

# Roane State Today

The Roane State Community College Alumni Magazine Spring Summer 2009



Never too late, never too early  
**Roane State students Ken Mink, 73,  
and Mallory Miles, 14, are proof that  
learning is cool at any age**

# Letter |

from the President

“We decide our future... We will be survivors, not victims, of budget cuts.”

During the state’s worst fiscal crisis in decades, we choose to let those words guide our actions. We know changes are coming. We know difficult choices will be made.

Our budget for the next fiscal year is now being finalized. Funding through the federal stimulus package will help cushion the immediate impact of the economic downturn, but these funds are for restricted use only and are temporary. The stimulus package allows us to re-design the structure of the college and meet maintenance and renovation needs. The stimulus funds are not for operations or meeting personnel salaries or benefits.



In July 2011, our budget will revert back to state appropriations and tuition only since stimulus funds are only available through June 2011. We have a responsibility to use this time to make good decisions that will position us for success in the years ahead.

We will not shrink from tough choices. As we make tough choices, though, we are committed to transparency and inclusion.

A budget committee, composed of representatives from every level of the college, has been working together to deal with the financial challenge. During the last few months, I have asked all Roane State employees to suggest ways to reduce costs. We have received scores of excellent ideas.

We have held open forums to give employees opportunities to ask questions and share concerns. We have also sought the free counsel of a nonprofit, volunteer group called SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives), which offers the expertise of retired executives. SCORE has provided us with a valuable, objective view of our organization.

We are not the only ones who are suffering. Many students are also negatively affected by the economic downturn and need, more than ever before, confident, caring faculty and staff. By having a survivor’s attitude, our faculty and staff are ensuring that the budget situation does not hinder our students’ education.

As alumni, you play an important role in the college’s mission. I know you care deeply about Roane State, and we need and welcome your support.

Together—alumni, students, faculty, staff—we must be survivors, not victims, of budget reductions. We will decide our future.



**Contributors**

Gary Goff  
President

Melinda Hillman  
Vice President for  
Institutional  
Advancement

Tamsin Miller  
Director of  
Alumni Relations

Sandi Roberts  
Graphic Designer

Owen Driskill  
Editor



**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 Web site ([www.roanestate.edu/alumni](http://www.roanestate.edu/alumni)) allows you to e-mail the Alumni Relations staff. Are you receiving duplicate copies of Roane State Today? Go to [www.roanestate.edu/alumni](http://www.roanestate.edu/alumni).**

**Roane State Community College is designated by the State of Tennessee to serve Anderson, Campbell, Cumberland, Fentress, Loudon, Morgan, Roane and Scott counties. The college also provides health-science education to Blount and Knox counties.**

**Send correspondence and address changes to:  
Roane State  
Community College  
Alumni Relations  
276 Patton Lane  
Harriman, TN 37748**

**(865) 882-4640  
[alumni@roanestate.edu](mailto:alumni@roanestate.edu)**

# Cover

Ken Mink, 73, and Mallory Miles, 14, both enjoyed their first year as Roane State students. Mink played basketball, gaining worldwide attention. Miles, fresh from seventh grade, earned a perfect 4.0 grade-point average in the fall.

# Contents

- 2 President's Letter
- 3 Contributors
- 4 Vistas
- 6 Feature Story
- 10 Spotlight Story
- 14 Spirit
- 15 Up Close
- 16 Full Circle
- 19 Summer Camps
- 20 News Notes
- 22 Alumni/Class Notes
- 23 Calendar

## 6



### Never Too Late

You're never too old to learn something new, or even play a little college basketball.

## 10



### Never Too Early

Mallory Miles has made a smooth transition to college—from seventh grade.

## 15



### Up Close

Ted Stryk, assistant professor of English and philosophy, has a hobby that is out of this world.

## 16



### Full Circle

Darren York changes from one role to another during a typical day at Roane State.

*Roane State freshman Curtis Cunningham helps a preschooler at Fairmont Center in Harriman with an activity as part of Read Across America week. Several Roane State education students visited preschool children to promote love of reading and the Imagination Library, an initiative that provides free books to children.*

# Vistas

of Roane State



## Roane County Campus

In celebration of Black History Month, students participated in an open-mike reading organized by the Arts & Lectures Committee. Faculty, staff and students read works by authors such as Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, Nikki Giovanni, Alice Walker and many others. Several students shared original poems and expressed interest in gathering for more readings. The Oak Ridge Campus also hosted a session.

## Oak Ridge Campus

The Oak Ridge Campus hosted College Goal Sunday, an event for anyone interested in applying for college. Representatives from Financial Aid and Admissions helped visitors complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), a complicated form necessary to receive financial aid. The Oak Ridge event was one of 35 College Goal Sundays held across the state, and it assisted 59 students and 57 parents.

## Campbell County Campus

Students donated overnight bags and backpacks to CASA of Campbell County. CASA stands for "Court-Appointed Special Advocates," and CASA volunteers advocate for abused and neglected children. CASA of Campbell County conducted a drive called "Totes for Tots" to collect overnight bags and backpacks for children who receive CASA's services. A math class taught by Assistant Professor Tressa Murphy collected 30 backpacks for the drive.

## Cumberland County Campus

All campuses participated in the SAILS student contest, but the Cumberland campus had a particularly festive display. A fabric sail was placed in a prominent location on each campus. Students printed their names on sticky labels and attached the labels to the sail. The location of labels on the sail determined the winners, who received portable thumb drives. The contest promoted the SAILS project, which is designed to help students become better learners. SAILS stands for Students Achieving Improved Learning Strategies.

## Fentress County Campus

High school juniors are now taking advantage of dual studies classes offered through the Fentress County campus. Dual studies courses allow high school students to earn college credit and high school credit at the same time, and Fentress County is a state leader in providing these courses. York Institute junior Danielle Mann started taking college-level classes this academic year, and she plans to graduate from high school next year with 25 hours of college credit. The Pinckley Foundation pays for any course costs not covered by a state grant. Community Bank of the Cumberlands also assists dual studies students.

## Knox County Campus

Students, faculty and staff from the Knox County Center for Health Sciences played a big role at Knox County Schools' "Schooled For Success" event. The event, for all eighth-graders in the Knox County school system (around 1,500 students), showcases hundreds of employers and careers. Many eighth-graders stopped by to have their pictures taken at a backdrop provided by the Knox County Campus. Students received prints of their photos on the spot.

