnel,” Jody said. “But you have to go into the tunnel and look for the light. We can overcome. We can be overachievers.”



Scott County Campus

Cassie Hembree of Robbins graduated from Roane State in May 2003 with a degree in nursing. After passing the test to become a registered nurse, she accepted a position at Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge in the Cardiac Care Wing—“3 West.”

“In high school, I was in HOSA, and that gave me a real feel for nursing,” Hembree said. “I took my basics at the Scott County Campus and my nursing courses at the Oak Ridge Campus.”

Cassie is 22 years old and already has a great career as a nurse. She married her high school sweetheart, Dwayne Crabtree, on September 27.



Roane State Snapshot,
Fall Semester 2003

An Overview of the College’s Physical Facilities

Roane Co. Campus

Dunbar Buildings (A, C, and gym)
143,630 sq. ft.

Estimated Replacement Value—
\$13.6 million

Technology Building
40,405 sq. ft.

Estimated Replacement Value—
\$4 million

Library Building
32,434 sq. ft.

Estimated Replacement Value—
\$3.2 million

Expo Center complex
186,760 sq. ft.

Estimated Replacement Value—
\$75 million

O’Brien Humanities Building
43,882 sq. ft.

Estimated Replacement Value—
\$4.4 million

Oak Ridge Campus

118,650 sq. ft.

Estimated Replacement Value—
\$10.9 million

Campbell County Campus

The college will soon break ground
on a 23,000 sq. ft. facility worth
\$3.35 million

Cumberland Co. Campus

30,324 sq. ft.

Estimated Replacement Value—
\$3 million

Scott County Campus

18,364 sq. ft.

Estimated Replacement Value—
\$17 million

*The Knox and Loudon County
campuses—16,000 and 19,000 square
feet respectively—are leased spaces.

Reflections

talkin' 'bout my generation

Some things never change. Just like hundreds of other alumni through the years, Mike Woody ('73) chose Roane State because the college was close to home, small in size and affordable. But Woody's time at Roane State was distinctive in many ways. Enrolled while the college was operating out of the old Bowers Elementary in Harriman as the main campus was built, Woody was the first president of the Baptist Student Union and a founding member of the Student Council. Now the safety director and Fort Southwest Point director for the city of Kingston, Woody earned his bachelor's degree from Tusculum College in 2000. He and wife, Dottie, have two daughters—Tasha, 20, and Keri, 18. Woody recently recalled his days at Roane State:



Several members of Roane State's Baptist Student Union traveled to Florida for a beach ministry trip in the early 1970s. Roane State students pictured (back row) are Ronnie Rose (far left); Terry Kelley (fourth from left) and Mike Woody (far right), and (front row), Debbie (Miller) Hoppenjans (second from left), Sammie (Reed) Mowery (third from left) and Charles Holcomb (far right). The other people in the photo are Motlow State students.

On starting small: "I didn't think I had a good enough grade point average—even though I really did—to go to a four-year school. My friends and I just wanted to try out that new community college."

Fond memories: "I wish it would have been possible to have earned my bachelor's degree at Roane State."

Of the importance of good, cheap eats for a struggling college student: "The old Holiday Inn had an all-you-can-eat buffet. Bobby McCartt, Andy Sexton and I—we'd go over there and whoever could eat the most, the other guys would pay for his food. One day we went and I didn't have any money.

I couldn't afford to lose, and I didn't. But then I couldn't eat again for two days."

A winning hand: "At the old Bowers Elementary, the students played a lot of cards. If we weren't in class or studying, we played Spades and just sat around and talked."

Wheels: "I can remember all those cars we drove back then. I had a turquoise-blue 1965 Chevrolet Impala. Gas was about 25 cents a gallon."

On a BSU field trip to Florida: "We took on some of those Florida guys in football. We had to show them how it was done."

Spirit | tennis, anyone?

Like the rest of America, Roane State fell in love with tennis in the 1970s and '80s. The college fielded men's and women's teams during those decades, with Coach Dave Mullins primarily at the helm.

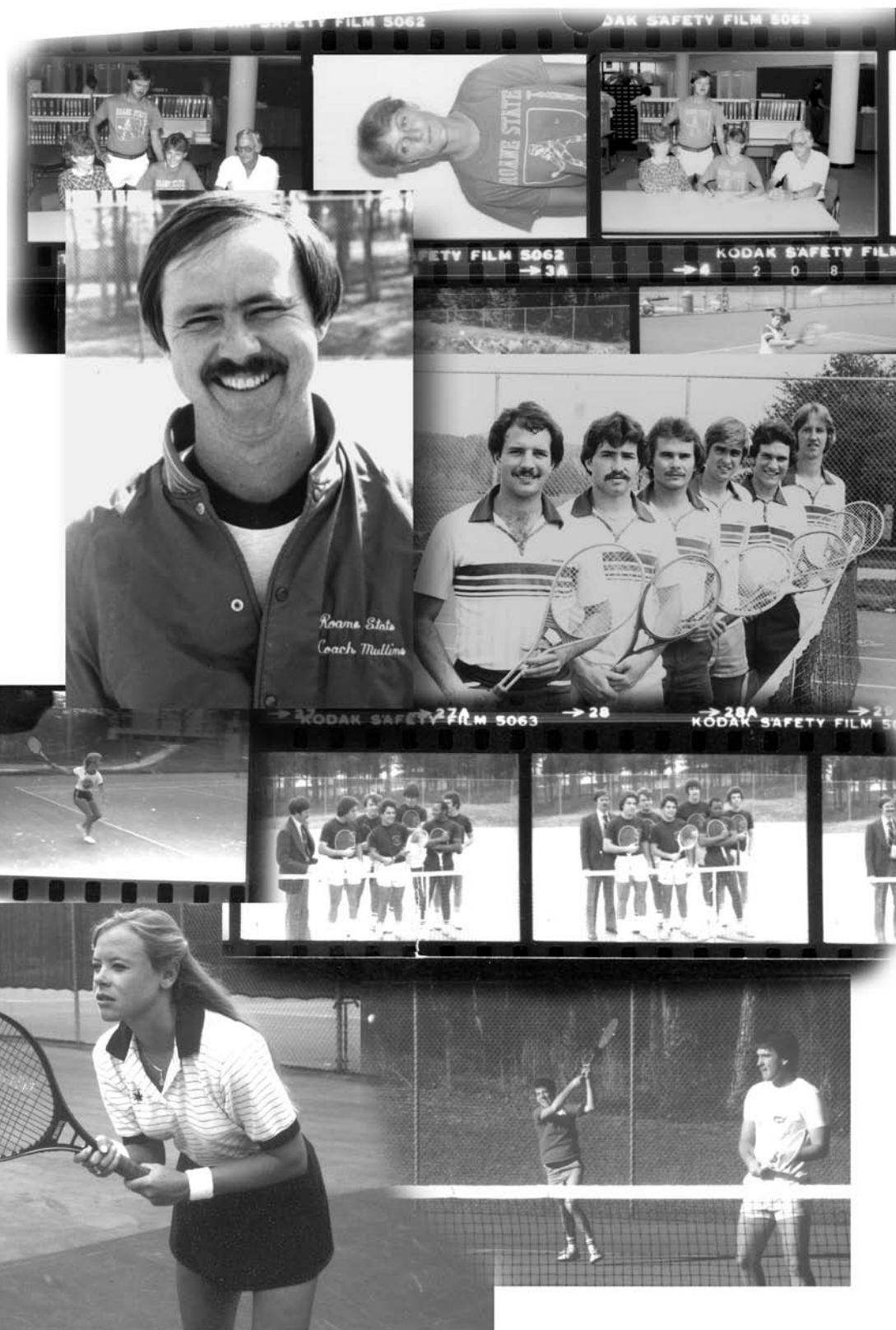
Now director of athletics at East Tennessee State University, Mullins remembers his time in the "rackets" at Roane State.

