

## Top JMC students honored at spring banquet

Five students who were selected as the best in their respective JMC programs were honored at the annual JMC awards banquet and at the University's Honors Day.

They were Ashley Johns, advertising; David Dycus, electronic media; Jessica Jeffress, journalism; Shannon Davis, public relations; and Rui Qu, graduate program.

Johns served two years as president of Ads Club and three years as presenter in the annual National Student Advertising Competition. She was named to this year's "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities."

She was a Student Ambassador, a member of the women's crew team, a member of the Hart Residential College Honor Society and the coordinating officer for the G-Factor Campaign to retrain students for MSU.

She received a 2008 American Association of Advertising Agencies internship where she worked in media planning with Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment in North Hollywood, Calif.

Johns also worked as a sales representative for *The Chicago Tribune* and a media consultant for ConferencePlus, Inc. in Schaumburg, Ill. She was named a Most Promising Minority Student for 2009 by the American Advertising Federation.

Dycus used his video skills in his minor of theatre, with productions on MSU TV-11 and with *The Murray State News'* web site. He was responsible for filming and editing video content for the site.

He worked with the MSU Student Recreation and Wellness Center and with Biokinetics Family Fitness in Calvert City.

Jeffress, who had a minor in business administration, was the designer and editor in chief of the *Shield* yearbook. The 2008 edition was named a Pacemaker Finalist (top 15 yearbooks in the country) by the Associated Collegiate Press.

She also worked as a writer/photographer in the university public relations office and had an internship with *FLW Outdoors Magazine*.

Her other work experience included editorial assistant with the New Caledonian Press, a writer/editor for *Murray Life Magazine* and a designer for K-Squared Designs.

Davis, a transfer from the University of Kentucky, had a double major in public relations and Spanish.

She was an officer in Public Relations Student Society of America and editor of the MSU chapter newsletter. She was also the chapter publicity director for the "Bands n' BBQ Blowout."

Davis worked in the MSU Public Rela-



Photo by Orville Herndon

**Dr. Bob Lochte recognized JMC's five top students at the department's spring banquet. This year's top students are from left, Rui Qu, Ashley Johns, Shannon Davis, Lochte, Jessica Jeffress and David Dycus.**

tions Department as a writer/designer and did publicity for the Student Government Association.

Last summer she was the public relations and marketing intern for Baptist Hospital East in Louisville.

Qu, known to the JMC faculty and staff as "Ray Chew," had a perfect 4.0 grade-point average in her master's program.

She received her undergraduate degree

in Literature with Teaching Chinese as Foreign Language from the Beijing Language and Culture University.

She worked as an editor for English learning books for the Beijing New Channel International Education Group and as an advertising sales assistant for the *City Weekend* magazine.

Qu plans to earn her doctorate and return to China to be a professor.



Photo by Riza Marjadi

**Bob Valentine, left, was recognized by Alan Stout, chair of the Murray State Board of Regents and JMC alumnus, during the Faculty Recognition Banquet. Valentine was the College of Business and Public Affairs' recipient of the Regents Award for Excellence in Teaching.**

## Valentine recognized for teaching excellence

Robert Valentine, senior lecturer in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, has been named the recipient of the 2009 Regents Teaching Award for the College of Business and Public Affairs.

Valentine, a member of the faculty since 1974, teaches in advertising and is the instructor for the beginning course (JMC 168) for all majors in the department. He has taught in theatre and served as guest director for the MSU Theatre.

He began his teaching career at the University of Kentucky, where he earned his undergraduate degree in history and his master's in communications. He then served as lecturer in communications before coming to MSU to teach speech courses and serve as the

director of forensics.

His debate team won the national title in 1982 and captured many event trophies during his years as the debate coach.

He left teaching for several years to start several companies, including Theatre Arts Enterprises, Medical Claims Services and Prologue, LLC.

The owner/publisher of *Murray Life Magazine*, he serves as senior editor for the Wake Up Book Series. He also has served as acting director of the Community Theatre in Murray.

He is known for his portrayal of the Unknown Scout, Thomas Edison, Mark Twain and most recently, Nathan B. Stubblefield. He also performs at Scottish games throughout the U.S. and has a CD

of Scottish stories, "I'll Take the Low Road."

Valentine returned to full-time teaching in 1999 with a split load between JMC and Theatre. In 2001 he became co-head of Elizabeth Residential College with Bob McGaughey and served as the head from 2003-2007. As college head, he set up and taught many sessions in the residence hall and he and McGaughey taught the first for-credit course in the residential college.

He has taught for many years in the annual JMC High School Journalism and Broadcasting Workshop.

He has had more than 100 pre-

# Eleven chosen for “Who’s Who”

Eleven of the 53 seniors selected for the 2008-09 “Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities” were majors in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications.

They were Cynthia Blalock, Natalie Cunningham, Katie Graves, Jessica Jeffress, Ashley Johns, Megan Locke, Kara Mantooth, Elizabeth Oldenburg, Teresa Ray, Kellyn Robison and Emily Wuchner.

**Blalock** was an honors student with a major in advertising and a minor in marketing. She was a senator in the Student Government Association, an officer in Alpha Omicron Pi sorority, and a member of the Public Relations Student Society of America and the American Advertising Federation.

She was a member of Phi Eta Sigma, Alpha Lambda Delta and Sigma Alpha Lambda honor societies. The campus life editor and business manager for the *Shield* yearbook, she had internships with The Paducah Bank and Viacom/MTV Networks in marketing/promotions.

A major in public relations with minors in theatre and youth and non-profit leadership, **Cunningham** was involved in public relations and theatre on campus.

She was a member of Public Relations Student Society of America and executive director of the organization’s student-run firm, Racer Communications Group. She had internships in Provence, France; with a publishing company in Murray and with the MSU Office of Non-Credit and Youth Programs.

She appeared in several major theatrical productions, including “Godspell,” “Tooth and Nail,” “Star Spangled Salute,” “Tartuffe” and “Dracula.” She

was also a member of the Voices of Praise Gospel Choir.

**Graves**, an honor student with a 3.9 GPA, was a public relations major with a minor in English. She was an officer in Alpha Omicron Pi

sorority, president of the largest Racer Marching Band in MSU’s history and a member of the Student Ambassadors.

She was selected to Omicron Delta Kappa, Gamma Sigma Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Chi, Alpha Lambda Delta and Alpha Mu Gamma honor societies. She was the Outstanding English Student for 2007, 2008.

She studied in the summer abroad program in Japan and published articles in the Modern Languages Department newsletter.

**Jeffress**, a print journalism major with a business administration minor, was the designer and the editor in chief of the *Shield* yearbook which was an Associated Collegiate Press Pacemaker Finalist (top 15 yearbooks in the country) in 2008.

She worked as a writer/photographer in the university public relations office during her college career and had an internship with *FLW Outdoors* Magazine.

Her other work experience included editorial assistant with the *New Caledonian Press*, a writer/editor for *Murray Life* Magazine and a designer for K-Squared Designs.

A major in advertising with a minor in marketing, **Johns** was very active with the Ads Club, serving two years as president and three years as a presenter in the annual National Student Advertising Competition.

She was a Student Ambassador, a member of the women’s crew team, a member of the

Hart Residential Honor Society and the coordinating officer for the G-Factor Campaign to recruit and retain students for MSU.

She received a 2008 American Association of Advertising Agencies internship where she worked in media planning with Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment in North Hollywood, Calif.

Johns also worked as a sales representative for *The Chicago Tribune* and a media consultant for ConferencePlus, Inc. in Schaumburg, Ill. She was named a Most Promising Minority Student for 2009 by the American Advertising Federation.

**Locke** was a print journalism major with a minor in English. She was a writer for *The Murray State News* and for *The Shield* yearbook.

She was a sports/news intern with the *Dawson Springs Progress* as the recipient of the Kentucky Press Association internship.

She was an officer in Alpha Delta Chi Christian social sorority and vice president of the College Democrats. She was a member of Murray Christian Fellowship, Gamma Beta Phi honor society and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

**Mantooth**, a public relations major with a minor in Youth and Non-Profit Leadership, was president of the Student Government Association and the student representative to the MSU Board of Regents.



**Johns**



**Graves**



**Blalock**



**Jeffress**



**Locke**



**Cunningham**



**Mantooth**

She was an officer in her sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi, and secretary of the American Humanities Student Association. She was a member of the Kentucky Board of Student Body Presidents, the Kentucky Governor’s Student Advisory committee, SHOUT America, the I-Racers Sports Marketing Group and the Murray State-Paducah Task Force.

She was in the Order of Omega and White College Honor Society. She had a summer internship as team leader in the Quantum Learning Network Super Camps in Winston Salem, N.C.; Seattle, Wash.; and Houston, Texas.

**Oldenburg** had a major in advertising with a minor in marketing. She was the vice president of the Ads Club and worked on the national student advertising competition.

She was an officer in her sorority, Sigma Sigma Sigma, and a member of the Marketing Club and Gamma Sigma Alpha.

She was an intern during the past summer with General Electric in Louisville.

A non-traditional student, **Ray** was a print journalism major with a minor in creative writing. Prior to coming back to complete her bachelor’s degree, she had owned a barber shop, been officer manager for a law firm and been a department manager for Home Depot.

Working in oral history, she received several grants to do research. Her main project was “Paradise Friendly Home Revisited: a Qualitative Alumni Study of Paradise Friendly Home, a Western Kentucky Orphanage.”

She was published in *Notations* and was a McNair Scholar. She was an invited speaker on “Greek letters, Symbols, and Meanings” to several state and regional meetings.



**Oldenburg**



**Ray**

She was a member of Kappa Tau Alpha, Alpha Chi, Alpha Sigma Lambda, Phi Eta Sigma and Alpha Gamma Beta honor societies.

A four-year scholarship member of the MSU soccer team, **Robison** had a major in public relations with a minor in marketing.