## Loudon County Campus

Matt Brookshire, mayor of Lenoir City, has volunteered to chair the campus Building Committee. Brookshire graduated from Roane State in 1993 and earned his bachelor's degree at Tennessee Wesleyan College. He teaches history at North Middle School in the Loudon County School System. "The committee is going through a little bit of a reorganization, and I wanted to do my part to assist in that reorganization and make sure we take care of those things that are the committee's responsibilities," Brookshire said. "I wanted to help provide leadership to make sure things go well so that Roane State and the Tennessee Career Center can stay in Lenoir City and be successful."

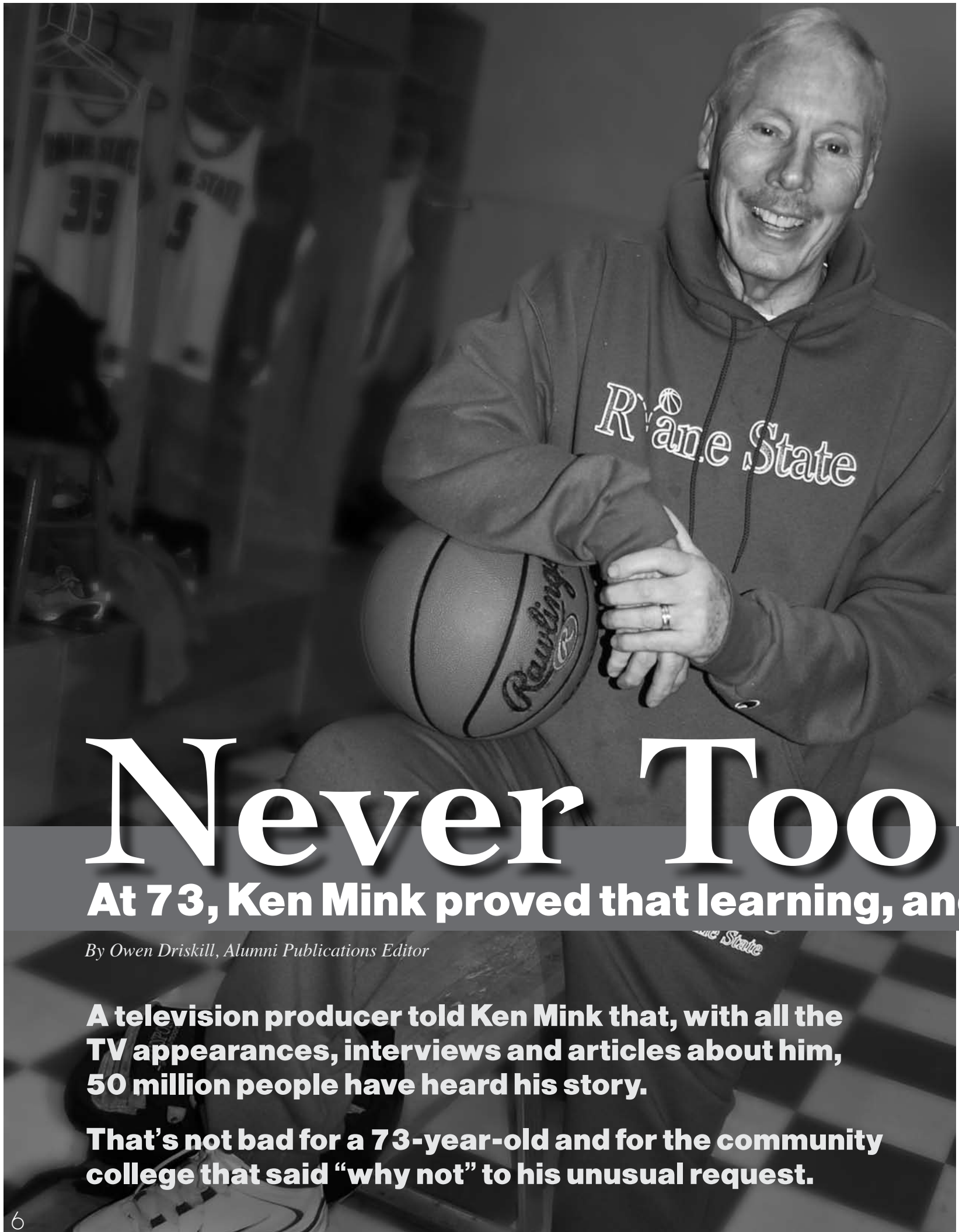
## Morgan County Campus

Jerrica Green, a senior at Central High School in Wartburg, is one of the first students to take full advantage of dual studies courses offered at the Morgan County Campus. Dual studies courses allow high school students to earn college credit and high school credit at the same time. Roane State's newest campus gives Morgan County high school students easier access to these classes, which can help students reduce college expenses. Green will finish high school with 23 hours of college credit, saving her almost a full year of college classes.

## Scott County Campus

The campus is sponsoring the local Imagination Library, an initiative that provides free books to children. Sharon Baird, campus director, and a group of students read to Oneida preschoolers at the Boys & Girls Club of Scott County. Baird read a book titled "Bats in the Library" and donated it to the preschool. The college students are in the Tennessee Tech portion of the 2+2 program. The program enables students to complete a two-year associate's degree at Roane State, transition into Tennessee Tech's elementary education program, and then finish their bachelor's degrees at the Scott County Campus.





# Never Too


**At 73, Ken Mink proved that learning, and**

*By Owen Driskill, Alumni Publications Editor*

**A television producer told Ken Mink that, with all the TV appearances, interviews and articles about him, 50 million people have heard his story.**

**That's not bad for a 73-year-old and for the community college that said "why not" to his unusual request.**





A little more than a year ago, Mink sent e-mails to some area college basketball coaches. He wanted a chance to play, and Roane State's Randy Nesbit said "OK." Mink enrolled as a full-time student at Roane State last fall. On Nov. 3, 2008, Mink became the oldest person to play college basketball during a 93-42 win over King College's junior varsity team. He made two free throws.

Fans went wild, and the story spread. Mink has appeared on television ("Live with Regis and Kelly," "The Today Show," "Late Night with Conan

# Late

**playing, never have to stop with age.**

O'Brien," "Inside Edition," ESPN, etc.). He's been featured in national publications (The New York Times, The New York Daily News, Sports Illustrated and many others). His story has spread to media outlets in Germany, Portugal, Spain, Japan, etc. Mink's own book is nearly finished. Movie producers have called; one has offered a deal. "My favorite part," Mink said, "was playing in the games." (continued)



“Some people have love for certain sports,” Mink said. “It gets ingrained in your psyche. I’m at peace when I’m on the basketball court.”