"We were very successful, I believe, on somewhat limited resources. We won the regional championship almost every year and qualified for the National Junior College Championships most years. Our highest national finish was 12th for the men and tied for 6th for the women. We had very competitive junior college teams and even competed well against a number of four-year schools."

"Eleven Tennessee junior colleges had teams when I started coaching. That dwindled over time to about six. We had a great rivalry with Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, NC and played North Greenville and Anderson College in NC. We often competed well against Carson-Newman and Tennessee Tech."

"I'm sure the tennis craze of the '70s had a lot to do with interest in RSCC tennis. Floyd Christian, the coach before me, and I helped establish the Roane County Tennis Association, which developed a strong membership of several hundred. We hosted tournaments, held clinics, taught lessons to adults and kids, had summer camps, etc. to promote tennis. The association also contributed financially to our program and helped maintain the courts at RSCC."

"Greg Smith of Knoxville was the first number-one player at RSCC—he played for Coach Christian. The first 'great' player was Randy Schubert from Harriman, who won the TJCAA singles championship both years at RSCC. He is now a teaching pro in Atlanta. Neil Macklin was a fine player. Unfortunately, Neil was paralyzed in a truck accident several years ago. He is now living in his hometown of Titusville, FL, where he actually helps coach the high school team from his wheelchair. He is a great competitor and despite his situation is very encouraging to the kids at his home high school—Astronaut High. Robert Lee Hardnett of Chattanooga, Bobby Price of Chattanooga, Chip Davis of Cleveland, Kelvin Borthwick and Gordon Reed of Harriman were also fine players. On the women's team, our best players were Diane Jack (now Freeman) from Athens who lives in Sylvania, GA, Tamara Brackins of Sevierville, Lena Peterson from Sweden, Heidi Burris of Athens, Nancy Dearolf of Knoxville, and Leslie McCown of Harriman."





Up Close | The Mighty MIDI

High-tech lab is sweet music to students' ears.

By Jeff Gary

Roane State Marketing and Public Relations Director

When you enter the room, it hits you—this is no ordinary computer lab. There are terminals, sure, and monitors and a mouse or two. But the keyboards, well, let's just say some are like the ones from which these characters come: A, B, C, D, . . . but others are more like those of the F sharp variety.

Roane State's MIDI Lab (Music Information Digital Interface) is the place where this uncommon blend of technology takes place. Or stated more accurately, it could be referred to as the RSCC Digital Music Lab.

(Top to bottom: Geol Greenlee prepares for a MIDI session. Tom Krewson keeps the lab in working order. Student Matt Vinson composes in the lab.)

“Really,” said Dr. Geol Greenlee, assistant professor of music, “it is the mix of music and computers. It is very technologically advanced and not very prevalent in schools in East Tennessee. Private individuals might have similar labs at home. But for a school, we’ve got equipment that is very modern. Really, we’re at a good place with it.”

Greenlee’s so-called “partner in crime” is computer lab technician Tom Krewson. For Krewson, the effort is a labor of love that requires many hours throughout the year. For Greenlee, Krewson’s expertise is necessary. “Tom keeps the computers running. He works with the peripherals to make sure they work. If Tom wasn’t here, it would be much more difficult to keep things running.”

Though Krewson admits he has “worked hard” to make sure the lab is always humming, he also displays a bit of modest pride over the ongoing effort. “It is the most complicated computer lab we have on campus,” he admits. “It’s not just the standard keyboard and mouse. You have to make sure the ‘mikes’ are working and the MIDI keyboards. And, after all that checks out, you need to make sure they are compatible with the computers and that the software is running properly.”

Krewson also employs some intuition in the lab. “It’s about understanding the creative design flow and optimizing the lab to best serve the students, staff and faculty. That might mean taking the MIDI course, working with students and faculty or taking part in a special recording session—all of which I have done.”

Krewson says there isn’t much time throughout the semester to work in the labs. It is mainly a function of troubleshooting. “But, after the semester, there is a nice little break to take things apart, break them down and make them better.” The outcome is a facility that adds to the quality of education received by Roane State music students.

In any one semester, three classes—up to 11 students at a time—use the lab and individual students can avail themselves of the technology to work on independent projects. And while the facility is not always filled to capacity, Greenlee foresees a day in which there could be competition for the 11 workstations in the room.

The lab has many functions. For example, there is software to help teach sequencing. Another program augments the teaching of music notation (in other words, being able to write your own music). Instructors can also make up exams that students take at the various workstations in the MIDI Lab. Another possible use for the lab would be to offer an evening class or summer workshop for area educators, a so-called “teach the teachers” approach.



One of the functions in the lab is an application that offers a sort of “virtual equipment” package including rhythm machines, synthesizers and special effects. “If you purchased those instruments for high schools, it would cost thousands of dollars,” Greenlee says, “but it’s all here.” Adds Krewson, “People all over the web are writing stuff and putting it out there for sharing. This is where art and science come together.”

The notation program allows students to write their own songs or it allows teachers to arrange traditional notations. “Now, they can come in here and arrange ‘Row, Row, Row Your Boat’ for a trombone, tuba and three snare drums,” Greenlee says.

Yet another application allows students to write a piece of music and another and yet another. Then, the student can chop them up and rearrange the order. Krewson likens this to the video editing or photo editing applications.

When you put it all together, the bottom line is that Roane State has a very high-quality facility located in the bottom floor of its O’Brien Building. The applications, Greenlee says, are numerous.

“Many of our students will go on to become educators. Some are interested in recording. When they work in here, all of our students get a broad idea for the tools they might use in the music industry, the recording industry or the field of education. This equipment is applicable to performers, composers and teachers. The idea is for the students to learn enough about technology to see where it fits into their careers.”