With 3.85 GPA she was on the OVC Academic Honor Roll for three years, was part of the women’s soccer team that had the highest GPA in the nation in 2007 and was a member of Phi Eta Sigma honor society.

She worked in the Sports Marketing Department in promotions and had an internship in marketing/promotions with Provident Music Group in Nashville.

An accomplished singer, she performed in Campus Lights productions of “Bye Bye Birdie” and “Fame.”

**Wuchner** was a double major in print journalism and music. She served as a writer, assistant news editor, news editor and chief copy editor for *The Murray State News*.

She worked as a student assistant to the vice president of student affairs and as secretary for the Hart College Council.

She interned with the Evansville Otters Baseball Club in promotions and as a staff writer for *The Paducah Sun*.

She was a first-year leader, a member of Omicron Delta Kappa and a music theory tutor.

She was a member of the Wind Ensemble, the Orchestra, the Symphonic and Concert Bands, the Woodwind Quintet, the Paducah Symphony and the Evansville Symphonic Band.

The Department of Journalism and Mass Communications has had more than 20 percent of the Murray State “Who’s Who” selections for the past 20 years.



**Robison**



**Wuchner**

# ALUMNI NOTES

## 1965

**Dr. Robert H. McGaughey III** (65, 69) is former chairman and a retired professor in the JMC department.

## 1969

**Gerald Lush** (69) is editor and publisher of the *Hardin Co. Independent* in Elizabethtown.

## 1970

**Ron Clark** (70) is the city editor at the *Paducah Sun*.

## 1971

**Dr. Darryl Armstrong** (71) is owner/senior principal at Armstrong and Associates in Eddyville.

**Bill Bartleman** (71) is a reporter/columnist at *The Paducah Sun* in Paducah.

## 1973

**Ray Bowman** (73) was recently named an elder at the Holly Hill Church of Christ in Frankfort.

**Judith Buchanan Mahaffey** (73) is a teacher at Fairport Central Schools in Fairport, N.Y.

## 1974

**Stan McKinney** (74, 87) is an assistant professor of journalism at Campbellsville University and has written his third textbook, *Beginning Photojournalism*.

**Dr. Danny Roberts** (74, 76) has filed for a 4th patent regarding the creation of a 100 percent natural material to replace plastic. He is assistant vice president of public service and activities at Clemson University.

**David Thomas** (74) is a sports writer for the *Jackson* (Tenn.) *Sun*.

**Joe Walker** (74) is a staff writer at the *Paducah Sun*.

## 1975

**Russell Barker** (75) is the pre-press manager at Audubon Printers in Henderson.

## 1976

**Cathy Crecelius** (76) is director of promotion/public affairs at WPSD-TV in Paducah.

**Janet Lomax-Smith** (76) is a news anchor at WHEC-TV Channel 10, the NBC affiliate in Rochester, N.Y.

## 1977

**Donald Belisle** (77) is manager of HR Communications at Aflac in Columbus, Ga.

**Berry Craig** (77 MS) is author of *True Tales of Old-Time Kentucky Politics: Bombast, Bourbon and Burgoo* and is a professor of history at West Kentucky Community and Technical College in Paducah.

**Dr. Ann Landini** (77) is an associate professor in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications at Murray State and is faculty head of Hart College.

**Marsha Duncan Routon** (77) is a reading and math instructor at the Henry Co. Board of Education in Henry, Tenn.

**Bill Salmon** (77) is minister of music at Parkway Baptist Church in Goodlettsville, Tenn.

**Lucindia Davis Shouse** (77) is assistant director of research integrity at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

**Jake Spencer** (77) is general manager at New England Blade in Boston.

## 1978

**Donna Ruth Simmons Hickman** (78) is the executive director for the United Way of St. Francois County, Mo.

**Babette Morgan** (78) is features editor for the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*.

**Debbie Brandon Mustian** (78) is a childrens' writer for *L'Observateur* in La Place, La.

**Pat Slattery** (78) is broadcast and technical production manager in public affairs at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.

## 1979

**Ronald Beaton** (79) is a certified financial planner at Ron Beaton's Money Matters in Paducah.

**Julie Butler Brazell** (79) works for the United States' Commerce Department in Paducah.

**Jim Carter** (79, 86) is the vice president for institutional advancement at Murray State.

**Janice Smallwood Johnson** (79) is director in international student services at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

**Cindy Nussbaum McDermott** (79) is internal communications manager at Alcoa (Aluminum Co. of America) in Bettendorf, Iowa.

**Sheila Rue** (79) owns a public radio consulting company, SR Sound Programming, in Altadena, Calif.

**Matt Sanders** (79) is a copy editor at the *Paducah Sun*.

**Mark Underwood** (79) is the ITV coordinator at Murray State.

## 1980

**Mary Brannon** (80) owns Mar-Brann Consulting and is a substitute teacher at Metropolis High School in Metropolis, Ill.

## 1981

**Tab Brockman** (81) is director of sales & marketing for TapLogic LLC.

**Kevin Finch** (81) is the news director of WISH-TV in Indianapolis.

**Bo Roberts** (81) is a videographer and editor at Horsecity.com in Augusta, GA. He is the producer of the "Extreme Cowboy Race" which airs on RFD TV.

**David Wills** (81) is an adjunct professor in geoscience at John Tyler Community College in Richmond, Va.

## 1982

**Michael Fraser** (82) is senior vice president of group sales & international at Safety-Kleen Systems Inc in Plano, Texas.

**Cheryl Robertson Lawson** (82) is public relations director for the McCracken County Schools in Paducah.

**David Shuffett** (82) is host/producer for KET's "Kentucky Life" in Frankfort.

## 1983

**Debra Roessler Beaty** (83) is a real estate appraiser at Broom Moody Johnson & Grainger Real Estate in Orange Park, Fla.

**Timothy Bland** (83) is a copy editor for the *San Francisco Examiner* in California.

**Dr. Jamie Doerge Byrne** (83, MS 85) has been promoted to full professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where she is the Director of the School of Mass Communication.

**John Hart** (83) is an instructor in the telecommunications systems management program at Murray State.

**Michael Horning** (83) is vice president of sales for Premier Retail Networks.

## 1984

**Lori Barrett** (84) is assignment editor at WPSD-TV in Paducah.

**Julia Brown** (84) is a senior technical information specialist at PG & E Corp in San Francisco, Calif.

**Kathryn Doan** (84) is a political officer at the American Embassy in Helsinki, Finland.

**Teresa Englert Lane** (84) is marketing coordinator for Parsons Brinckerhoff in Port Saint Lucie, Fla.

**Susan M Langhi** (84) is a probation officer for the Metro Juvenile Court in Nashville, Tenn.

## 1985

**Lillian White Behlmann** (85) is a homemaker in Chesterfield, Mo.

**Susan Edwards Brubaker** (85) is executive producer for "News in the Morning" at KTVI-Fox 2 in St. Louis.

**Craig Eichelman** (85) is state director for AARP in Kansas City, Mo.

**Tim Tucker** (85) is a copy editor at the *Paducah Sun*.

## 1986

**Patsy Crawford Carruthers** (86) is senior program manager in instructional technology for the University of Kentucky.

**Kevin Cunningham** (86) was recently promoted to sleep lab coordinator for the Northside Hospital-Cherokee Sleep Disorder Center. He is a registered respiratory therapist.

**Roger Dunaway** (86) is assistant chief photographer at WAVE 3 TV in Louisville.

**Chris Evans** (86) is the publisher of the *Crittenden Press* in Marion.

**Cheryl Kaelin Frey** (86) is an HR communications analyst/editor for State Farm Insurance Companies in Bloomington, Ill.

**Debbie Moore Hall** (86) works for Siemens.

**Lonnie Harp** (86) is a freelance worker.

**Patti Jones** (86) is associate director of alumni affairs at Murray State.

**Jeff Prater** (86) is manager of Tanager Productions, LLC.

**Martha Theobald** (86) works in the advertising department at the *Paducah Sun*.

**Douglas Tutt** (86) is TV producer/director at Tutt Inc. in Nashville, Tenn.

## 1987

**Terry Crutcher** (87) is executive director of the Stewart County Chamber of Commerce in Dover, Tenn.

**Kent Henry** (87) is a pultrusion operator at Pella in Murray.

**Janet Freeman James** (87) works in human resources at the Crittenden County Hospital.

**Jane Greenwell Lindsay** (87) works at the *Courier Journal* in Louisville.

**Alison Marshall** (87) is executive director of enrollment management at Murray State.

**Angela Hazel Steely** (87,89) is a distribution clerk for the United States Postal Service in Joelton, Tenn.

**Terry Varney** (87) is a consultant in Louisville.

**Dave Winder** (87) is the assistant director for media relations at Murray State.

## 1988

**Scott Binzer** (88) is an account manager for Gannett Co. Inc. in Crestwood.

**Robert Caldwell** (88) is a website consultant.

**David Cunningham** (88) works in quality system basics at Dana Corporation in Hopkinsville.

**John Moore** (88, 92) is an independent construction safety contractor.

**Mandy Murphey-Brown** (88) is an anchor at KTVI - FOX TV 2 in St. Louis.

**Lisa Chappell Stroup** (88) works at Schroeder Publishing in Paducah.

**Richard Todd** (88) is a social studies teacher at Murray (Ky.) Middle School.

**Suzanne Yoder** (88) is the associate director of community relations for the NCAA.

The *JMC Journal* is an official publication of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, Murray State University, produced in support of Murray State journalism and mass

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Opinions expressed in the

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Publisher . . . . . Dr. Bob Lochte

Writer . . . Dr. Robert H. McGaughey

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. . . . . Orville Herndon

# ALUMNI NOTES

## 1989

**Darryl Anderson** (89) is director of operations for the state and local government solutions with Affiliated Computer Services Inc. in Memphis, Tenn.