### Ghosts of 1956

Mink has given so many interviews, he can recite this story while shooting free throws blindfolded. Why did he want to play college basketball?

In 1956, someone used shaving cream to decorate the basketball coach’s office at Lees Junior College in Jackson, Ky. Mink says he didn’t do it, but the prank cost him his spot on the basketball team and got him expelled. Mink went on to serve four years in the Air Force and work for decades as a journalist.

Life went on, but Mink never let go of that lost year of college basketball.

On a September afternoon in 2007, Mink was sinking basket after basket while shooting hoops at a neighbor’s house. His mind wandered back to the 1950s, and that lost year. He went home and told his wife, Emilia, that he still “had it.” “Have what?” she asked.

The answer was enough talent, as well as the desire, to play college basketball. Not long after that September day, Ken Mink met Randy Nesbit.

### The coach who said ‘yes’

Off the court, Nesbit has a dry, genial sense of humor. It’s no surprise that when a guy claiming to be 73 e-mailed that he wanted to play basketball, Nesbit didn’t hit the delete button faster than a turnaround jumper.

On the court, Nesbit is a no-nonsense competitor. He told Mink that if he wanted to play, then he would be treated like everyone else.

Mink practiced with the team, rode the bus with the guys, and participated in pregame warmups. Nesbit was careful not to turn Mink’s place on the team into a stunt. Mink only played if a game was well out of reach, totaling 15 minutes in seven games.

His final statistics were five points and two assists, all world records for the oldest person in college basketball. For Mink, the experience was not about numbers, but about friendships.

“There’s more camaraderie on this team than I saw on my high school and college teams,” Mink said. “I’ve had guys over to my home for dinner. When I got a chance to play, they would go out of their way to find me, to get me a shot.”

As Mink talks about camaraderie, forward Steve McBorrough walks over, shakes Mink’s hand and pats him on the shoulder.

McBorrough said he has learned from Mink. He didn’t play much either this season, and Mink helped him stay positive.

“He just tells me to keep my head up,” McBorrough said. “He’s pretty cool. With Ken, he just makes everything OK.”

Everything has been OK with Ken’s wife, Emilia, too. She dressed in 1950s outfits and cheered for Ken at games, and she’s accompanied Ken on some of his media appearances.

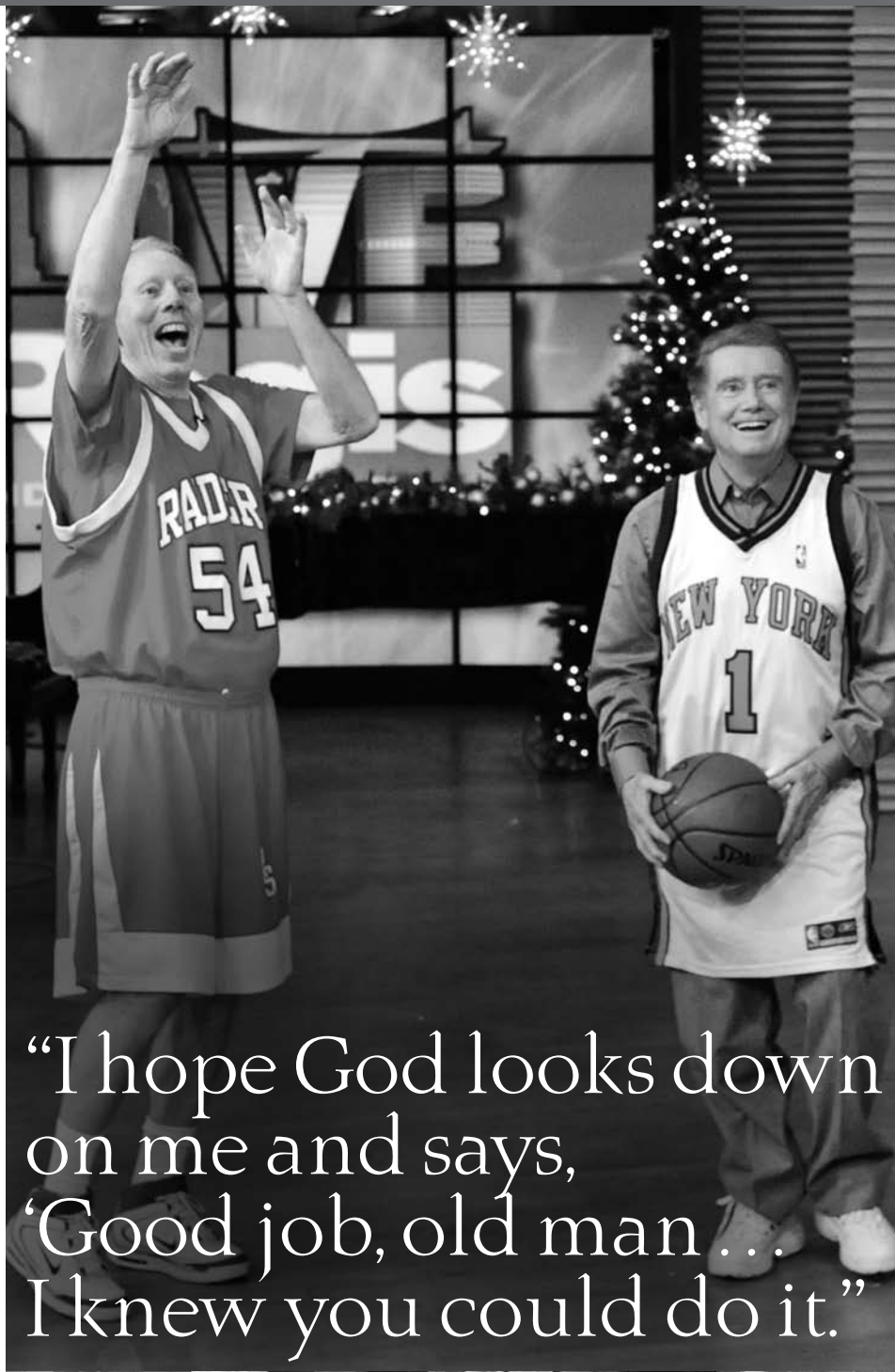
“Ken is a fun and interesting man,” she said. “I am extremely proud of how he has been able to overcome hurdles few, if anyone, could have done. He is indeed a miracle, a walking legend. I doubt if there will ever be another like him.”