Taking it to the Street

By Tammy Stanford
Alumni Publications Editor

Cooley is inspired by 1840s governor Aaron V. Brown, whose portrait hangs in his office at the State Capitol.



Like all great fighters, Dave Cooley has brawn and brains. The combination has taken him to the top of Tennessee state government. As deputy governor, Cooley blends tenacity and tact in a job that requires plenty of both.

But Cooley says the essential element to success in public service—and life in general—is passion. “One of the things I pray for every night is passion,” he said. “If you can maintain perspective and passion in all aspects of your life—your family, your job, your soul—it keeps you healthy and happy and young.”

A Rockwood native, Cooley was a student at Roane State in the late '70s and early '80s, taking classes while still in high school, then enrolling after graduation. And, he recalled, “when I was 15 or 16, I used to hitchhike to Roane State to train and work out at the gym. I boxed on behalf of Roane State.”

Today, he's wearing Phil Bredesen's colors. The governor had this to say about Cooley to the Associated Press: “He has a very good sense about the public and the political process and an uncanny ability to read how something will be taken or mistaken. He's the best I've ever seen in that regard.”

Cooley modestly agreed with that assessment. “(Bredesen) is very cerebral. I'm more of a street-savvy white knuckler.”

On the walls of Cooley's office—small in size and surrounded by the buzz of remodeling under way at the capitol building—are portraits of two other Tennessee statesmen with a can-do reputation. Cooley's home county is named for one—Archibald Roane, the state's governor from 1801-1803. Roane promoted the development of colleges in Tennessee. The other—Aaron Venable Brown—served as governor from 1845-47. Brown was known for improving mail routes in the West as Postmaster General during President James Buchanan's administration.

As Bredesen's right-hand man during his eight-year tenure as Nashville mayor,

Dave Cooley, deputy to the Governor, was the director of Governor Bredesen's transition team and served as senior strategist during his successful gubernatorial campaign. Cooley works closely with the governor to ensure the administration's policies are carried out effectively.

Cooley, a former partner at Nashville public-relations firm McNeely Pigott & Fox, is a longtime Bredesen advisor and a veteran political consultant. He served as chief of staff to Bredesen from 1992 to 1993, during the governor's first term as mayor of Nashville.

Cooley, 41, is a Rockwood native. He holds a bachelor's degree from Tennessee Technological University where in 1982 he became Tennessee Tech's only student to be awarded the Truman Scholarship. In 1996 he was honored as Tennessee Tech's Outstanding Young Alumnus. In addition, Cooley served as the student regent to the Tennessee Board of Regents. Cooley earned a master's degree from the University of West Florida.

Cooley and his wife, Melanie, have four children.





Cooley is famous for spearheading the drive to bring a National Football League team to Music City. He also was instrumental in helping to build a downtown arena and revitalize city libraries.

It's correct to call Cooley a powerful political player. But it's more precise to say that he's a public servant. "I think public service is a calling. Local government is truly where the rubber meets the road. And I think government in general is filled with people who could be doing many other productive things with their lives, but they choose to give back."

Cooley returns to Rockwood as often as possible to reconnect with the places and people that shaped his life. Roane State was part of that experience. "There are a handful of professors and teachers that you'll always remember," Cooley said. "I was in an English class at Roane State taught by Dave Mullins. We studied the Bible as literature, read 'The Illiad' and 'The Odyssey.' For an old Rockwood boy, it was eye-opening."

He enrolled at Roane State, Cooley said, "because I felt like I needed to stay close to home for a while longer. I knew Roane State was a great place to get the basics."

Cooley's respect for the community college concept has only deepened. "These colleges provide not just educational opportunities, but also serve as economic engines for their regions. The impact Roane State has had over 30 years is impossible to calculate. The community college idea was probably one of the smartest things to come out of state government."

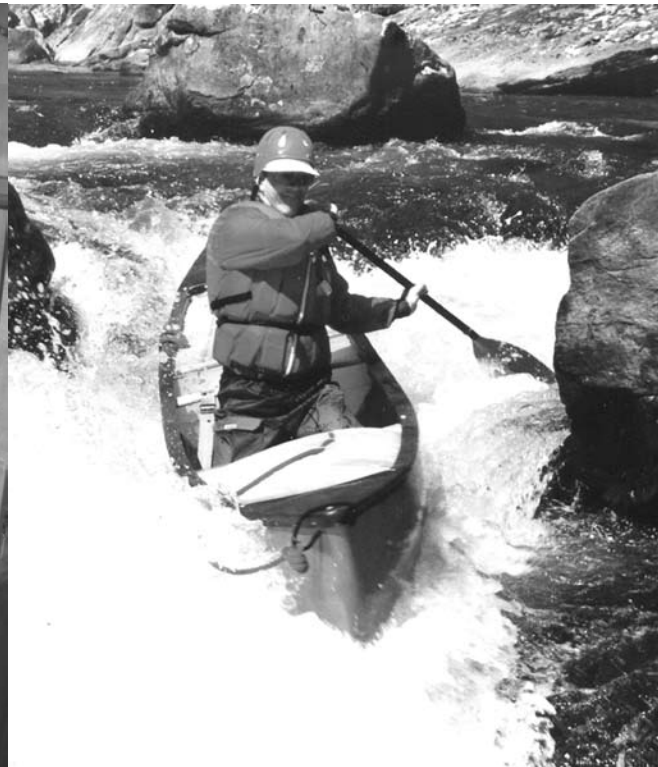
The classroom—not the laboratory or library—is the center of the community college. "That's fitting," Cooley said. "Not every institution of higher education has to be research-driven. At community colleges, it's all about the teaching. It's a wide-open environment for learning."

The circle completes when Cooley ties that into one of his favorite topics—public service. "Community colleges ultimately are incubators for community service," he said.

As for surviving and thriving in the rough and rowdy world of politics, Cooley said: "You have to remember at the end of the day why you're here and what your service means, and be willing to fight for what you believe in."

