



Murray State University

Scholars Week

Attention Students, Faculty, and Staff



Wednesday, April 22—1:30 p.m.

Theater, Curris Center

**MSU Alumni Association's
Distinguished Researcher Colloquium**

“In Search of Adolph Rupp”

Dr. James Duane Bolin is a professor of history at Murray State University where he teaches courses in American History, Kentucky History, Teaching History, and Sports History. Bolin graduated from Webster County High School in western Kentucky in 1974 and then went to Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee where he co-captained the basketball team and majored in history. After graduating magna cum laude from Belmont (B.A., 1978) Bolin entered the Church-State Studies Program at Baylor University. After a year of graduate study at Baylor, Bolin completed an M.A. degree (1982) in history and a Ph.D. degree (1988) in history from the University of Kentucky. Before coming to Murray State University in 1996, he taught at Madisonville Community College in Madisonville, Kentucky (1988-1992) and Williams Baptist College in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas (1992-1996). In 2000, two of Bolin's books were published: *Bossism and Reform in a Southern City: Lexington, Kentucky, 1880-1940* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2000) (finalist for the Governor's Award of the Kentucky Historical Society); and *Kentucky Baptists, 1925-2000: A Story of Cooperation* (Brentwood and Nashville: Southern Baptist Historical Society and Fields Publishing, 2000) (winner of the Award of Merit from the Kentucky Historical Society and the Historic Confederation of Kentucky in 2001). In 2003, Murray State University named Bolin a Presidential Research Fellow for his book project, *Adolph Rupp and the Rise of Big-Time College Basketball in America*. He also received the College of Humanities and Fine Arts Excellence Award for Creative/Scholarly Activity for 2002-2003. Bolin continues to work on the Rupp project and a collection of his essays, *Home and Away: A Teacher's Journal*. In 2008, he received the Distinguished Researcher Award, given by Murray State University's Alumni Association, the highest award given by the university for research and writing. Bolin has published articles and book reviews in *Civil War History*, *The Journal of American History*, *The Magazine of the Indiana Historical Society*, *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, *The Filson History Quarterly*, *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, *The Western Recorder*, *The Kentucky Encyclopedia* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992) and *The Encyclopedia of Louisville* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2000). He writes a weekly column, "Home and Away," for the *Murray Ledger & Times*, and he writes and reads a series of commentaries for WKMS, a regional public radio station. Bolin has won teaching awards at each of the institutions where he has taught. He won the outstanding Faculty Member of the Year Award at Madisonville Community College for the 1988-1989 and 1991-92 academic years and he won the outstanding Faculty Member of the Year Award during each of his four years at Williams Baptist College (1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996). In 2004, Bolin was presented the Board of Regents Award for Teaching Excellence at Murray State University. And in 2007, Bolin received the Max G. Carman Outstanding Teacher Award, given by the Student Government Association for teaching.

Questions about *Scholars Week* should be directed to 809-3192.

This event is sponsored by the MSU Alumni Association and the
Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activity.