Nesbit, the coach who said “yes,” was featured right alongside Mink during the season-long media blitz.

“The experience of having Ken on the team was a lot like any team’s experience over the course of a season,” Nesbit said. “There were triumphs and disappointments, many lasting memories, personal camaraderie developed, and attitudes fostered that the human spirit can be subdued, but not entirely quenched, unless we allow it to be.”

*Opposite top: Ken Mink beat TV star Regis Philbin in a game of H-O-R-S-E when Mink appeared on “Live with Regis and Kelly.” copyright Disney-ABC Domestic Television.; bottom, left: Mink developed many friendships with his teammates.; bottom right: In the history of Roane State basketball, this might be the most unique team photo ever taken. Mink is standing beside coach Randy Nesbit, who said “yes” to Mink’s dream.*





“I hope God looks down on me and says, ‘Good job, old man . . . I knew you could do it.’”

### End of the road

Near the end of the season, Mink’s journey was cut about four games short. The NJCAA, the governing body for community college athletics, ruled Mink ineligible on a technicality related to a course he passed at a private university. Mink had met all the Roane State eligibility standards, but Roane State’s appeal was denied.

Even though the ending wasn’t perfect, Mink said he enjoyed the season, his classes and his teammates.

“Today’s young people are a lot better than a lot of people think they are,” he said. “Most have definite goals in life. I feel like they are more motivated than when I was in high school and college. I’ve enjoyed learning from them.”

Mink’s teammates taught him a few lessons in hip-hop. The first time Mink played college basketball, rap music had not been invented yet. Frankly, rock ‘n’ roll was still in its infancy.

Now, Mink has written his own bit of hip-hop, “Raider Boys be Rockin.” One verse is about himself.

*We must be up by 20  
'Cause here comes Kenny  
He's old and slow  
But he can still go, go, go  
Medicare Man*

“The many thousands of people, young and old worldwide, who have encouraged me have warmed my heart and gave me courage and the will to continue,” Mink said.





# Never Too

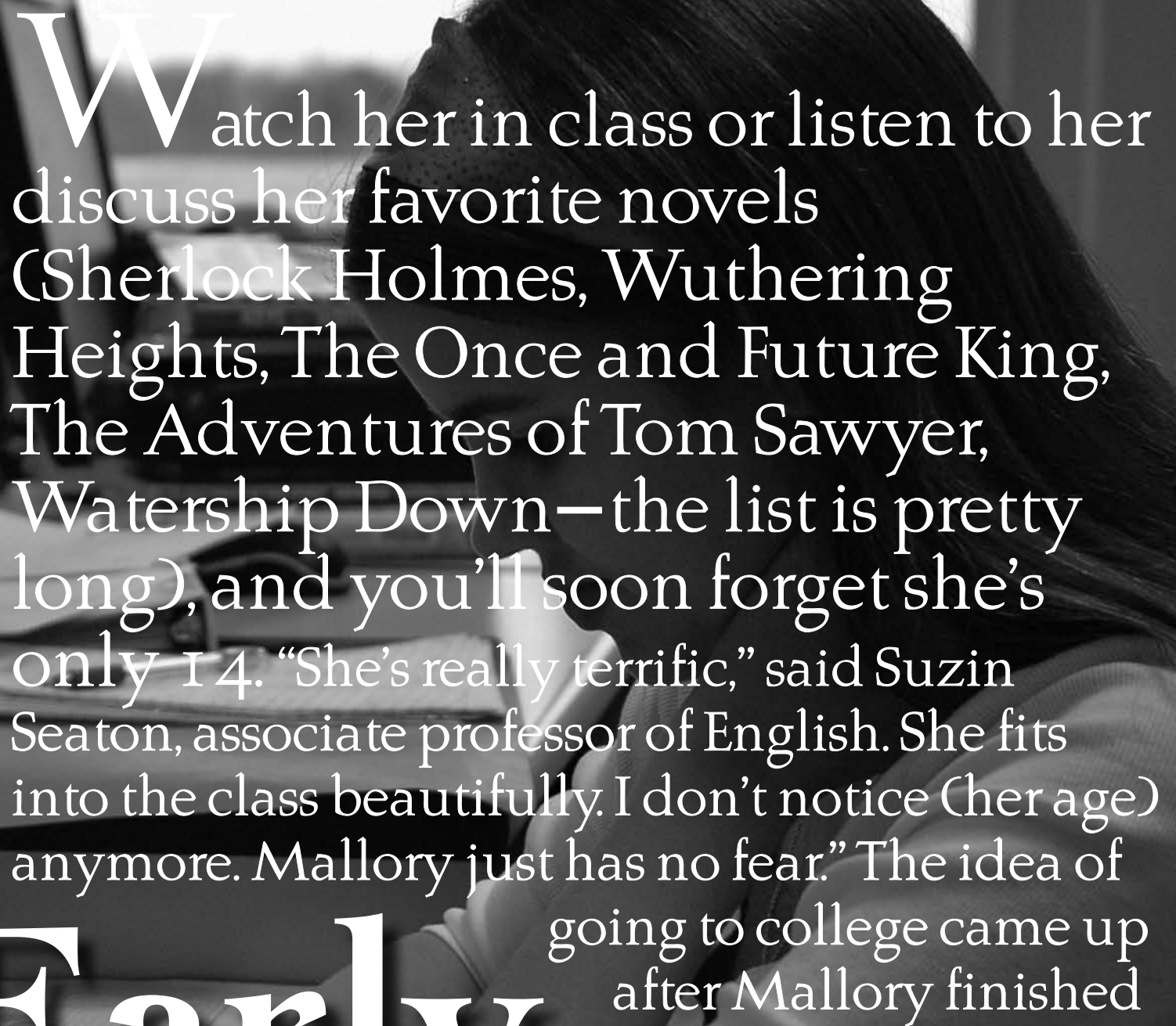
**Only 14, Mallory Miles is enjoying college**

*By Owen Driskill, Alumni Publications Editor*

**Mallory Miles stands out because of how well she fits in.**

**A bright, young college student, Mallory is at ease with her Roane State classmates. She's a Dean's List student, an active participant in class discussions, and a member of the Cumberland campus's Activities Board.**





Watch her in class or listen to her discuss her favorite novels (Sherlock Holmes, Wuthering Heights, The Once and Future King, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Watership Down—the list is pretty long), and you’ll soon forget she’s only 14. “She’s really terrific,” said Suzin Seaton, associate professor of English. She fits into the class beautifully. I don’t notice (her age) anymore. Mallory just has no fear.” The idea of going to college came up after Mallory finished

# Early

life a little sooner than most.

seventh grade. She had been a part of Cumberland County’s Gifted Education program since second grade but did not feel that she was reaching her full potential. Mallory’s mother, Deborah, is an associate professor of math at Roane State. Her dad, Kirk, is a biologist with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. “I know Mallory likes to be challenged,” Deborah said, “and I felt she was mature enough to handle college.” (continued)



“Here, she is seeing adult role models, people she can look up to,” Deborah said.