**Jeffrey Burdge** (89) is cardiovascular business manager at NitroMed Pharmaceuticals.

**Bryan Donnelly** (89) works for Agency Rent-A-Car.

**Rodney Freed** (89, 91) is faculty advisor/instructor to the radio station at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

**Beth Volsted Hancock** (89) is retail manager at Banana Republic in Louisville.

**Dr. Cynthia Bond Hopson** (89) is assistant general secretary/Black Coll Fund/ethnic concerns for the United Methodist Church general board in Nashville, Tenn.

**Lisa Kell** (89) is a building services technician at Murray State.

**Sherrie Shaw Murray** (89) is a workers compensation analyst at Parker Hannifin Corp. in Cleveland, Ohio.

**Kevin Patton** (89) is a sports writer for *The Gleaner* in Henderson.

**Todd Ross** (89) is an English teacher at Trigg Co High School in Cadiz.

**Cathy Sweeney** (89) is sales strategy manager at Quaker-Tropicana-Gatorade (QTG) in Chicago.

## 1990

**Kelly Austin Claycomb** (90) is the national and key accounts manager for the *Evansville Courier and Press*.

**Mitchell Dupree** (90) is a computer engineer at Warrior Coal Corp. in Madisonville.

**Karen Lutz** (90) owns Skaggs Appraisal Services, Silvertrax in Madisonville.

**Michelle McKirchy** (90) works at Sun Publishing in Paducah.

**David Rogers** (90) is the information systems training manager for Illumina in San Diego.

**Kathy Snell Thomas** (90) is customer service manager at UniFirst Corp.

## 1991

**Cyrus Afzali** (91) owns Astoria Communications in Sloatsburg, N.Y.

**Sarah Blankenship** (91) is vice president of human resources at A C Humko Food Companies Inc. in Cordova Tenn.

**Melanie Ellingsworth** (91) is communications manager at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah.

**Andrea Gaddie-Bullock** (91) is a professional provider representative at Highmark BCBS in Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Sharon Jankowski Gallmeister** (91) is a flight attendant for United Airlines.

**Jennifer Lashlee Hale** (91) is an administrative assistant for the West Kentucky Education Co-op in Murray.

**Joe Hedges** (91) is a lecturer for the JMC department and adviser for *The Murray State News*.

**Kelly Owen Makes** (91) is co-creator of Mindpower Inc. in Atlanta.

**Deanne Dick Neel** (91) is learning technology coordinator at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah.

**Keyla G Martin Quire** (91) is a homemaker in Louisville.

**Michael Robinson** (91) is human resources manager at Lithonia Lighting in Conyers, Ga.

**Lisa Farris Satterwhite** (91) is the sales and marketing specialist for the Murray-Calloway County Chamber of Commerce.

**Steve Schwetman** (91) is a morning show co-host at WKYQ-FM in Paducah.

**Robert Thomas** (91) works for the Kevil Foundation in Mayfield.

**John Wright** (91) is a photographer for the *Paducah Sun*.

## 1992

**Bryan Adams** (92) is a business development manager at Robotcoupe.

**Deana Olson Brady** (92) is pursuing a bachelor of science degree in nursing. She lives in St. Louis.

**Lisha Brumbaugh Coffey** (92) is a energy delivery director at Alliant Energy in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

**Deborah Gamblin Domke** (92) is vice president of branch operations at New Horizons Credit Union in Theodore, Ala.

**Jon Futrell** (92) is a sports writer at the *Paducah Sun*.

**Ronda Dalton Gibson** (92) is director of promotion/development for WKMS-FM at Murray State.

**Alaina McCoy McCadd** (92) is a claims adjuster for State Farms Insurance in Chicago.

## 1993

**Ken Ashlock** (93) is assistant director for administrative services in residence life/housing at Murray State.

**Gregory Bennett** (93) is the workforce manager at Charter Communications in Simpsonville, S.C.

**David Bryant** (93) is vice-president of sales and marketing at Quanex Building Products.

**Erin Smith Colbaugh** (93) is the events coordinator for the city of Hoover, Ala.

**Sean Finnegan** (93) is president and chief digital officer for the global media network at Starcom MediaVest in Chicago.

**Stephanie Shelton Fisk** (93) is a math teacher for the Hickman Co. Board of Education in Fulton.

**Jamie Futrell** (93) is general sales manager at Bristol Broadcasting in Paducah.

**Kristie Helms** (93) is assistant vice president at State Street in Boston.

**Stephanie Lush Jeffers** (93) is a 7th grade language arts teacher at Noe Middle School.

**James Lockwood** (93) is deputy communications director for Saint Paul, Minn., mayor Chris Coleman.

**Trish Cash Milburn** (93) is a novelist.

**Amy Gordon Moore** (93) has released her first children's book *Bunny Strings* about learning to tie shoes.

**Patrick Rockey** (93) is the news anchor and meteorologist for "NewsChannel 3 This Morning" and the Emmy Award-winning "NewsChannel 3 at Noon" in Norfolk, Va.

**John Taylor** (93) is a project scheduler for Sikorsky Aircraft.

**Michele Carlton Vowell** (93) is managing editor for the *Fort Campbell Courier* in Oak Grove.

**Leigh Landini Wright** (93) is a senior staff writer at the *Paducah Sun*.

## 1994

**Robin Brown** (94) is a primary teacher at Murray Elementary School in Murray.

**Rey Craig** (94) is enrolled in pharmacy technician studies at Sullivan University and is in the Army Reserve.

**Shannon Wilkins Johnson** (94) works in retail sales management at The Children's Place.

**Catherine Frazier Sivills** (94) is assistant vice president for institutional advancement at Murray State.

**Greg Teffertiller** (94) is owner/president of Opaque Marketing in Grayson, Ga.

**Tara Hart Wallace** (94) is a stay-at-home mom in Sugar Land, Texas.

## 1995

**Retno Intani** (95) is on the board of governors at TVRI (Television of the Republic of Indonesia) in Jakarta.

**Angie Kinsey** (95) is a staff writer at the *Paducah Sun*.

**Sherry Purdom** (95) is the public information officer for the Murray, Ky., Independent School District.

**Michael Wells** (95) is a reporter for *The Star-News* in McCall, Idaho. He recently published the book *I Shot Bigfoot & Other Stories*.

## 1996

**Michelle Stinnett Clark** (96) is an account executive for Intrepid Home Health in Murray.

**Rebecca Sullivan Sawyer** (96) is assistant dean of students at George Washington University in Washington.

**Kristen Straub Wilson** (96) is account supervisor at Power Creative in Louisville.

**Ben Wright** (96) is assistant manager at Town & Country Motorsports in Murray.

## 1997

**Kasey Rice Beckham** (97) is associate vice president for Kentucky for the American Cancer Society.

**Slone Hutchison Cansler** (97, 00) is sales manager of the *Fort Campbell Courier*.

**Molly Cochran** (97, 99) is the alumni relations assistant director at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

**Robert Goebel** (97) is in Hannah Sales at GlaxoSmithKline in Owensboro.

**Valerie Kotys** (97) is a sports marketing manager at Anheuser-Busch in St. Louis.

**Mike Ohstrom** (97) is a middle school program assistant at Pike County Schools in Petersburg, Ind.

**D'Anna Browning Sallin** (97) is a business development specialist at Ingersoll-Rand Co. in Mayfield.

**Nathan Sheets** (97) is a distributor account executive at Neogen Corporation in Lexington.

**Danny Vowell** (97, 04) is the chief photographer for the *Kentucky New Era* in Hopkinsville.

**Joshua Waggoner** (97) is a development officer at the University of Mississippi.

**Stefanie Williams** (97) is marketing manager for the Nashville DMA at Charter Media in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

## 1998

**Douglas Baggett** (98) works in the camping department at Gander Mountain in Paducah.

**Jason Barnett** (98) is art director at Interactive Media Lab.

**Jake Burgess** (98) is a paralegal for Whitfield & Cox PSC in Madisonville.

**Mandy Wolf Detwiler** (98) is managing editor of *Pizza Today* in Louisville.

**Eric Mathies** (98) is an assistant football coach at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.

**Jeremy McKeel** (98, 02) is production director for TV-11 studios and an instructor in the television production major at Murray State.

**Stephanie Schneider** (98) is a special education teaching assistant for the Jefferson Co. Board of Education in Louisville.

**Angelle Schroader** (98, 99) is a sales representative with Shire Pharmaceuticals in Bowling Green.

**Tracy Tubbs** (98) is a marketing consultant for Bristol Broadcasting, WKYQ and Electric 96.9 in Paducah.

**Angela Wilson-Krahel** (98, 99) works in guest relations for Columbia Sussex, Sheraton, in Hebron.

## 1999

**Tory Holton Daugherty** (99) is director of marketing & public relations at Henry County Medical Center in Paris, Tenn.

**Jenny Wommack Druschke** (99) is senior communications director at WLKY-TV News 32 (CBS affiliate) in Louisville.

**Eddie Grant** (99) is director of content for isurfpaducah.com in Paducah.

**Dan Sheppard** (99) is television director at West Kentucky Community & Technical College.

**Michael Thurston** (99) is lead technician/supervisor for Lifetime Entertainment Services.

**Christopher Vaughn** (99) is assistant football coach/recruitment coordinator at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Miss.

**Ryan Wagner** (99) is a graphic designer at the *Evansville Courier & Press* in Evansville, Ind.

**Karie Greider Wohlgenuts** (99) is director of client services at The ESP Group LLC in Arlington, Va.

Please see **Alumni Notes** page 9



Photo by Orville Herndon

Dr. Ross Meloan, director of MSU Career Services, spoke to high school freshman during “Dare to Prepare... Aim High for Your Higher Education.” The event was produced by the Public Relations Student Society of America as part of the Bateman Case Study Competition. The program told students how to prepare for college, apply to a college and finance their education. High schoolers learned what professions are open to college graduates.