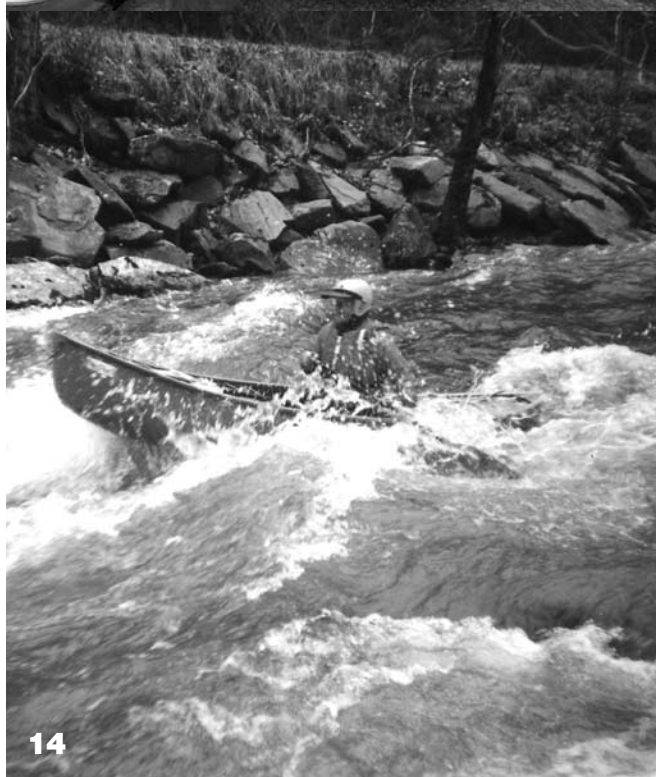


Spotlight |



From Harleys to Handsaws: The Private Lives of Faculty

By Dr. Richard Baskin
Director of RSCC Learning Center



Did you ever run into a teacher in the grocery store and realize that he or she had a life outside of school? Yes, teachers really are three dimensional, and I have the proof. Let me introduce you to four Roane State faculty members who, besides being excellent educators, are aficionados in their special interests. Each has devoted uncounted hours to and developed a love for some spare-time pursuit.

For **Mike Goggin**, it is motorcycles. Mike, an eight-year veteran of Roane State, directs the Opticianry program, but his love for motorcycles goes way back, to when he was 17, growing up on the banks of the Allegheny River in New York, and got his first bike, a Honda. He had several reasons for wanting a bike, but, as Mike says, maybe the most important for a teenage boy was “attracting women.” Being a biker was (and is) cool. Some of his friends had bikes, and then there has long existed that subculture centered on motorcycles, with its “jeans, T-shirt, and leather jacket bad boy image.”

The bike that has most contributed to that image is Harley-Davidson; this year marks the company’s 100th anniversary. Mike knows much about the history of Harleys and of how the rebel image developed. Relatively innocuous motorcycle clubs existed before the 1940s, but when World War II ended, some returning servicemen felt like they didn’t fit into mainstream American culture. Some of these “misfits” found identity in new motorcycle clubs; this is the era during which Hell’s Angels were formed. Some of them had ridden motorcycles for the military, and motorcycles generally existed outside the automobile culture of a growing nation.

Mike has owned Harleys for years, and he now rides a grey ’99 Dyna Super Glide Sport. For Mike and other bikers, the difference between riding a motorcycle and driving a car is huge. On a motorcycle you are closer to the elements, feeling alive and more aware of what is going on around you. Bikers refer to cars as “cages.” In trying to explain his passion for biking, Mike ultimately paraphrases a popular biker T-shirt: “If I had to explain it to you, you wouldn’t understand.”

Despite this difference and their history of relative isolation, motorcycles are more mainstream than they used to be. Mike and thousands of other bikers participate in charity rides such as those for Muscular Dystrophy and Toys for Tots. Nonetheless, riding a bike will always be a different kind of experience, one with its own edge.

Which brings us to someone else who likes to live a bit on the edge: **Bill Hoagland**, associate professor of political science and history. Bill has been at Roane State since 1973, and over the past 15 years, he has become something of an expert on whitewater canoeing in East Tennessee. Canoeing the rapids of our many rivers and streams provides, as he says, that “need for a little adventure” that we all have in our lives. Bill, who got his master’s degree at the University of Mississippi, did not grow up on the rivers that we enjoy here. His interest in whitewater developed from an unlikely source. He applied one summer for a job at a YMCA in Arkansas and was sent to Mammoth Springs, where he was given a choice of two jobs, teaching horseback riding or canoeing. Well, as “they only had one, big, mean, old horse,” Bill chose canoeing. By the time Bill made it to Tennessee, on a teaching assistantship, he had bought an aluminum canoe, but had only put it on the lake. He was curious about what it would be like to canoe on creeks and rivers. It was a

whitewater canoeing class taught at Roane State by Juanita Guinn, a local legend in whitewater who lives in Morgan County, that ignited his interest.

Now Bill canoes about 40 trips a year, often with his children and friends. He loves being in the wilderness, where you don’t see a soul or even signs of people, and a canoe can take you places that are otherwise almost inaccessible. While Bill gets a thrill out of navigating class III rapids, he never takes unnecessary risks. He says it is important to know the flow rate for a particular river at which canoeing is both fun and safe. It used to be difficult to know ahead of time whether a given river was “right” for canoeing, but now the Internet allows us to check the flow (in CFS or cubic feet per second) and height of a river; the US Geologic Service provides readings every four hours. When a river is too high, “strainers,” the term for trees sticking up out of the water, are extremely dangerous, for the current can carry you under limbs and where you can be caught. Even under good conditions, a canoeist has to watch out for “undercuts” in which water runs under a rock and pins you underwater. Bill warns that someone canoeing a river for the first time should always go with a partner experienced on that river.

Bill learned long ago that the lake canoe was the wrong kind of boat for whitewater. He now owns about 10 whitewater canoes, which are much more maneuverable and ideal for running rapids. He has gone as far as the Chattooga River on the Georgia-South Carolina border (where the movie “Deliverance” was filmed) to canoe, but his favorite whitewater is on the Emory River (Morgan County), the Tellico (Monroe), and White’s Creek (Rhea). Bill points out that “the rivers we have here are a great resource that many East Tennesseans don’t know about—clear whitewater that is a mecca for whitewater enthusiasts from all over the United States and other countries.

Joye Gowan, associate professor of mathematics and a 15-year veteran of Roane State, enjoys the calm and stationary interest of tatting. Tatting is a method of making lace by tying knots. Joye can spin, weave, knit, crochet, and quilt, but tatting is the more unusual kind of handwork that she creates.

Tatting has an interesting history. There are two types of tatting, shuttle and needle. Needle tatting, which is easier to do, was originally performed by the lower classes in England. Shuttle tatting was practiced by the upper class, and Joye engages in this more difficult handwork. Originally, the knots were stitched down onto fabric in a type of embroidery. Then someone developed loops, or “picots,” as a way of joining the knots together, which gave tatting its “laciness”. The queen of Romania created entire coverlets for her children by this method, and even wrote a book on how to tat.

Joye learned to tat 28 years ago by reading a book, and she learned more from her mother and great-grandmother. Joye eventually became known for an angel design that she created. She sells most of her work either by direct order or on consignment, and the angel design is the most often requested. It takes her an entire day to do an angel, but if she is tatting a doily, she spends several hours a day over the course of several weeks.