Mallory carefully weighed her options (even designing a point system to measure the pros and cons) and decided to go to Roane State.

Adolf King, vice president for academic services, and Maria Gonzales, director of admissions and recruitment, helped Deborah enroll Mallory, who had taken the ACT in seventh grade and tested into all college-level courses except math. Though that may seem ironic for a math professor’s daughter, seventh-grader Mallory had never taken an algebra class. Algebra is not taught until eighth grade in Cumberland County.

With the support and blessings of her Crossville family, 13-year-old Mallory began taking classes at the Cumberland County Campus in fall of 2008.

“The first day was a little bit frightening and a little bit confusing,” Mallory said.

The rest of her college days, though, have been fun and fascinating. Seaton said Mallory “just loves to play with ideas.”

“My classmates have different viewpoints,” Mallory said. “I learn from them. It’s cool to see how other people see the world. We read a lot of interesting articles, and when I read something that makes me think, I like to share my ideas.”

An excellent writer, Mallory also volunteers as a tutor in the campus’s Learning Center.

“She’s really willing to help out,” said Ann Berry, coordinator of the center. “When I saw how wonderfully she wrote, I knew I could get her to help other people with their own writing skills.”

Mallory took five classes in the fall semester and took five more classes this spring: intermediate algebra, environmental science, history, composition and psychology. She has been accepted into the Honors Program and has contracted with two of her teachers to do an honors project in their classes this semester. She plans to attend Roane State next year and is not sure where she will continue her studies after that.

Mallory stays in close contact with friends her own age while she spends her school days with older students. Deborah said Mallory benefits from her teenage friends and her college-age classmates.

Mallory said the non-traditional students, especially those working full-time jobs and raising their own children—maybe even children Mallory’s age—have motivated her. “I’m always inspired by them,” she said. “I think what they do is much more impressive than what I do.”

Mallory earned a perfect 4.0 grade-point average in the fall. Upon receiving this news, she looked happy, but puzzled.

“What’s a 4.0?” she asked her mom.



*Mallory's mother, Deborah (left), is an associate professor of math at Roane State. Mallory also has an older sister, Emily, and a younger sister, Haley.; Mallory (above) enjoys class discussions, and grins as one of her classmates talks about a short story.*

## Monica Boles Leads the Way for Women's Basketball

Monica Boles, a Roane State Community College alumna who had served as assistant women's basketball coach since 2004, completed a successful first season as head coach of the Raiderettes.

A 2001 Roane State graduate, Boles played guard at Carson-Newman College, where she graduated in December 2003 with a bachelor's degree in computer science. She has worked at Roane State for five years, serving as a microcomputer specialist/technician in addition to her coaching duties. She now works full-time as the head women's basketball coach.

"I like to play up-tempo and do a lot of pressing and scoring in transition," Boles said of her style. "To me, that's the most fun style to watch and the most fun style to play."



The Raiderettes finished the regular season 20-8, 7-6 and were among the conference leaders in scoring (75.5 points per game).

Boles succeeded Todd Wright, now the head women's basketball coach at Maryville College.

Boles won numerous athletic awards during her Roane State career, including Eastern Division Player of the Year for the Tennessee Junior and Community College Athletic Association. She was an honorable mention All-American for the National Junior College Athletic Association. In her senior year at Carson-Newman, Boles was among the top 10 in the South Atlantic Conference in scoring, assists and free-throw percentage.

Boles was also outstanding in the classroom. She was a member of the South Atlantic Conference Academic All-District Team and a finalist for the conference's Scholar Athlete of the Year award.

She has served as director of the Raiderette Basketball Camp and high school team camp.

As assistant coach, she conducted individual workouts, assisted with practice, recruited prospects, scouted opposing teams, analyzed game film, and developed training programs for players.

Boles and her husband, Rick, live in Clarkrange.

The daughter of Harold and Diane Stephens and the late Jerry Ashburn, Boles played basketball at Clarkrange High School.

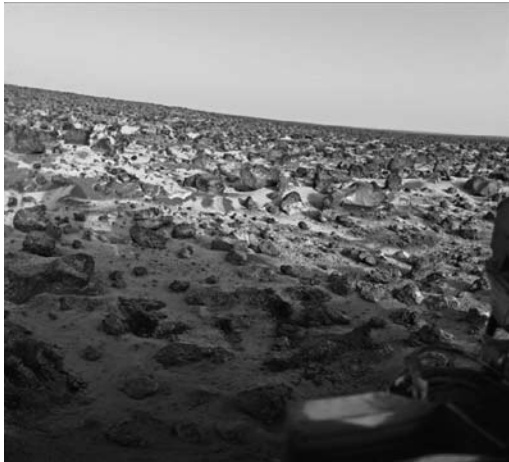
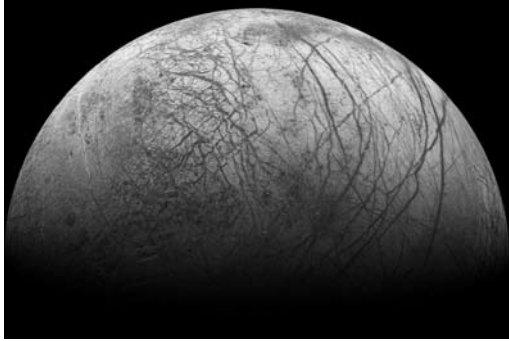




## Ted Stryk is Roane State's Philosopher-Astronomer

As Ted Stryk explains, "I think I have the problem of having too many interests."

That's how a Roane State faculty member educated in religion, English and philosophy developed a lifelong passion for astronomy that led to his hobby of using data from space missions to produce spectacular images.



*Top photo: Jupiter's moon Europa, made from images taken by the Galileo spacecraft in 1998.*

*Bottom photo: Frost on the surface of Mars in an image taken from the Viking II lander in May 1979.*

Stryk, assistant professor of English and philosophy, is renowned for his work in astronomy. Not long ago, the European Space Agency's Web site featured an image processed by Stryk.