# Alumni, *The News* win KPA newspaper awards

Staff members of *The Murray State News* won nine awards in the 2008 Kentucky Press Association Newspaper Contest. Winners were announced at the annual KPA meeting in Louisville Jan 22-23.

The winners in the college and universities division were

Casey Northcutt—first place, best general news story; first place, best special section.

Alaina Zanin—third place, best column.

Rick Burress—first place, best sports picture; second place, best picture essay.

Jess Nall, Clayton Vertrees—honorable mention, best agribusiness story.

Misty Hays—honorable mention, best spot news picture.

Allison Mugler, Steve Miller, Aaron Weare—second place, best sports section.

Emily Wuchner, Charlotte Kyle, Whitney Harrod—merit certificate, best business page

JMC alumni won 34 awards as follows:

## Weekly Class 1:

Jacqueline Jordan, *McLean County News*—second and third place, best feature story; second place, on-going story; honorable mention, best feature picture; first place, best picture essay; second place, best sports picture essay; second place, best sports section; second place, best business page; second place, best editorial page.

Amie Powers, *McLean County News*—first place, best sports story; third place, best business story; second place, best news picture.

## Weekly Class 3:

Stevie Daugherty, *Lebanon Enterprise*—second place, best enterprise story; third place, best general news picture; first place, best feature picture; second place, best graphic; first place, best editorial page.

## Multi-Weekly:

Jared Nelson, *Princeton Times Leader*—first place, best spot news coverage.

## Daily Class 1:

Jennifer Brown, *Kentucky New Era*—first place, best feature story; third place, best picture essay.

Tommy Dillard, *Murray Ledger & Times*—first place and honorable mention, best sports story; honorable mention, best sports feature story.

Eric Walker, *Murray Ledger & Times*—third place, best headline.

## Daily Class 2:

Kevin Patton, *Henderson Gleaner*—second place, best sports feature story

## Daily Class 3:

Keith Lawrence, *Owensboro Messenger Inquirer*—third place, best column.

Shelley Byrne, *Paducah Sun*—third place and honorable mention, best spot news coverage.

C.D. Bradley, *Paducah Sun*—honorable mention, best news story.

Matt Sanders, *Paducah Sun*—second place, best business story.

John Wright, *Paducah Sun*—first place, best news picture; honorable mention, best picture essay.

## Associate Newspapers:

Michele Carlton, *Ft. Campbell Courier*—first place, special sections.

Daugherty, Brown and Stan McKinney, journalism professor at Campbellsville University, were program presenters at the convention. McKinney got his bachelor’s and master’s in journalism at Murray State.

Representing the JMC Department were Dr. Bob Lochte, Dr. Bob McGaughey, Joe Hedges and members of *The Murray State News* staff.

# Feldhaus, Harris awarded Broughton, Brazeale Fellowships

Two upperclassmen in the JMC Department have won fellowships for 2009-2010. They are Rebecca Feldhaus and Catherine Harris.

Feldhaus, who majored in music with a minor in journalism, was awarded the Broughton Fellowship while Harris, a public relations major with an organizational communications minor, won one of the Brazeale Fellowships.

Feldhaus had internships with the Washington National Opera in Washington, D. C. and the Kentucky Opera in Louisville.

An honors student, she was a first-place finalist in the Kentucky National Association of

Teachers of Singing (NATS) Student Auditions in 2008.

She was a member of the University Chorale, the University Concert Choir and had leading roles in several musical productions on campus, including “Pirates of Penzance.”

She has been a feature writer for *The Murray State News* for the past two years.

Feldhaus will be working on a master’s degree in musicology.

Harris, a junior with a 3.83 grade-point average, was a Murray State Ambassador, a member of Alpha Mu Gamma foreign language honor society and a student worker in the MSU Transportation office.

# Dillon publishes article, reviews

Dr. John Dillon has published an article in the scholarly online publication, *Feedback*, and two book reviews in *Journalism Educator*, a key publication for those who teach journalism in higher education.

Dillon’s article in *Feedback*, which is published by the Broadcast Educators Association, detailed Murray State JMC involvement in teaching Ukrainian students broadcast journalism.

“Journalism from Scratch: Development of a Mass Communications College Curriculum in Central Ukraine” describes a 2007 visit where MSU students and one faculty member helped train Ukrainian students to shoot video, write and edit news

releases and deal with public relations issues.

The two book reviews were on *Eyewitness Newsmen* and *SuperMedia: Saving Journalism So It Can Save the World*.

The two are recently-published books. One is an historical analysis of the “Eyewitness News” phenomenon in broadcast journalism starting in the 1970’s on the East Coast of the U.S. The second one is a book demonstrating a forward perspective toward matters of how to keep journalism relevant in the 21st Century.

Dillon is also on the editorial board of *SIMILE, Studies in Media Information and Literacy Education*, a University of Toronto publication.



Photo by Orville Herndon

Seven top academic students were initiated into Kappa Tau Alpha, national journalism honor society, at the annual JMC awards dinner April 15.

They were, from left: Katie Graves, Jessica Jeffress, Megan Locke, Kyle Smith and Emily Wuchner. Cynthia Blalock and Kara McCombs were unable to attend the banquet.

Students must be in the top 10 percent of the junior/senior JMC classes to be eligible.

Graves received the medallion that is worn over the graduation robe for having the highest overall grade-point average. She had a 3.94 GPA.



Members of the MSU Ads Club practice a final time as they prepare to present their entry in the District 5 preliminary round of the National Student Advertising Competition held in Charleston, W.Va., in April. The American Advertising Federation and the Century Council challenged AAF student chapters to create an advertising campaign that combats college binge drinking. The MSU Ads Club placed fifth in the district competition. Pictured from left to right are Miranda Arnold, Kyle Smith, Ashley Johns, Alice Rogers.

## Guess chairs Paducah chamber

Susan Guess, a 1987 JMC grad, is the 2009 chairwoman of the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce in the organization's 70th year of operation.

Guess, the senior vice president and director of marketing for the Paducah Bank, served as chair in 2001.

Guess is the chair of the Lourdes Foundation and is an alumna of Leadership Kentucky and Leadership Paducah.

Elaine Spalding, a 1980 JMC grad, serves as president of the Paducah chamber.

## Wallen headlines entrepreneur conference

Jennifer Langford Wallen, a 1996 graduate with a degree in public relations and political science, was one of three successful business managers who spoke at the first MSU Entrepreneurial Conference March 12 at the Currier Center.

The other two speakers were Jeremy Molsberger, senior vice president of Wealth Management for Logan, Lavelle and Hunt Insurance and Wealth Management LLC in Louisville, and Terry Reeves, the new Concierge for EntrePaducah.

After graduation Wallen worked in sales for Gaylord's Opryland Hotel in Nashville. After jobs with Holiday Inn and Howard Estates in sales, she moved to Arizona in 2000 and she and husband Jeff developed a real estate company, Hot Realty, which played a large role in the developing of the special community of Anthem.

She and a few partners started a successful hot spot, Off the Hook Sushi and Martini Bar. She then used the notoriety of being on "The Apprentice" show in 2005 to start a division of Hot Reality, Elite Estates. Elite Estates featured the marketing of multi-million dollar homes.

The next project was Swap

Your House, a program to provide home-sellers and buyers with a solid solution to selling their home in a down market.

She and her family returned to her native Tennessee in February and helped launch a nutritional supplement known as Zrii.

During her college career she played on the first women's varsity golf team and was active with her sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi. She later served for a year as national representative for the sorority.

She was selected Miss Murray State and went on to win Miss Mountain Laurel in her freshman year.

She pointed out the importance of setting goals, networking, and finding a niche that fits one's skills and personality. Like the other two speakers, she stressed the importance of working in your field on campus and with internships.

Molsberger, who earned an MBA at Murray State, specializes in improving the profitability and enhancing the market image of small to mid-sized companies.

He has been the director of branch development for the national securities firm, Scot-

## Clark enjoys music video career

Sarah Clark, a junior journalism major from Murray, can accurately be described as a "model student" because she is both a student and a model.

The 5-8 blonde has been in 10 music videos with such recording artists as Keith Urban, Garth Brooks, Jimmy Wayne, Alan Jackson, JoDee Messina and Hootie and the Blowfish.

She started her music video career during her junior year of high school. She said Elite Management of New York discovered her during a competition called "Elite Model Look" at the Kentucky Oaks Mall in Paducah. The event was held in several small towns with the winner of each contest competing in the national event in Miami.

Clark finished the modeling competition as a runner-up. Even though she did not win first place, the agency was interested in her. However, because she was "just" 5-8 she was not considered tall enough to model.

The agency did suggest that she find an agent in Nashville so that she could do commercials and videos. She signed with Sharon Smith Talent and soon appeared on Channel 5's "Talk



Sarah Clark has worked with Garth Brooks and other recording artists in her music video career.

of the Town," in live promotional shows as a model and in several catalogs and magazines.

In April her beauty and poise earned her the title of Miss Murray State. Next spring she will be one of the statewide contestants in the Miss Mountain Laurel pageant in eastern Ken-

tucky.

While she continues to audition for modeling jobs in the Nashville area, her main priorities are her studies and her internship in TV news this summer with Channel 5.

She should be a model candidate for any TV internship.

trade. Under his direction, the number of branches grew from 71 to more than 240 nationwide.

Prior to his present position in Louisville, he was co-owner and president of MP Food Services LLC, which is the parent company for Pig City BBQ restaurants.

He listed several tips to be a successful business manager. These included being able to handle criticism, know yourself and your values, network, treat customers so they have a good experience, be sincere and learn to delegate and follow up.

Reeves, best known for his work as corporate communications and marketing director of the Paducah-based Dippin' Dots ice cream company, became Concierge in January of this year.