Why does she “tat”? The main reason is that she just enjoys it and finds it relaxing to do. She also finds the history of tatting appealing. History was Joye’s minor in college, and

her special interest is American history. She likes to travel to historic sites and enjoys historical reenactments and other forms of historical interpretation. In fact, she often sells the various kinds of handwork that she does at such sites as Historic Rugby and at Fort Southwest Point Rendezvous in Kingston. In this way, Joye combines two of her loves and helps keep our heritage, as expressed in our domestic crafts, alive.

Pat Pate, associate professor and assistant librarian for audio-visual services, is another faculty member for whom the past plays a significant role in his avocation. Pat has been with Roane State for 17 years, and his local roots go back to childhood. A graduate of both Fulton High School and the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, with degrees in art history and library information science, he spends much of his after-hours time buying and restoring older houses.

While Pat always hopes to make money on a house, money is not his primary motive. Pat is a creative person—he has done interior design work, pen and ink drawing, and watercolor painting—and restoring houses is nothing if not creative. Finding the “right” house is both fun and challenging. Pat has a vision of how each property should look when it is finished, and he has to know that he can achieve that vision while keeping the costs down so that the property is marketable. He had to learn from his mistakes, but learn he did. Early on, for example, he bought a house in Fountain City that he had to move to a different piece of land. While he was waiting for the house to be moved, some kids trashed the inside, and later, men that Pat had hired to build a porch put it on the wrong side of the house. Pat learned that he had to keep a close eye on his properties. On the other hand, since he did not have the money to hire someone to fix the problems, he learned a great deal fixing them himself.

Pat also learned what his “niche” would be in the market. He found that he does best buying houses within a certain range of square footage and for a certain segment of the housing market. Now he knows that out of every 10 properties that he looks at, only one, on average, is right for what he wants. Pat’s restored houses will exhibit his distinctive mark. To begin with, he always puts a deck on a house, because he knows how attractive it makes a house and how much people enjoy using them. He will also put something in the house that people don’t usually expect in houses within that price range, such as a better carpet, a fancy molding, or a nicer countertop. In addition, Pat makes landscaping a priority. He likes to use gravel and brick walks, and he plants low-maintenance perennial or evergreen plants, such as monkey grass, boxwoods, and bamboo.

Pat’s dad was skeptical in the beginning of his plan to restore houses, but once he saw that Pat was serious and had some success, his mom and dad began helping him. The family was restoring two to three houses per year at one point, until the death of Pat’s father and a series of mini-strokes that Pat suffered. But Pat has stayed busy with it, restoring four houses in the past six years. He continues to learn new skills and enjoy the manual labor. Most important, perhaps, is that house restoration is an answer to his desire to create.

Said Pat: “My mom has always encouraged me to do things I believe in and was a driving force to motivate me. She got the drive from my grandfather (her father), who was a builder.”

The Freshman Experience | we follow Rebecca's journey through the day

By Jeff Gary, Director of Marketing and Public Relations

Poise. Radiance. Confidence.

Those factors enter the room with Rebecca Turner. Graduating fifth in the class of 2003 at Harriman High School, there's little doubt that her "Freshman Experience" at Roane State Community College will be a positive one. And, at the end of two years at Roane State, she plans to transfer to ETSU—the second stop in her journey to become a nurse anesthetist. Her decision to attend Roane State, like many freshmen, meshed a combination of factors. "I felt attending Roane State, because it is so close to home, would make the adjustment to college life a little more comfortable," she says. "Also, I received scholarship dollars and I have heard many positive things about Roane State. So, all in all, it was just a good idea to come here."



Dance is a Passion

Two critical elements in the development of this confident young woman were two activities she pursued from a very early age. Her gracefulness comes from her lifelong pursuit of excellence as a dancer.

"Dance is a passion. If you don't love it, you won't excel. You can't be taught to love it. You have to develop a love for it from within. I dance every day. I plan my class schedule around dance. I couldn't imagine life without it."

She began dancing at the age of 4. For years, she has been studying at the Arts in Motion dance studio in Roane County. Her specialty as a dancer is 'cross training'—ballet, tap, jazz and modern.



"If you imagine dancing as a 'tree,' then ballet is the 'trunk,' she explains. "Jazz, modern, tap—those are the 'branches.' But, if you don't have a basis in ballet, you can't do the others."

"Historically, ballet was for royalty. It is very elegant—the epitome of grace. Tap is more rhythmic. Modern is ballet turned inside out. It is distorted, contracted. Jazz? Well, it can take many forms: classical, funk, street, theatrical."

These days, when she isn't doing dance, Rebecca is often found teaching dance. "As I said, it really is a passion." Still, it is only part of the Turner package.

Poise and Grace

Rebecca actually won a month of free dance lessons as a four-year-old. The lessons were a prize she won in a pageant. Pageants she entered at an early age to overcome shyness. In her career, she has won two state titles and gained a wealth of experience.

"I enjoy pageants. I have learned a lot through them," she says. "The social skills—and the speaking skills—help you in the real world."

When you are going through an interview or giving a speech on stage, you can't be shy."

Day Job

Still, it's quite a leap from the stage to the surgical suite. The leap, she says, is quite logical.

"As I have said, I enjoy interacting with the public. Most nurses must work hands-on with people. A nurse anesthetist must know their patients on an even more personal level."



"Both of my parents worked in Oak Ridge. So I have strong background in science.

"And," she adds, "there will always be a demand for health care professionals. Security is very important to me and nurses just don't get laid off."

Freshman Experience

Rebecca arrived at Roane State with a strong portfolio. So, she is a long way toward a successful Freshman Experience. But, not all freshmen are so well-grounded. And though Roane State students have graduation as a "rite of passage" that marks the end of their time at the college, there wasn't such an event to mark the beginning of their college career.

With this in mind, the college assembled a committee last winter to address this need. The brainchild of Dr. Adolf King, interim vice president for academic affairs, the Freshman Experience grew out of months of planning. The event was facilitated by Valerie Herd.

Specifically, the event was billed as a mandatory two-day orientation for all new full- and part-time students introducing them to Roane State Community College. Day One activities were held at the Roane County Campus. Sessions throughout the day included:

Faculty Advising—a faculty advisor is the key to guiding you on the correct path to reach your academic goals. Initiating this relationship is an important first step.

Using Campus Pipeline—learning how to use your own campus account.

Using Web for Students – learning how to navigate electronically in college.



Best Strategies for Surviving Your First Year in College—learning how to constructively read a textbook and deal with test anxiety.

During check-in, students received a bag filled with information customized for them including schedules, campus-wide ID, advisor name, a CD detailing internet and e-mail procedures and literature concerning their major.

Students also received lunch and were entertained during a live remote by Knoxville radio station Star 102.1 and its morning personalities Marc and Kim.

Some 850 students attended the first day of Freshman Experience at the Roane County Campus.