He used data from the Visual Monitoring Camera (VMC) on the Mars Express orbiter to create a striking image of Mars. The European Space Agency posted the image on its Web site during December.

"My goal was to extract as much data as I could from several images taken around the same time in order to create a cleaner, more visually accurate rendering of what the VMC saw," Stryk said.

The Mars Express orbiter was launched a few years ago by the European Space Agency, an 18-country organization whose mission is to "shape the development of Europe's space capability."

Using processing techniques, Stryk takes data from space missions and renders modern-looking digital images. The Planetary Society and the Lunar and Planetary Institute have published his work.

Stryk's fascination with astronomy began when he was a child.

"When I was in fourth grade, I saw a garish picture of Saturn in my science book," he said. "I was surprised that anything could look like that and, sure enough, the image was in false color. Still, I wondered what it really looked like. I had a telescope that my parents gave me for my birthday, and I spent two hours hunting down Saturn in order to see what it really looked like. I still enjoy getting the telescope out to this day."

As a boy, Stryk accompanied his mother to East Tennessee State University while she took classes for her master's degree. Stryk set up camp in the library and pored over old NASA documents containing data from American and Soviet missions.

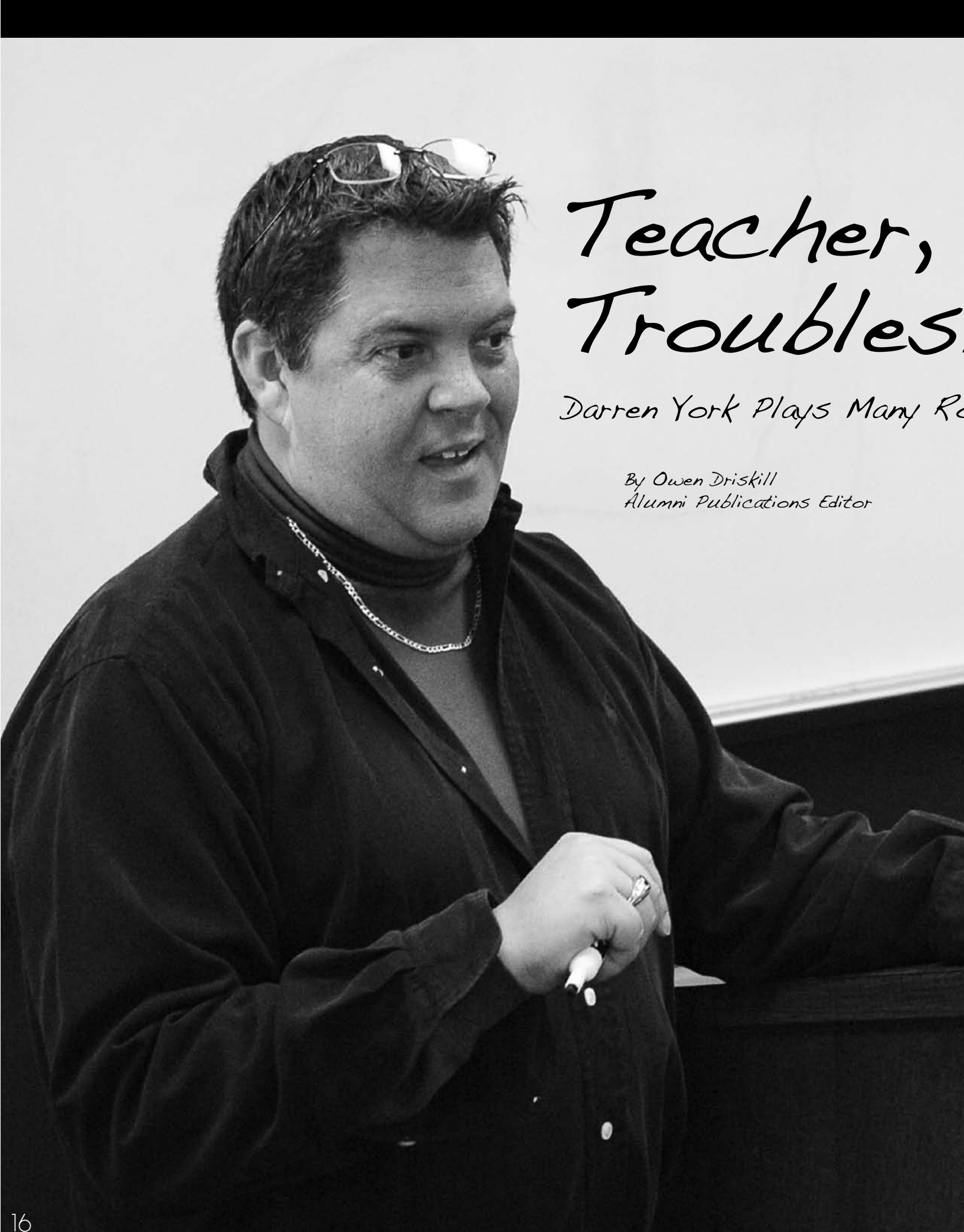
"Over the years, I have developed a passion for restoring the images from past planetary missions," Stryk said.

Stryk has a bachelor's degree in religion and philosophy from Carson-Newman College, a master's degree in philosophy from the University of Tennessee, and a master's in English from Northern Arizona University.

As for having too many interests, Stryk said with a smile, "Maybe that's why I chose philosophy."

## Up Close





# Teacher, Troubles

*Darren York Plays Many Roles*

*By Owen Driskill  
Alumni Publications Editor*

hooter  
es at Roane State



A student in one of Darren York's classes said

York "can conjure up real-world scenarios for almost any concept he's teaching."

In one, 80-minute psychology class about drugs and their addictive properties, York referenced African tribes who dip arrows in nicotine to kill small animals; his experience visiting AIDS patients in San Diego; and his scientific research into the effects of amphetamines.

York's eclectic classroom references are reflections of an eclectic person who plays many roles at Roane State. He's a teacher, troubleshooter, basketball scorekeeper and, perhaps most importantly, a passionate believer in Roane State. *(continued)*

*Large photo: Darren York often tells people that "teaching" is his treat for the day. "It's when I really feel like I'm doing what I was meant to do."  
Inset photo: York receiving his diploma from Roane State in 1988 from one of his mentors, Dr. Cuyler Dunbar.*



(continued)

"Roane State is home," said York, a Kingston native whose father, Kinch, was a longtime Roane State staff member. "I sat in the same chairs my students are sitting in. I come from the same towns they come from. Roane State, Tennessee Tech and Austin Peay gave me a very good education. Roane State gave me the best education."