Prior to joining Dippin' Dots, he had more than 10 years in radio and television news.

He was news director of WPSD-TV for 10 years.

Reeves explained that EntrePaducah is a combined effort of the Paducah and McCracken County governments, the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Paducah Development Council to promote and support entrepreneurial endeavors in the region.



Photo by Orville Herndon

Dr. Tim Todd, dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, welcomed three successful business managers to the college's first Entrepreneurial Conference. The speakers were, from left: Jennifer Wallen, Jeremy Molsberger, Terry Reeves and Dr. Todd.

Some of the goals are to unite resources, guide interested business people to resources, recruit and retain entrepreneurs to the area, and educate business students and potential business

owners.

The conference was directed by Professor Steve Dublin, head of the Entrepreneurial program in the College of Business and Public Affairs.

## Blalock interns at Southern Living

Cindy Blalock, a senior advertising major, is interning with *Southern Living* magazine in Birmingham, Ala.

Blalock began her six-month, paid internship in January and works in advertising sales and sales development.

Some of her duties include analyzing consumer research, working with sales representatives and developing marketing/sales plans.

Blalock had prior internships in marketing with Country

Music Television in Nashville and with the Paducah Bank.

*Southern Living*, which has a readership of more than 16 million, is owned by Southern Progress Corporation, a subsidiary of Time Inc. The company is owned by Time Warner and has more than 120 magazines.

Blalock, named to this year's "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities," is scheduled to graduate upon completion of the internship.



Justin Kimbro, left, unveiled his Kentucky Main Street logo at the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort in February.

## K-Squared designs state logo

K-Squared Designs, Murray's graphic and web site design firm owned and operated by JMC alumni Justin and Angie Kimbro, has been chosen to create a logo that will be used statewide for the Kentucky Main Street program to celebrate its 30th anniversary.

The newly created logo was unveiled Feb. 26 at the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort. More than 100 local Main Street managers and board members from across the state attended the event.

The celebration took place in conjunction with Preservation

Day in Frankfort, sponsored by Preservation Kentucky, Inc., the statewide preservation advocacy and education organization.

The new logo, a rendered drawing of buildings along a historical Kentucky Main Street, was designed to represent more than 80 communities that would be using it in their individual programs.

K-Squared Designs is an advertising and web site development firm specializing in branding, marketing, graphic design, SEO packages, vinyl application and printing.

## Herndon wins staff reelection bid

Orville Herndon, publications systems manager for the JMC Department, has been reelected to the MSU Staff Congress. He has been a member since 1994.

He has served five terms as president. He currently serves as the chair of the credentials and elections committee, chair of the bylaws review committee and is a member of the Faculty/Staff insurance and benefits committee. He participates in the president's faculty/staff leadership council.

A graduate of MSU in 1986 with a B.S. in business with an area in accounting, he earned the M.B.A. degree in 1988.

He started working with the JMC Department as a student on *The Murray State News* and has been with the department since graduation. He has been the publications systems manager since 1991.

He maintains the department's computer systems, works with students on the newspaper staff and teaches JMC 213, Computer Techniques for Print Media. He is co-director of the high school workshop and produces several department publications, including the *JMC Journal* and the *JMC Placement Book*.

He is a consultant to several regional newspapers.



Photo by Orville Herndon

Kevin Finch, center, shares his insight on the future of broadcast media as Duke Conover, left, and Dr. Bob Lochte look on. Conover and Finch were panelists at the media forum prior to the department's spring banquet.

## News professionals discuss future of print and broadcast journalism

Two news executives, Kevin Finch and Duke Conover, spoke at a media forum April 15 on "The Future of Daily Newspapers and Local TV Stations" at the Curris Center.

Finch, TV news director with WISH-TV (CBS) in Indianapolis, and Conover, managing editor of *The Paducah Sun*, shared their views and forecasts of the status of the media with JMC students and faculty/staff.

Finch noted that major market TV stations were still doing well and delivering about the same audience as before the recession. Conover said that while big city dailies were experiencing severe economic problems, small dailies and weeklies continue to be profitable.

Finch, a 1981 JMC graduate, has 24 years of experience in radio and TV news.

A national Edward R. Murrow Award-winning broadcast journalist, he has been the news

director at WISH since early 2007.

Before that, he served as the assistant news director. He also worked 13 years at the NBC affiliate, WTHR-TV.

Throughout his news career, he has covered major political and sporting events.

He has covered four national political conventions, a presidential inauguration, the Senate impeachment trial of President Clinton and the 9-11 events in Washington.

He headed up large crews at the Olympic Games in Atlanta, Sydney, Australia and Salt Lake City. He also executive produced coverage of 11 Indy 500's, the NBA finals, the AFC championships and the NCAA men's Final Four.

In addition to the Murrow Award, he has received two national Community Service Emmy Finalists, two regional Emmy Awards, a George Foster Peabody Award and several

first-place awards from the Indiana Associated Press Broadcasters and the Society of Professional Journalists.

As an undergraduate at Murray State he was news director for MSU-TV 11 and a late-night DJ for WKMS-FM.

Conover, a newspaper reporter and editor since 1986, joined *The Sun* in 2007.

Prior to coming to the Paducah newspaper, he spent seven years as the editor of *The News Herald* in Morganton, N.C.

His other experience includes a freelance journalist for the *Los Angeles Daily News*, city reporter and copy editor for *The High Point Enterprise* in North Carolina, editor of CM Publishing with seven weekly newspapers and deputy editor of the *Danville Register & Bee*.

In addition to participating in the forum, the two news executives spoke to classes and attended the JMC Awards Banquet.

## Lochte presents research at national conferences

Dr. Bob Lochte, JMC department chairman, presented his research at two national conferences this spring.

The first presentation, "Is there a Pink Slip in Your Future? Fear Appeal in Magazine Advertisements of the 1950's for the International Correspondence Schools of Scranton, Pennsylvania," was at the Southeast Colloquium of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications at the University of Mississippi March 19-21.

"While doing research for my radio show about the Fifties, I read many men's magazines of the era and became fascinated with ads for ICS—how sophisticated the campaign was," Lochte said.

"I was fortunate to find an archive of ICS papers at the University of Scranton and be able to interview Bill Donovan, who was in charge of advertising."

The second presentation was at the American Culture Association Annual Convention in New Orleans April 8-11.

The topic was "Big Time Wrestling on TV: A Symbiotic Relationship." "Since childhood, I've been a fan of professional wrestling," Lochte admits. "The promotions could not exist without TV stations throughout the Fifties and Sixties, and today national wrestling telecasts are among the most popular programs on at least three networks."

Lochte, a member of the JMC faculty since 1988, is the host and producer of "the Eisenhower Hour" on WKMS-FM.

# Communicators cover inauguration

Three members of Murray State's communications area participated in the January inauguration ceremonies in Washington. They were Katie DeCillo, Shasta O'Neal and Dr. Debbie Owens.

DeCillo, a sophomore electronic media major from Murray, and O'Neal, administrative secretary for Media Services, created and uploaded video packages and sound bites that aired on "Roundabout U," KFVS 12 and WPSD TV 6.

The week-long coverage highlighted activities from the "Kentucky on the Potomac" reception, presented by the Kentucky Democratic Party, and the Kentucky Bluegrass Ball, presented by the Kentucky Society of Washington.

O'Neal said University Communications contacted state represen-

tatives to get media access. "Our main goal was to provide information from the Kentucky political scene."

DeCillo, who co-hosts "Roundabout U" with Jim Carter, also did a video blog that included interviews with MSU alumni in the Washington area.

Owens, associate professor in JMC, was invited to attend the inauguration and view the ceremony from the "silver standing" section at the tip of the Reflecting Pool.

She also attended a Volunteers Ball along with a number of individuals representing various non-profit organizations across the country.

When she returned, she shared her experiences with Jim Carter on "Roundabout U."



DeCillo



Owens



O'Neal

# Miller joins public relations faculty

Dr. Haven Miller, former director of agricultural communications at the University of Kentucky, will join the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications faculty in the fall. He will teach mainly in the public relations major.

He has directed the activities of the 45-person unit serving the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture and the statewide Cooperative Extension service.

The unit includes artists, writers, editors, photographers, video producers, media relations specialists, web designers, radio producers, IT staff, a distance learning unit and a magazine staff.

Prior to becoming director, he served as a communications specialist and then section manager for the UK unit. His other media experience includes feature writer for Data Base Publications in Austin, Texas; announcer for KMFA radio in Austin; news director for KSMU radio in Springfield, Mo.; and television anchor/show host in both Lexington and Springfield.

A graduate of Southwest Missouri State University in speech and theater, he earned his master's degree in journalism/public relations from the University of Texas at Austin and his doctorate in mass communications at the University of Kentucky.

He has served as instructor or co-instructor in communications and agriculture communications since 1996. He also has directed media relations training for the UK Cooperative Extension Agents and an intercultural communication seminar for high school students during the summer.

He received a fellowship to the Salzburg Seminar on Mass Media in the Age of Globalization and did research in England for his disser-

tation and for a published article on "Brits Compare US-UK Press."

In addition, he had an internship with BBC Radio Gloucestershire where he produced several reports aired on BBC and had a two-week seminar in London and Manchester on the British broadcast organizations.

Among his professional organizations are the National Association of Government Communicators, Public Relations Student Society of America, Society of Environmental Journalists and Agricultural Communicators in Education (ACE).

With his theater background in his undergraduate degree, he has continued acting as a hobby. He has performed in several university and community theatrical productions.

Miller visited the campus in February to meet with faculty, sit in on public relations classes and meet with students in Public Relations Student Society of America.

He will officially join the JMC faculty in August.



Miller

# Campus show gains statewide audience

Murray State University's weekly television show, "Roundabout U," is now on Kentucky Educational Television (KET). This gives viewers across the state an opportunity to learn about MSU and West Kentucky events.