On Day Two, activities shifted to the local campus of each student's choice. There, they received a campus tour and engaged in team-building activities designed to be 'ice breakers.' Campus officials agreed this was a very positive kickoff to the 2003-04

academic year.

(Continued from page 17)

“Overall, I think everything went very well,” Herd says. “What sticks out in my mind as most memorable is walking down the halls of O’Brien after the start of the first session and seeing faculty members in with their new advisees. As a former academic advisor, that was what it was all about—students meeting their advisors.”



Library staff commented that it had been very quiet in the library when, usually, during the first week of classes, they get bombarded with students asking directions. They credit this “lack of questions” to the Freshman Experience.

“We had our problems, but overall it was very successful thanks to the contributions of many people, Herd says.

A Good Experience

For Rebecca, the event was a positive beginning for her college experience. “I saw some friends that I hadn’t seen all summer, I was able to familiarize myself with the buildings and find my classrooms, so I felt more comfortable when classes began.”

“Also, the staff was very sincere. They wanted us to get off to a good start.”

Good Start

And, indeed, Rebecca is off to a good start. She is confident about the present and the future. Grounded in her experience in dance, she knows many challenges await.

“I am a hard worker, I’m very structured and I am very disciplined. Dance has taught me that. It’s a real gift. I feel very blessed.”

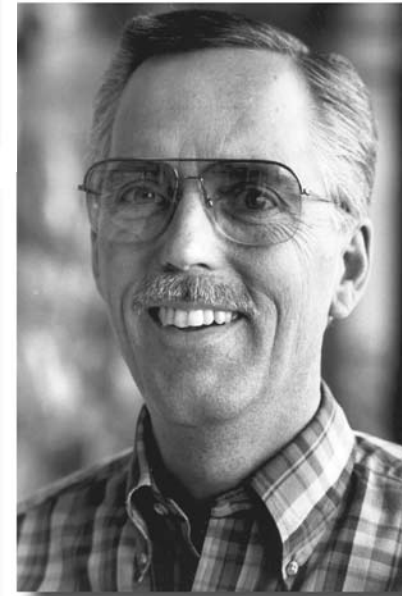
Déjà View |

Pop quiz! How many of these Roane State faculty faces do you remember?

1. He lived in Norway for a year as the recipient of a Fulbright Teaching Exchange Fellowship. He teaches at several Roane State campuses.



3. She is active in the Xi Iota Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.



4. He and students trek to the American West each spring on the Southwest Field Trip, which he helped to establish in 1977.

2. He is the resident “map man” at Roane State.



5. She won the Benroth Award for outstanding teaching in 1965.

- Answers:
- 1. Dan Foltz-Gray, associate professor of English
 - 2. Johnnie Rudolph, associate professor of math/science
 - 3. Dr. Delorise Barnes, professor of business
 - 4. Gary Heidinger, associate professor of sociology
 - 5. Myrian Works, associate professor of nursing

News Notes | from the headlines

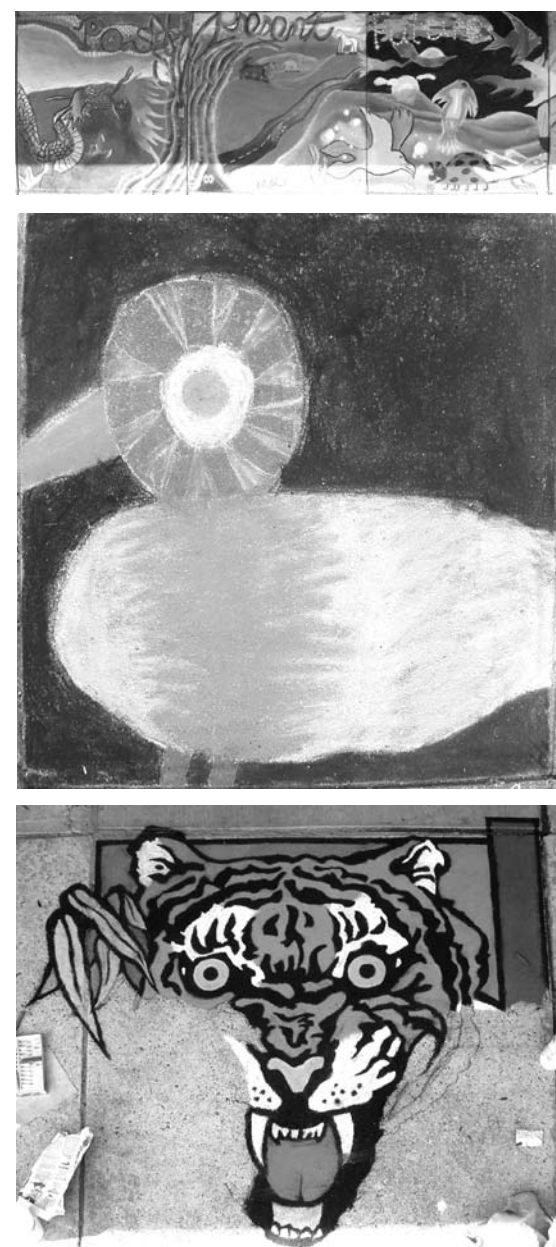
Nearly 900 first-time students got a taste of college at Roane State's first-ever **Freshman Experience**. At the August orientation, new students met other freshmen, talked with their academic advisors, toured campuses, discussed college success strategies and more. On the first day of the event, students gathered at the flagship campus in Roane County. Actor **David Keith** gave a pep talk that morning. The second day's activities were held at the various campuses where freshmen expected to attend most of their classes.

The **Oak Ridge Street Painting Festival** was again a popular spring event, garnering more than \$23,000 in pledges and in-kind gifts. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Oak Ridge, the festival has raised more than \$78,000 for Roane State scholarships during its four-year history. At the festival, amateur and professional artists alike "chalk" a sidewalk square, and the community is invited to view their artwork. For more on the event, go to www.rotaryor.org/streetpaintingfestival/.

Thanks to a cooperative effort between Roane State and Tennessee Tech University, students can now complete a bachelor's degree to become an elementary school teacher without leaving East Tennessee. **Tech now offers junior and senior level classes in elementary education at Roane State's Oak Ridge and Cumberland County campuses.**



Clockwise from upper left: Students at the Freshman Experience on the Oak Ridge Campus; smiling faces at the Freshman Experience on the Roane County Campus; students Jennifer Blakely and John Sweeten of Crossville talk with Tennessee Tech President Dr. Robert Bell (left) and Roane State President Dr. Wade McCamey (right) about the cooperative effort to offer elementary education courses; students await the drawing for prizes at the Freshman Experience; freshmen listen to a presentation on meeting their advisors; Actor David Keith poses with Judy Tyl, Enrollment Management dean.