York is the college's coordinator of instructional technology. Students take online classes through a Web portal called Momentum. When someone needs help with Momentum and calls for assistance, York is the person who answers.

York estimates that each day, he helps 30-40 faculty and staff and 10-20 students. He checks his e-mail late at night before he goes to bed and first thing in the morning, in case someone needs him.

"In a weird way, it's teaching," York said. "I teach people what the system is and how to use it."

The phone rings. A secretary tells York that a student needs help.

"Tell her she knows me, and she can call me anytime," says York, who has taught the student and knows her father.

York said he never gets tired of the phone calls. He's just as cheerful when dealing with question 60 of the day as he is with question one.

"Even though it's my 60th call, for that person, it's the first phone call," York said. "I may be the only person they know to ask for help. People come first."

York graduated from Roane County High School in 1986 and from Roane State in 1988. He said his people-first philosophy was heavily influenced by former Roane State President Dr. Cuyler Dunbar.

"I admired him," York said of Dunbar. "He is a fascinating man."

York received a bachelor's degree in English from Tennessee Tech in 1990 and earned a master's degree in psychology from Austin Peay State University.

York has more than 15 years of experience in higher education teaching and administration. In addition to his full-time duties as coordinator of instructional technology, York usually teaches three classes a semester.

"That's my first love," York said. "If I ever had to give up teaching, I'd never be happy."



Tyler Gregory, a sophomore from Kingston, said York "does a great job communicating with students."

"He gets the important ideas across while keeping the

class lively," Gregory said. "I never walk away from a lecture feeling like I didn't learn what he was trying to teach me."

York also serves as a scorekeeper for basketball games. With all of his roles at the college, you could say York is, kind of, a Roane State superhero.

Maybe that's going too far, but no description of York would be complete without mentioning that his office is painted electric blue and features cutouts, posters, and pictures of comic book legends (Batman, Superman, Wolverine, etc.).

"I would aspire to be like Batman, but I'm a whole lot more like Robin," York said. "Ordinary people can do extraordinary things. Batman doesn't have superpowers, just his smarts."

*Top to bottom (clockwise): Students pay close attention when York lectures.; When he's not in class, York works in his "secret superhero base" otherwise known as his office, where he helps students, staff and faculty with Momentum, the Web course management system.; Darren cares for his students outside of the classroom as well as in it.*

# Sign up your children for one of our fun summer camps!



## Roane County Campus

Cartoon Craze  
Creatures Great and Small  
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation  
Flash Animation & Web Design  
Greenhouse Gardeners  
Horsemanship (I & II)  
Pack Your Suitcase! Explore Our World  
Ready! Set! Sail! Reading Camp  
Science Detectives-Super Sleuths  
Shall We Dance?  
Shutterbugs  
The 'Art' of Lego  
Totally Awesome Science  
Young Musicians

## Oak Ridge Campus

Cartoon Craze  
Creatures Great and Small  
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation  
Flash Animation & Web Design  
Greenhouse Gardeners  
Dance! Dance! Dance!  
Pack Your Suitcase! Explore Our World  
Ready! Set! Sail! Reading Camp  
Science Detectives-Super Sleuths  
The 'Art' of Lego  
Young Musicians

## Campbell County Campus

Adventures in Art  
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation  
The 'Art' of Lego

## Cumberland County Campus

Adult Beginning Computer  
Adventures in Art  
Fundamentals of Web Design  
ESL for Kids  
Photoshop Essentials

## Loudon County Campus

Creatures Great and Small  
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation  
Dance! Dance! Dance!  
Pack Your Suitcase! Explore Our World  
Science Detectives-Super Sleuths  
The 'Art' of Lego  
Young Musicians

## Morgan County Campus

Adventures in Art  
Creatures Great and Small  
Kids Culinary Camp  
Let's Dance!  
Pack Your Suitcase! Explore Our World  
Young Musicians

## Scott County Campus

Adventures in Art  
Creatures Great and Small  
CSI: Crime Scene Investigation  
Fundamentals of Web Design  
Junior Lawyers  
Lego Camp  
Kids Culinary Camp  
Performing Arts Camp  
Spanish for Ninōs  
Totally Awesome Science  
Young Musicians

# Summer Camps



For complete camp descriptions and the latest camp information, please visit [www.roanestate.edu/summercamps](http://www.roanestate.edu/summercamps) or call (865) 882-4509.

# News Notes

from the headlines



The **EnergySolutions Foundation** has agreed to contribute \$100,000 for expanding the Oak Ridge Campus, and **Oak Ridge Associated Universities** has contributed \$25,000. Fundraising efforts continue. The expansion will add about 75,000 square feet to the campus, including a new, 53,000-square-foot building.



Roane State received a \$265,000 grant from **United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development**, one of only 105 grants awarded nationwide. The college received the grant in partnership with Alvin C. York Institute, Oneida Special School District, Scott County Schools, Fentress County Schools and Campbell County Schools. The grant will help Roane State expand its ability to deliver courses through interactive classrooms, a critical tool for providing distance education.



Roane State is hosting **international students** again this year. Their countries of origin include China, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Japan, South Korea and Egypt. The students have become involved in numerous college and community activities, and many of them made the fall semester Dean's List.



The Roane County Campus hosted the annual **Teachers' Supply Closet**—open to all K-12 Roane County teachers. The project, spearheaded by the Roane County Chamber of Commerce and Roane State, is an effort by area businesses and concerned individuals to help Roane County teachers acquire necessary supplies and equipment for their classrooms. Instructors “shop” for an array of free items to round out their classroom needs.





New stadium seating has been completed at the Henry/Stafford East Tennessee Agricultural Exposition Center. The seats are much more comfortable than the concrete bleachers. Through the **Adopt-a-Seat program**, donors can have one of the new seats dedicated to a friend, loved one, or organization. For more information, call (865) 882-4590.

Three staff members received 2008 Excellence Awards from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD). They are **Rena Adkins**, technical clerk at the Scott County Campus; **Sharon Baird**, director of the Scott County Campus; and **Sarah Thomason**, associate professor of English.

**Dan Foltz-Gray**, associate professor of English, received the 2008 “Outstanding Service to Developmental Education Students” award from the Tennessee Association for Developmental Education. The honor recognizes long-term contributions to developmental education students.