"Roundabout U" airs seven times each week. The show's hosts are Jim Carter, a '79 JMC graduate with a master's in 1986, and Katie DeCillo, a sophomore electronic major from Murray. Carter is the vice president for institutional advancement.

"Roundabout U" is one of several productions from MSU to be on KET. Programming includes "The Holidays at Murray State University," the

Waterfield and Sparks lectures, the Chamber dinner with Gov. Steve Beshear as speaker, the spring commencement, "Night of the Stars" and "Nathan Stubblefield Speaks."

The Stubblefield production was scripted by Dr. Bob Lochte with much of the production done by Jeremy McKeel of TV 11. Faculty member Bob Valentine portrays Stubblefield in the show that has aired on PBS stations in 21 cities in the U.S.

According to Mac Wall, KET executive director, "Murray State figured it out from the beginning and continues to produce and offer, for KET distribution, excellent programs that reflect the vitality of campus life at Murray."

# Marion paper helps community in ice storm's aftermath

By Leigh Landini Wright  
*Paducah Sun*

Chris Evans, a JMC grad, knows the news business never stops.

Evans, editor/publisher of *The Crittenden Press*, drove his family to Paris, Tenn., his hometown, immediately after the ice storm and continued to Jackson, Tenn., to buy generators and find a cell-phone signal.

*The Press* had already printed its Jan. 28 edition. The paper had little information about the winter storm, so Evans and his staff put together a two-page copier-size edition filled with basic information about water, power, phone service and emergency services.

With no power throughout Crittenden County, the pages served as the sole source of public information. *The Press* distributed the special edition free throughout the town and to the shelters.

Radio station WMLJ was knocked off the air for the first week of the storm. Some residents could listen to WPSD's radio feed if they had battery-operated radios.

"I feel like we met our obligation to the communi-

ty," Evans said. "We felt like we needed to keep people informed."

Evans relied on a freelancer to post updates to the newspaper's Web site and his editor's blog. Without Internet service, he couldn't access the newspaper's e-mail account where emergency agencies sent information.

Evans called former Crittenden resident Matthew Patton, who lives in Pennsylvania, with information to post to the blog and access to e-mail.

Patton also called friends and family in the area, Evans said. He said readers from outside Kentucky relied on the site for news about their hometown.

During the days after the storm, *The Press* ran off a generator and produced the paper a day early. Evans said he wanted residents to have up-to-date information.

*The Press* also published its free shopper, *The Early Bird*, with storm stories. "We almost canceled it, but it's a free publication and total saturation, so I figured we might be able to get it to everybody."

After almost 10 days *The Press* finally regained power and the Internet service.



# ALUMNI NOTES

## 2000

**Tara Shelby Bacon** (00) works in human resources at Boeing in Mesa, Ariz.

**Matthew Barlow** (00) is a information systems operator for the U S Army.

**Brandi Williams Bradley** (00) works in advertising sales at the *Paducah Sun*.

**Tricia Brooks** (00) is a Fed-Ex account representative at Cummings Mid-South in Hernando, Miss.

**Jennifer Pitzer Brown** (00) is editor of the *Kentucky New Era* in Hopkinsville and an adjunct instructor at Murray State.

**Regina Cragar-Gossett** (00) is a pre-press production specialist at White Tiger Printing.

**Theresa Zortman DaSilva** (00) is senior product manager for Appriss Inc. and a realtor for Coldwell Banker Action Realtors in Louisville.

**Brenden Grant** (00) is a lending associate at Paducah Bank & Trust in Paducah.

**Jeff Gyokeri** (00) is a trainer for Fed Ex Ground in Manchester, Conn.

**Christine Hall** (00) is the online news manager for the *Houston Business Journal*.

**Ginger Hicks** (00) is the human resources generalist for Medical Reimbursements of America, LLC in Franklin, Tenn.

**Rachel Hurt** (00) is account executive in marketing and sales at KXLT Fox 47 in Rochester, Minn.

**Don Lawson** (00) is part of the Geek Squad in Brooks, Ky.

**Julie Hagan Lowe** (00) is an advertising/graphic artist for McClatchy Co in Lexington.

**Jennifer Sacharnoski Nelson** (00) is an attorney in Princeton.

**Maria Owens** (00) is a claims specialist in the mental/behavioral health unit at Humana in Louisville.

**Greg Taylor** (00) is an attorney in Murray.

**Brandi Bowdler Wilkins** (00) is department chair of the humanities department at

Kaskaskia College, where she is an associate professor of speech and journalism.

## 2001

**Chris Bacon** (01) works for Vcomm Network in Mesa Ariz.

**Johnny Blazina** (01) works in advertising sales at the *Paducah Sun*.

**CD Bradley** (01) is assistant city editor for the *Paducah Sun*.

**Shelley Street Byrne** (01) is a reporter for *The Paducah Sun* in Paducah.

**Christian Cruce** (01) is associate director of financial aid/scholarships at Murray State.

**Brad Darnall** (01) is a teacher for the Calloway Co. Board of Education in Murray.

**Jennifer Frankic** (01) is a customer service representative at Berry Plastics Corporation in Evansville, Ind.

**Nathaniel Gower** (01) is a water treatment plant operator for the City of Metropolis, Ill.

**Joe Kayse** (01) is creative art director at Ogilvy & Mather in Chicago.

**Angela Colson Kimbro** (01) is a graphic designer at K-Squared Designs LLC in Murray.

**David Mobley** (01) works in master control for Scripps Networks.

**Jared Nelson** (01) is a reporter at the *Times Leader* in Princeton.

**Russell Oates Jr** (01) is deputy director of external relations at the Center for Strategic & International Studies in Washington.

**Lindsay McNutt Orange** (01, 03) is communications director for the house Republican leadership with the Legislative Research Commission in Frankfort.

**Crystal Travis Riley** (01) is transfer center coordinator in Continuing Ed. Academic Outreach at Murray State.

**Greg Stark** (01) is page designer for *The Morning News* in Springdale, Ark.

**Kristin Hill Taylor** (01) works as a stay-at-home mom in Murray.

## 2002

**Rebecca Francis Ballard** (02) is a public relations/account executive at Public Strategies Inc. in Washington.

**Cullan Couleas** (02) is sales manager for Aerotek Professional Services Inc. in Nashville, Tenn.

**Suzy McGrew Gregory** (02) is an elementary teacher with Goose Creek CISD in Baytown, Texas.

**Kyle Hensley** (02) is assistant vice president of United Southern Bank in Hopkinsville.

**Justin Kimbro** (02) is a graphic designer at K-Squared Designs LLC in Murray.

**Justin McGill** (02) is the executive editor of the *Cadiz Record*.

**Jeremiah McGuire** (02) works in marketing/graphic design for E W Scripps Co in Memphis, Tenn.

**Laura Deaton Morarity** (02) is account supervisor at Wordsworth Communications, Cincinnati's oldest and largest independent public relations agency.

**Nolan Patton** (02, 04) is a residence director at the University of Wisconsin in Platteville.

**Emily Baker Swift** (02) is pharmaceutical representative in Louisville.

**Justin Young** (02, 03) is a communications instructor at Tri-State University in Angola, Ind.

**Krista Zurkamer** (02) works at Family Video & Movie Company in Williamsville, Ill.

## 2003

**Justen Arnold** (03) is the weekend weather anchor at KHQA, in Quincy, Ill. He also reports and produces the 6 and 10 p.m. newscasts.

**Christine Brannen** (03) is a marketing assistant at Six Flags in Louisville.

**Ryan Brooks** (03) is associate pastor of Chi Alpha Campus Ministries in Murray.

**John Gibson** (03, 06) is a lecturer and media engineer at Northern Kentucky University in Covington.

**Kimberly Morris Gill** (03) is a pharmacy communications process manager at Humana in Louisville.

**Casey Powell Goode** (03) works for AT&T Mobility.

**Rhiannon Cooper Green** (03) owns Pleasant Home Fine Gifts and Décor in Pleasant View, Tenn.

**Angie Gregory** (03) is in pre-production for her film "Goodbye Wendell."

**Niketa Hailey Hill** (03) is the marketing manager at Goodwill.

**Aaron Hooks** (03) is general manager of advanced media at Charter Media in Saint Louis.

**Erin Hutchins** (03) is a protocol analyst at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

**Idarion King** (03) is a graduate student at Murray State.

**Jeremy Kirk** (03) is a staff sergeant in emergency management for the United States Air Force at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho.

**Kelli Jones Lamb** (03) is marketing director at Birk Grove Life Centre, a comprehensive care center for women with fibromyalgia in Paducah.

**Joshua Maxwell** (03) is the television production manager at HCC-TV 10, Hopkinsville Community College.

**Andrea Scott Mills** (03) is a senior account executive at McNeely Pigott & Fox Public Relations in Nashville, Tenn.

**Stephanie Minix** (03) is sponsorship sales account coordinator for the Indianapolis Colts.

**Adam Pitman** (03) works at Mr Gatti's in Murray.

**Stacy Crawford Puckett** (03) is a development specialist at Lourdes Hospital in Paducah.

**Edwin Richerson** (03) is video services coordinator for Murray Electric System.

## 2004

**Muhammad Al-Mumen** (04) is an assistant news editor for the department of News & Political Programs in Kuwait City.

**Denise Brazzell** (04) is a staff associate for the University of Kentucky's College of Engineering in Paducah.

**Rob Brown** (04) is an English instructor at the Fukui International School in Fukui, Japan.

**Kenneth Conklin** (04) is the news producer at Raycom Media.

**Ashley Smith Conway** (04) is a communications specialist at ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

**Jordan Eakin** (04) is senior art director at Ogilvy's North Carolina office.

**Matthew Flynn** (04) is pursuing a master's degree in international marketing at the Webster University Graduate School of Regents College in London and working at the Japan Society of the UK.