Above: Some winning artwork from the Oak Ridge Street Painting Festival.

Class Notes

See page 23 for details on how you may submit class notes information to update fellow alumni about what's going on in your life.

'74 Howard W. Hendrickson (A.S.-Business) and wife Gwendolyn live in Conyers, Ga. He's an interline auditor with Southeastern Stages, Inc. He has one son and two stepchildren.

Robert J. Franzreb (A.S.-Pre-Pharmacy) is an office worker and data entry operator at Knoxville Livestock Center. Of his alma mater, he says: "Besides being a great college academically, it provided employment for my mother, Sue Franzreb, who was a secretary at Roane State for a long time."

'75 James M. Ogden (A.S.-Business) lives in Princeton, NJ and has two sons. He was named top salesman at Mayo Garden Centers in Knoxville from 1988-92. He now is in athletic facilities operations at Princeton University. Ogden was recently featured in the "spotlight" in the Princeton University Community Newsletter as a "face to watch." Says James of his Northern co-workers: "I think they enjoy my twang and positive outlook on life."

'76 Richard Lee Smith (A.S.-Electronics) lives in Douglasville, GA, with wife Viv Wells Smith. They have one son. Smith is a janitor for Owens Corning.

'77 Clea (Morgan) Marrow (A.S.-General) worked as a reporter for the Knoxville News Sentinel before retiring in 1987. She has been very active in the community, serving on the board of directors for the Ramsey House since 1983 in many capacities. She is currently the development chairman for the Oak Ridge Art Center. She and husband George live in Oak Ridge. They have four grown children.

'78 Judith Ogren Murphy (A.A.-General) enjoys rock climbing, kayaking, biking and cross stitching. She and husband Jay live in Ooltewah.

'80 Albert K. Culbreath (A.S.-General) is now a professor of plant pathology at the University of Georgia.

'83 John Wesley Coffey, Sr. (A.S.-Civil Engineering) is a quality assurance supervisor and is retired from TVA. He and wife, Dabborah, live in Lenoir City. Daughter, Paulina (Coffey) Newman, graduated from Roane State and is now a first grade teacher. John and Dabborah also have a son, John Wesley Coffey Jr., and a two-year old grandson.

John Boyd Davidson (A.S.-Criminal Justice) and wife Margaret have two children. Davidson is police chief for the city of Mauldin, SC. He was an adjunct faculty member at Roane State in criminal justice from 1994-99. He also worked for the Oak Ridge Police Department from 1980-2000.

Wade Hembree (A.S.-General) of Franklin is a registered nurse and medical case manager with Travelers Insurance Company. He and wife Melanie have two young children.

Patricia L. Metzler (A.S.-General) moved to Hendersonville, NC, after husband Douglas retired from General Electric. She enjoys volunteer work, traveling and spoiling her young grandson.

'84 Margaret (Koontz) Strain (A.S.-Civil Engineering) is retired from TVA. She and her husband, Gene, live in Alabama.

Hal K. Loflin (A.S.-Business Management) also earned an A.S. in Engineering from Roane State in 1989. A member of Roane State's 1983-84 golf team, Loflin has been a member of the PPSA since 1993. He and wife Barbie live in Smyrna and have two young children. Loflin is general manager of Head Golf Pro.

'88 Cynthia (O'Brien) Baxter (A.S.-Office Administration) lives in Columbia, Tennessee with husband Jack and young sons Jackson and Wesley. She's a first-grade teacher in the Maury County school system. Julie (Esau) Maples (A.S.-Medical Transcription) works out of her

Maryville home as a transcriptionist for Blount Memorial Hospital. That allows her to spend time with her children. She and husband Michael are parents to Michaela, 10 and Lucas, 5.

Jean-Ann (Breedon) Washam (A.S.-Social Science) is ministry director of Samaritan House Homeless Shelter. She and husband Shannon live in Jefferson City with their young daughter and son.

'90 Syrena Diane (Chambers) Smith (A.S.-General) is a teacher in Scott County schools and is president of the Scott County Education Association. She also coaches cross country track and cheerleading. She and husband Pete live in Robbins and have five children.

'91 Cheri (Barger) Duncan (A.S.-Business) is a teacher at Halls High School. She and husband Rodney live in Knoxville.

'92 Christopher J. Corwin (A.S.-Environmental Health Technology) lives in Knoxville and is a direct lending manager at 21st Mortgage Corporation. He served as SGA president at the Oak Ridge Campus in 1991-92.

Mary (Chitwood) Hamby (A.A.S.-Respiratory Therapy) is a registered respiratory therapist at Scott County Hospital. She and husband Kares live in Winfield.

'93 Sheri W. Stilts (A.S.-Education) teaches elementary science in the Fentress County school system. Her brother, Harley Lambert, and sister, Jennifer Smith, are enrolled at Roane State. Stilts recently completed her master's degree at Tennessee Tech. She and husband Kenny live in Jamestown and have two young children.

'94 Karen D. Hayes (A.A.S.-Nursing) and husband Tom have two children, Danielle and Ashley. Hayes is a registered nurse at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. She has been nominated for the prestigious Norma Shepard Award in Critical Care Nursing. Her new hobby is hand-thrown pottery. Sandra G. Harris (A.S.-Education) lives in Lansing with husband Mike. They have two sons—David and Stephen—both

'94

of whom attend Roane State. Harris is a counselor at Douglas Cherokee Economic Authority.

Lois C. West (A.S.-General) is enjoying retirement and spending time with her grandchildren. West and husband Bernie live in Knoxville.

James D. Henry (A.S.-General) is married to Roane State alumna Stephanie Reed, and they have a young daughter, Savannah. Henry is an internal wholesaler.

'95

John W. Leffew (A.S.-Math/Physical Science) lives in Charlotte and is a geologist with SECOR International, Inc.

Ali H. Khalil (A.S.-Business Management) is married to Tabatha Khalil and owns his own business. The couple lives in Knoxville.

'96

Robbie (Bottoms) Casteel (A.S.-General) and husband Heath live in Crossville.

She's a field coordinator for East Tennessee Clinical Research, Inc.

'97

Andrea M. Goins (A.A.S.-Health Information Technology) is a nationally accredited health information technology specialist with Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center. She lives in Harriman.

'98

Jessica M. Cooksey (A.A.S.-Health Information Technology) lives in Hermitage and works at Summit Medical Center as a cancer registrar.

'00

Mary Irene Allen (A.A.S.-Business Management Technology) is an insurance biller with Rheumatology Associates of East Tennessee. She and husband Dennis live in Harriman.

'01

Robert Eric Heidel (A.A.-Social Science) of Oak Ridge graduated summa cum laude from the University of Tennessee this spring. At Roane State, he was involved in intramural basketball.