Approximately 200 educators attended the annual **Symposium on Powerful Teaching at the Roane County Campus**. The event served educators from all grade levels and included sessions on topics such as using technology in the classroom, “simple, fun science activities” and “21st century skills for secondary education.”



*Opposite top to bottom: The EnergySolutions Foundation awards its pledge to Roane State.; an interactive classroom at the Cumberland County Campus; international students in their English as a Second Language class; Teachers pick up free supplies at the annual Teachers' Supply Closet.; new stadium seats at the Expo Center. This page top to bottom: Rena Adkins, Sharon Baird, Sarah Thomason; Dan Foltz-Gray; one of the sessions at the Symposium on Powerful Teaching.*

# Alumni

alumni news and  
class notes

## Outstanding Alumni Sought for 2009

Roane State Community College is seeking nominations for the 2009 Outstanding Alumni Award to honor one alumna and alumnus in recognition of outstanding service to their profession, to RSCC and to the community. Nominations can be made by anyone.

To nominate someone for this award, call or e-mail to request a nomination application. The application can also be printed directly from the Web at:

[www.roanestate.edu](http://www.roanestate.edu) keyword: alumni

Deadline for submission of Nomination:

May 30, 2009

Office of Alumni Relations  
Roane State Community College  
276 Patton Lane  
Harriman, TN 37748  
(865) 882-4640  
Email: [alumni@roanestate.edu](mailto:alumni@roanestate.edu)  
[www.roanestate.edu/alumni](http://www.roanestate.edu/alumni)

**We've missed you! Let us know where you have been by filling out the coupon below and sending it to:**

**Alumni Relations  
Roane State Community College  
276 Patton Lane  
Harriman, TN 37748-5011  
e-mail: [alumni@roanestate.edu](mailto:alumni@roanestate.edu)  
[www.roanestate.edu/alumni](http://www.roanestate.edu/alumni)**

## 1993

**Rebecca A. Hamby** (Medical Transcription Certificate) of Deer Lodge, Tenn., is a medical transcriptionist for FutureNet. She and her husband, Dwayne, have two grown children and one grandchild, Abigail Grace (7 months).

## 1995

**Captain William Longworth** (EMT Certificate) of Knoxville, Tenn., is a paramedic and firefighter instructor for Oak Ridge National Laboratory Fire Department. He and his wife, Tamara, have four children: Megan (12), Drew (9), Kensie (7) and Regan (5).

## 2001

**Joseph Spicer** (A.A.S. Police Technology) of Maryville, Tenn., is a police officer for the City of Maryville. He and his wife, Jennifer, have a daughter, Caroline, who is four.

## 2007

**John McKeon, III** (A.S. General) of Monterey, Tenn., works in computer services for Tennessee Technological University. He and his wife, Laura, have two children, John Issac (8) and Ivana Allysse (2).

## In Memoriam

Tajuana Blevins, 1990, Maryville, Tenn.  
Lena T. Santeler, 1987, Peachtree City, Ga.  
Daniel A. Hibbs, 2008, Knoxville, Tenn.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(First)

(Middle Initial or Maiden)

(Last)

RSCC Degree(s) and/or Year(s) Attended/Graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Names/Ages of Children \_\_\_\_\_

Other news (marriages, births, promotions, awards, major accomplishments, retirement, other items of interest). Send photos (digital preferred). \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Activities while attending Roane State (Student Government, Sports, . . .) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Calendar

coming up at your  
community college

## april

- April 14-29 Annual Student Art Show
- April 16 Reception & Awards Ceremony, Annual Student Art Show
- April 16-19, 23-26 "Seussical" the Musical, RSCC Playmakers
- April 18 Roane County 4-H Horse Show
- April 18 East Tennessee Barrel Racers Association
- April 21 TMTA Contest
- April 21 Awards Night
- April 21 Open Ride
- April 24-25 Raider Baseball vs. Volunteer State
- April 24-26 Tennessee Reining Horse Association
- April 28 Open Ride

## may

- May 1-4 TJCAA Tournament at Columbia State (Lady Raiders Softball)
- May 1-6 TJCAA Tournament at Columbia State (Raiders Baseball)
- May 1-3 "Spring Dance Concert," Arts in Motion Dance Studio
- May 1-3 East Tennessee Cutting Horse Association
- May 5 Open Ride
- May 8 & 9 Commencement
- May 8-10 Oak Ridge Kennel Club Agility Trials
- May 9-10 Tennessee Ponies of the Americas
- May 15 & 16 Relay For Life Roane County
- May 15 & 16 Smoky Mountain Walking Horse Association
- May 23 & 24 Oak Ridge Kennel Club, Confirmation Show
- May 28-31 Region III Hillbilly Classic Quarter Horse Show

## june

- June 1 Summer classes begin
- June 4-6 Eastern Region 4-H Horse Show
- June 9-14 Dogwood Classic Quarter Horse Show
- June 19-20 EYRA Youth Rodeo
- June 26-28 Fortune 5 Barrel Show
- June 29-July 3 RSCC Horse Camp

## july

- July 3-5 East Tennessee Cutting Horse Association
- July 6-9 RSCC Horse Camp
- July 10 -11 Tennessee Equine Open Show
- July 15-19 East Coast Reined Cowhorse Classic
- July 21-26 Country Music Circuit Quarter Horse Show
- July 30- Aug 2 East Tennessee Cutting Horse Association

## august

- August 7-8 Tennessee Reining Horse Association
- August 14-16 Volunteer Ranch Horse Association
- August 15 East Tennessee Barrel Racers Association
- August 22 National Barrel Horse Association
- August 22 Equine Trade Show
- August 27 Freshman Experience
- August 28 & 29 JR Drake Championship Rodeo
- August 29 First day of classes

Sign up your children for one of our fun summer camps!

Roane State Community College's "Kids at College" Summer Camp Series, presented by the Office of Community Services, provides children with many fun and educational experiences. Camps include subjects such as dance, science, art and computers.

To register by phone, please call (865) 882-4509. For more information, including camp descriptions, visit [www.roanestate.edu/summercamps](http://www.roanestate.edu/summercamps). Scholarship funds are available for some camps. See page 19 for list!







Roane State basketball player Ken Mink shares a laugh with Conan O'Brien during one of the many stops on Mink's whirlwind media tour this year. Mink's story was featured on national television, radio, and in newspapers across the country and around the world. There's also been some talk of a potential movie deal (no word on who would play Ken). See pages 6–9 for complete story.



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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**