**Susan Gaffney-Evans** (04) is a freelance writer/editor at Armstrong and Associates.

**Erin Gilles** (04) is a doctoral candidate/instructor at the University of Kentucky.

**Areia Hathcock** (04) works in advertising sales at the *Paducah Sun*.

**Jason Henson** (04) is general manager at Fastenal in Mayfield.

**Ellen Copeland Lee** (04) is a sales consultant at Mike Smith Kia in Paducah, KY

**Tish Lyte** (04) is assistant dean at William & Mary University in Williamsburg, Va.

**Michael Maxwell** (04) is financial center manager for BB&T in Murray.

**Thomas Oliverio** (04) is an associate news producer at WPSD, putting together the 5, 6, 9, and 10 a.m./p.m. newscasts.

**Crystal Palmisano** (04) is coordinator of the Ky. Foster and Adoptive Parent Training Support Network at Murray State.

**Erin Richards** (04) is a reporter for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.

**Stephanie Sharp** (04,09) has been appointed to the Kentucky Developmental Disabilities Council.

**Ashley Elliott Spurr** (04) is an account executive for Comcast in Savannah, Ga.

Visit us at Tent City!  
**Homecoming 2009 • Oct. 10**  
 Parade, 9:30 a.m. \* Tent City (Stewart Stadium), 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. \* Murray vs. Jacksonville State, 3 p.m.  
 Look for the JMC tables in the College of Business and Public Affairs tent

# ALUMNI NOTES

**Janna Tanner** (04) is an account executive for Frankfort Publishing Co. in Frankfort.

**Jessica Dowdy Yerbich** (04) is a marketing coordinator at USable Life in Nashville, Tenn.

## 2005

**Justin Barr** (05, 08) is a news producer at WPSD in Paducah.

**Bryan Bartlett** (05) is a reporter and local news anchor for NPR's "Morning Edition" at WUKY-FM at the University of Kentucky.

**Adam Bittel** (05) is engineer and web administrator at Forever Communications.

**Jadii Mohme Castillo** (05) works at *The Paducah Sun*.

**Evan Curtis Elrod** (05) is an engineer at Bristol Broadcasting in Paducah.

**Marissa Ferreira** (05) is special publications editor at the *Paducah Sun*.

**Douglas Fisher** (05) finished his graduate degree at MSU.

**Lauren Jones** (05) is a graduate student at Jacksonville State University in Alabama.

**Lesley Jones** (05) is a compositor/web designer/classified advertising clerk at the *Paris* (Tenn.) *Post-Intelligencer*.

**Misty Brown Lanham** (05) is an ESL admissions clerk at Murray State.

**Kate Frioli Light** (05) is a web site consultant for IVS in Paducah.

**Kyser Lough** (05) is a photographer/reporter for the *Murray Ledger & Times*.

**Alicia Ray** (05) is completing her law degree at West Virginia University in Morgantown.

**Eric Walker** (05) is the communications and marketing specialist for the American Cancer Society in Paducah.

**Jon Wilke** (05) is media relations specialist for Faith Comes By Hearing in Albuquerque, N.M.

## 2006

**Joseph Blue** (06) is in the military.

**Mitchell Canter** (06) is a graphic designer for the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Brentwood, Tenn.

**Vanessa Childers** (06) works at Barnes & Noble in West Chester, Ohio.

**Lynelle Claypool** (06) is a marketing specialist at Frazier International History Museum.

**Nathan Clinkenbeard** (06) is editorial director for Dugout Media and is managing editor for *Baseball Youth* and *Soccer Youth*.

**Steven Hash** (06) is a master control operator at WLEX in Lexington.

**Megan Haverstock** (06) is an insurance agent at Haverstock Insurance Agency in Murray.

**Christopher Haynes** (06, 08) is online video coordinator for the Department of Journalism and Mass Communications and a producer for Electronic Media Services at Murray State.

**Benjamin Huffman** (06) is campaign coordinator at OMD Worldwide.

**Josh Kersey** (06) is a web developer at Cagedge.com, LLC.

**Melissa Kilcoyne** (06) has graduated from Indiana Law School.

**Chad Lampe** (06) is news director for WKMS at Murray State.

**Wayne Lomax** (06) is a graduate student at Auburn.

**Megan Chaney Mitchell** (06) is an admissions counselor at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn.

**Meghan Mottaz** (06) is events coordinator for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

**Adam Partin** (06) is assistant media planner for Doe Anderson in Louisville.

**Brittany Renfro** (06) is a public relations specialist for Brown-Forman.

**Janet Robb** (06) is a feature writer at the *Spencer County Journal Democrat* in Rockport, Ind.

**Marianne Stonefield** (06) is a media planner/buyer for Smart Media Group in Alexandria, Va.

**Karie Hagen Thornton** (06) is a videographer at WPSD Local 6 in Paducah.

**Jessica Ferguson Toren** (06) is marketing/admissions director for the Legacy Solana Alzheimer's Care Center in Paducah.

**Katie Villanueva** (06, 08) works in operations and production at WKMS-FM in Murray.

**Dwayne White** (06) is a photojournalist at WTVF NewsChannel 5 in Nashville, Tenn.

**Holly Wise** (06) is bureau chief for a newspaper in Silver City, N.M.

## 2007

**Charissa Acree** (07) is an account representative for Peritus Public Relations in Louisville.

**Katie Adkisson** (07) works at Peritus Public Relations in Nashville, Tenn.

**Brian Asher** (07) is a client services representative for Ticketmaster in Nashville, Tenn. He has completed his master's degree in sports administration at Belmont University.

**Eric Belmonte** (07) is an automotive account executive at the *Courier-Journal* in Louisville.

**James Burress** (07) is a reporter, producer and fill-in host with NPR news station, WABE-FM in Atlanta.

**Elizabeth Cawein** (07) is editorial writer at The Tripwire in New York.

**Clayton Clark** (07) is the morning feature reporter at KMPH.

**Marianne Clark** (07) is a sales associate at American Cellular in Mayfield.

**Elizabeth Fields** (07) is on the WHBF CBS4 News Team in Rock Island, Ill.

**Bo Fowler** (07) works for Coleman Real Estate in Murray.

**Amy Garmon** (07) is a reporter/staff writer with the *Fulton* (Ky.) *Leader*.

**Olin Graczyk** (07) is an intern at CMT - Country Music Television in Nashville, Tenn.

**Taylor Adams Johnson** (07) works in customer service at Hampton Hotels in Brentwood, Tenn.

**Jacqueline Jordan** (07) is the editor of the *McLean County News* in Calhoun.

**Christopher Jung** (07) works as guest services at Churchill Downs in Louisville.

**Aubrey Prest Morris** (07) is an assistant account executive at Momentum Worldwide in St. Louis.

**Carrie Pond** (07) is a reporter for WKMS-FM in Murray.

**Jace Tapp** (07) is advertising coordinator for Tucker Publishing Group in Evansville, Ind.

**Stephanie Zeller** (07) is a writer at the *Courier-Journal* in Louisville.

## 2008

**Ali Almutairi** (08, MA) teaches public relations at the Institute of Public Administration in Saudi Arabia.

**Benjamin Amberg** (08) is the senior marketing analyst for the North America ocean division with Ceva Logistics in Houston.

**Betsy Duff Burkeen** (08) is a sales engineer for America's Assisted Living Pharmacy in Paducah.

**Kim Conklin Cyrus** (08) is an assistant account executive at Creative Alliance.

**Liz Davis** (08) works at WBKO TV in Bowling Green.

**Tommy Dillard** (08) is a sports writer for the *Murray Ledger and Times*.

**Whitney Fowler** (08) is a restaurant operations coordinator for the Cracker Barrel corporate office in Lebanon, Tenn.

**Misty Hays** (08) is a graduate student at Murray State.

**Jenna Kirkpatrick** (08) is on the national special event team for Anheuser-Busch/Inbev in Chesterfield, Mo.

**Mandy Laszewski** (08) is an admissions counselor at Aquinas College in Nashville, Tenn.

**Kayla Riley** (08) is a graduate student at Murray State.

**Eric Seals** (08) works at ESPN as a content editor.

**Jordan Smith** (08) is an admissions counselor in the Office of Recruitment at Murray State.

**Emily Stratman** (08) works for The Print Concierge, a graphic design, advertising, and print shop in Tampa, Fla.

## 2009

**Jessica Cary** (09) works in news production at WLKY in Louisville.

**Kevin Kayse** (09) works in news production at WAVE in Louisville.

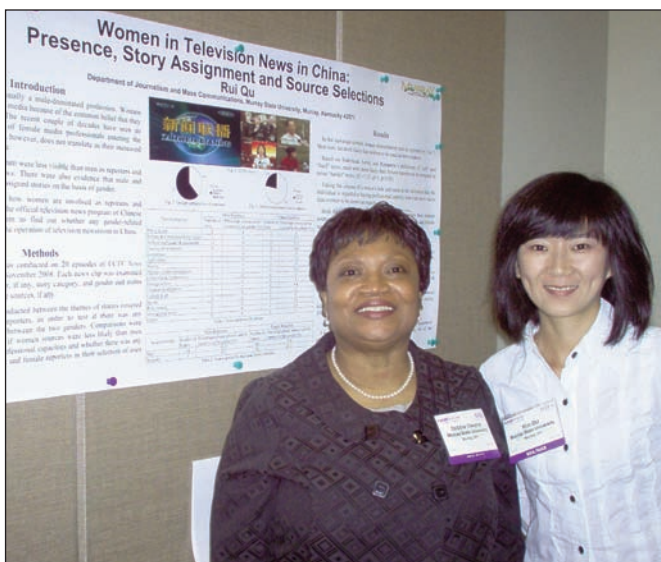


Photo by Orville Herndon

**Rodney Freed** (89, 91) talks with **Dr. Bob Lochte** and **Joe Hedges**, foreground left to right, at Tent City during the 2008 Homecoming festivities in Stewart Stadium. Alumni are invited to the 2009 Homecoming on Oct. 10. Admission to Tent City is free. Those wishing to stay for the game may purchase tickets by calling the MSU Ticket Office at (270) 809-3000 or online at [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com).