The following is a list of deceased alumni and their years of graduation. If you know of other alumni who have passed away, you may submit their names and other information to the Alumni Relations office for inclusion in future editions of "Roane State Today."

Timothy David Kincannon '73
Angela Ann Cross '74
Linda Sue Heifner '74
Robert Kenneth Bush '75
Verna G. Compton '75
Robert Davison '75
Donald Eugene Day '75
Rebecca Ruth Mathis '75
Jerry Edward Turner '75
Ivar Bergendahl '76
Richard Alden Crowell '76
Eugene Marvin Johnson '76
Franklin Duff Anderson '77
Robert Lane Brown '77
Susan F. Cappiello '77
Jack J. Gibson '77
Claude Wayne Harner '77
Kenneth Christopher Moore '77
Jeffery B. Norman '77
Brenda Ann Pierce '77
Edith Adaline Sexton '77
Sara Frances Strunk '77
Millard Henry Wright '77
Hobert Andrew Barnett '78
James Ervin Brantley '78
Marion Hope Erwin '78
Gary William Hall '78
Marilyn Sue Seals '78
James Robert Silcox '78
Larry Dunn Thompson '78
William Watson Wade '78
George Alfred Windle '78
Vinson Dale Brewer '79
Mary Guettner Culbertson '79
Marrison Elmer Hammonds '79
Donald Alfred Henderson '79
James Albert Lively '79
Nina Earl Peterson '79
James Ronald Shelton '79
Eileen Alvis Walbrecht '79
Mark Alan Cummings '80
Janet Renee Hughes '80
Eula M. Mayton '80
Millard Mitchell '80
John Lloyd Redick '80
Trecia Ann Shultz '80
Judith Davis Whittenbarger '80
David Mark Holloway '81
Barbara Jane Lingerfelt '81
Henry Robert Melvin '81
Ann Katherine Piotrowski '81
Arthur Davenport Wall '81
Jorjan Albright Albrecht '82
James Andrew Chesney '82
Linda Mae Locklear '82
Rebekah Jane Pickel '82
Howard Darryl Robertson '82
Linda Kaye Searle '82
Jennifer Dee Smith '82
Cecil Roy Stevens '82
David Eugene Winchester '82
Dora Armes '83
Nancy Joann Cate '83
Robert Mike Farnham '83
Jerry Luther Garland '83
Suzanne Elaine Lindemer '83

Dorothy Eleanor Muenzer '83
Gayle Katherine Mullins '83
Glenda Renee Reirdan '83
Richard Davis Sampson '83
Deborah Marie Thedford '83
Lester Wilson '83
Doris Green Adler '84
Carolyn Ann Bass '84
Steven Alexander Burr '84
Shirleyn Veletz Cofer '84
Judy Ann Pate '84
Everett Marion Strunk '84
Anne Bagley Walker '84
Duggins F. L. Wright '84
Margaret Levona Brannon '85
Scott Edward Easter '85
Karen E. Hannah '85
Keith Frederick Harvey '85
Marcia Corinn Poole '85
William Hunter Wallace '85
Eleanor Quinlan Mustin '86
Billy Ray Rayburn '86
George Robert Cook '87
Joyce K. Daugherty '87
William Edward Forthman '87
Edward Jasper Richburg '87
Richard Dale Hatcher '88
Sam Steele Holloway '88
Teresa Ann Kelley '88
Ross Howard Thompson '88
Gary Lee Hackler '89
Melanie Terese Renfro '89
Kirby Ray Turner '89
Elizabeth Yancey '89
Melanie Ann Fuller '90
Sandra Jean Adams '91
Gary Joe Lynch '91
Cathy Lou Asbury '92
Ray Allen Cabage '92
Tammy Rose Crabtree '92
Beth Michelle Detrick '92
Elizabeth Ann Ray '92
James S. Young '92
Janice Marie Bailey '93
Steven Daniel Bailey '93
Nancy W. Chabers '93
Dianne Francis Rowe '93
Ray Crowley Armstrong '94
Nancy E. Bruce '94
Robert Clark Gosslee '94
Robert Ray Morgan '94
Deborah Ann Tipton '94
Charles Rickey White '94
Jimmy Anthony Kilby '95
Anita Ann Gregg '96
Ronald Scott Blanchard '97
Aaren Leigh Devaney '97
Howard Clark Hansen '97
Lottie Nyoka Johnson '97
Stacy Jeneen McDaniel '97
Jeffrey Lynn Shepherd '97
Carla Leann Rimmer '98
Virgil Ray Childers '99
Lindsay Elizabeth Floyd '99
Adam James Burress '01
Pamela Anne Eberhardt '01

Mabre Holder, emeritus faculty member, passed away on Sept. 21, 2003 following a long illness. Mr. Holder taught business courses at the college from 1974-2002.

Roane State Foundation

walking the walk



Empathy is a powerful emotion. Stuart and Elaine Kent have it in abundance.

The Fairfield Glade couple has endowed scholarship programs that recognize the financial struggle that many community college students face. The Stuart and Elaine Kent Adult Learner Scholarship, started in 1996, assists learners who are ages 25 and older, while the Linda E. Kent Memorial Nursing Scholarship—begun in 1998—lends a hand to those studying to enter that important field. The Kents know what it's like to need a little help. "We've always been interested in helping junior colleges," Mr. Kent said. "We grew up during the Great Depression. There just wasn't money to go away to college."

Thanks to a government program, Mr. Kent was able to begin his studies at a junior college and continue on through graduate school at the University of Michigan. He then went on to a long and successful career. A World War II veteran, Mr. Kent was an "adult learner," just like the many students he and his wife have helped through the years. "We want to aid those adults who realize a need for higher education," Mrs. Kent said of the Adult Learner Scholarship. "We feel privileged to help."

The memorial nursing scholarship remembers the Kents' daughter, who was a nurse. The Kents like to see their scholarship students succeed. Each year, they attend Roane State's "pinning" ceremony, where new nurses are honored. Typically about a third of Roane State's nursing students receive a Kent scholarship. While they provide the financial backing to make many students' dreams come true, the Kents say they leave it up to the college to choose scholarship recipients. "We don't want to have anything to do with the selection," said Mrs. Kent. Her husband added, "We do like to meet the students in person."

In the 1990s, the Kents contributed to the drive to build a permanent Roane State campus in Cumberland County. "That started our interest in Roane State," said Mrs. Kent. Since then, Stuart and Elaine Kent have remained true friends to Roane State students and the community college concept. To find out more about Roane State giving opportunities, call (865) 882-4507.

Back to Class

Jimmie Ray was among the 5,385 students enrolled for Fall Semester '03.



**Roane State Community College
Office of Alumni Relations
276 Patton Lane
Harriman, TN 37748**

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 2
Harriman, TN 37748