## Editor's Note

Is your listing missing or out of date? If so, please use the coupon on the back page to update the department about you and/or other JMC alumni. You may also send alumni news by e-mail to [jmcjournal@murraystate.edu](mailto:jmcjournal@murraystate.edu). Thank you for helping to keep the department's alumni listings current.



Dr. Debbie Owens, left, and Rui Qu represented the department at the Broadcast Education Convention in Las Vegas. Each presented their media research at the spring event.

## Owens, Qu present findings at broadcast convention

Dr. Debbie Owens and outstanding graduate student Rui Qu traveled to the Broadcast Education Convention in Las Vegas in April.

Qu presented her paper "Women in TV News in China: Presence, Story Assignment, and Source Selection" at a Scholar-to-Scholar poster session. She examined episodes of CCTV News in China.

Qu also presented her paper at a research "hot spot" session during Scholars Week held on campus in April. She developed the research project in Dr. Debbie Owens' Seminar on Media, Culture, Gender and Race during fall 2008.

Dr. Debbie Owens presented her research on audience analysis of film in

two separate sessions at the convention.

In a session titled "Race/Gender/Media: Bringing Research to the Classroom" Dr. Owens discussed "Audience Interpretations of the film 'Crash.'"

In a session titled "Images on Screen: How Gender Based Stereotypes on Screen Can Influence Life Decisions" Dr. Owens discussed "Media Representations of a Cultural Divide: Gender and Race in the film 'Crash.'"

Owens is a contributing author for "Race/Gender/Media-Considering Diversity Across Audiences, Content, and Producers," 2nd edition, Allyn & Bacon, 2010.

She concluded her third and final two-year term as a member of the BEA Publications Board.

## JMC majors help deliver OVC win

Five of the members of the OVC champion women's golf team were majors in the JMC Department.

They were Joyce Trus, Kristen Yates, Ashley Yates, Jilian Brake and Megan McKinney. All are advertising majors except McKinney, who is an electronic journalism major.

Trus and McKinney were part of the five-person team that won the league title and represented the OVC in the NCAA regional in Columbus, Ohio.

## Owens speaks on winning strategies

Dr. Debbie Owens presented a leadership session at the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education Conference in Atlanta in March. The session, "African American Administrators-Play Chess, Not Checkers! Strategic Moves to Stay in the Game While Opening That Gap to Advance and Win," Owens worked with co-presenter Dr. Crystal Coel Coleman (Organizational Communication).

## Scholarships awarded

The following students received JMC scholarships for the 2009-10 academic year:

- Katie DiCillo—**Nathan B. Stubblefield**
- Susan Morton—**Joe Rigsby**
- Laura Cash—**Bill Powell**
- Lara Schaumburg, Ginny Furches—**Doc McGaughey**
- Samantha Wilbur—**Kerby/Dorothy Jennings**
- Gretchen Green, Erin Richerson, Catherine Harris—**L.J. Hortin**
- Pam Myrick—**M.C. Garrett**
- Robin Phelps, Valenzia Rouse—**John Fetterman**
- Kristen Dixon—**Ernie Vaughn**
- Robin Phelps—**Quint Guier**
- Jason Morrow—**Landmark Community Newspapers**



The television program "Nathan Stubblefield Speaks" won two Kentucky History Awards. Accepting the awards are, from left, Dana Howard, public relations coordinator for the Center for Telecommunications Systems Management; Dr. Bob Lochte; Sarah Strange, Jackson Purchase Historical Society; and Dr. James Gantt, director for the Center for Telecommunications Systems Management.

## Stubblefield program receives two Kentucky history awards

The Kentucky Historical Society recognized Murray State University's Center for Telecommunications Systems Management (TSM) and Television Production with two Kentucky History Awards.

Both awards recognized the television program "Nathan Stubblefield Speaks," the centerpiece of a year-long commemoration by TSM of Nathan B. Stubblefield's wireless telephone patent issued in 1908.

TSM won the Community History Awards for the commemoration. "Nathan Stubblefield Speaks" won a Certificate of Commendation for Audiovisual or Oral History Project.

Sarah Strange, president of the Jackson Purchase Historical Society, nominated Murray

State for the awards and accepted them at the March awards banquet in Frankfort.

Jeremy McKeel produced and directed the program which stars Bob Valentine as Nathan Stubblefield, the well-known wireless telephone inventor from Murray.

Dr. Bob Lochte adapted the script from his book on Stubblefield and Dan Knowles of Paris, Tenn., provided the traditional and original banjo music for the soundtrack.

In addition to being aired over all of the KET channels, it has been shown in more than 25 cities through PBS syndication.

Valentine and McKeel are instructors in the JMC Department while Lochte serves as professor and chairman.



JMC graduate student Terry Dunn poses with his Advanced American Journalism class. Dunn taught at the Institute of Vocational Technology in Suzhou, China during the fall semester.

## Valentine

continued from page 1

presentations, programs and workshops since joining the faculty. He and McGaughey each year do several presentations and workshops on "Effective Communications" for businesses, educators and other organizations such as Leadership Hopkins County.

Some of the letters recommending Valentine for the teaching award pointed out his performance in the classroom, noting that his classes were fun and interesting but not easy.

Other letters from his peers noted his versatility, being able

to teach advertising, public relations, broadcasting, theatre and speech. His businesses provide him with real-life experiences and information to use effectively in the classroom.

Valentine says he tries to do what businesses try to do in advertising—you must get people's attention before you can tell them anything. "I try to make sure I keep the students' attention through humor, anecdotes, etc.," he explained.

The Regents Teaching Award confirms that his teaching method is very successful.

# Two chosen for internships

Two staff members of *The Murray State News* have been chosen for the Kentucky Press Association summer internships. They are Megan Locke and Jason Morrow.

Locke, who completed her requirements for a degree in journalism with a minor in English in May, has a 3.96 grade-point average. She was selected for this year's "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities."

A staff writer for *The News* and *The Shield* yearbook, she will be interning with the *Madisonville Messenger*. Last summer she had a KPA internship with the *Dawson Springs Progress*.

She has served as secretary and treasurer of Alpha Delta Chi Christian social sorority, vice president of College Democrats and is a member of Gamma Beta Phi, National Society of Collegiate

Scholars, Murray Christian Fellowship, Omicron Delta Kappa and Kappa Tau Alpha.

Locke had her article on "Bird Imagery in *Jane Eyre*" published in the *Murray State Journal of Undergraduate Research*.

Morrow, a senior with a major in journalism and minor in political science, will intern with the *Lexington Herald Leader*.

He worked a year as a reporter before becoming the online editor for *The News*.

He redesigned the site and has a student staff to assist him with videos, blogs, updated stories and online features.

He has received a scholarship twice to attend the Mid-America Press Institute with emphasis in developing web sites.



Photo by Orville Herndon

**Dr. Corley Dennison, head of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University, sought student input during his March visit. Dennison reviewed the department's accreditation efforts and offered insight on the review process.**

## From the chair:

As the school year comes to an end, 4 things are on my mind – accreditation, technology, curriculum, and the cost of a Murray State education.



This fall, we renew the ACEJMC accreditation of all undergraduate programs – Advertising, Journalism, Public Relations, and Television Production.

We are currently writing the self-study, a massive document that describes who we are, what we do, and how our graduates benefit from it.

The site visit team arrives for three days in late October to tour the facilities and talk to students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

There are nine standards by which we are judged, including curriculum, facilities, expertise, strategic planning, and outcomes assessment.

Dr. Corley Dennison, head of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University, visited us in March for a preliminary review and found us in compliance with six standards. On two others, we need to rewrite sections of the report to clarify what we are doing. On the last one, which deals with facilities, we need to invest in new equipment and update facilities.

That brings me to topic number 2 – technology. Through your generosity and the attention of Dean Tim Todd, who has made ACEJMC accreditation a priority for the College of Business, we are able to build a new multimedia computer lab in the Fine Arts building and upgrade the second computer lab there and the one in Wilson Hall. We are also acquiring \$50,000 in new digital audio, video, and graphics equipment to support classes for all our majors. It's going to be a busy summer.

My third interest is curriculum. We had a very successful review of the Television Production sequence this year. Students and faculty are excited about the new focus on independent television production.

Now we must tackle the challenge of the Journalism curriculum. As you know from following what's happening in the newspaper, television news, and online news businesses, the market is changing very rapidly because the audience is finding new ways to get the information it needs for daily life. Our curriculum must evolve to accommodate the new realities.

Finally, I'm concerned with what it costs to attend Murray State University and the political and social reactions to higher tuition, fees, and cost of textbooks and supplies.

In the past 20 years, the share of Murray State's budget covered by state funding has declined from slightly more than half to about one third. Stu-

dents, their parents, and charitable alumni such as you have had to make up the difference. Tuition and fees are going up again next year. We are trying to help by eliminating textbooks in some classes, replacing them with instructional software or less costly online resources.

If you are interested in supplementing one of our JMC scholarship funds to help current students, please contact me.

In fact, why don't you contact me just to say hello. Or even better yet, come visit us when you have the time.

*Bob Lochte*  
chair

Please let us know if your address changes



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Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone numbers:

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Business: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Other information for *JMC Journal*:

Many have made generous donations to the **JMC Endowment Fund** and/or the **JMC General Fund**. Your support has made it possible for us to offer a quality education to our students in advertising, electronic media (radio-TV), journalism and public relations. Thank you for being a vital part of our team.