LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD

- Matt McCartney, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through campus events and organizations.

LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD

- Kyle Brooks, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through campus events and organizations.

LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD

- Johnny Richwine, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through campus events and organizations.

LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD

- Rebecca Hinds, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through campus events and organizations.
LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD
- Brady Legens, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through campus events and organizations.

LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD
- C.W. West, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through campus events and organizations.

LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD
- Kelly Stewart, of Greenfield, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through campus events and organizations.

LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD
- Mary Unger, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations.
Guest pianist and poet scheduled to perform in April

The University of Tennessee at Martin Departments of Music and English are bringing Oni Buchanan, concert pianist and poet, to the campus. Buchanan will present a recital at 7:30 p.m., April 3, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building.

The Philharmonic Music Guild, the Martin Area Music Teachers Association and the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts will co-sponsor the event.

Buchanan will perform works by Debussy, Brahms, Villa-Lobos, and Schumann, relating them to the literary works of Baudelaire, Verlaine, Shakespeare, Ovid, and Aesop.

Buchanan will present a workshop on kinetic Mandrake poetry at 10 a.m., April 3, in Room 312 of the Humanities Building.

Buchanan is a young American pianist who focuses her virtuosity and inventiveness on creating and bringing to life themed concerts.

She has presented solo recitals throughout the U.S. and abroad and has recorded three solo piano CDs, including “Portraits, Pictures & Prints for Piano,” a compilation of piano works inspired by the visual arts.

Buchanan received her master’s in piano performance from the New England Conservatory of Music and a bachelor’s in music from the University of Virginia. In addition, she holds a bachelor’s in English from the University of Virginia and a master’s of fine arts in poetry from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. Her first book of poems, “What Animal,” won the University of Georgia Press Contemporary Poetry Series competition. Her second poetry manuscript, “Spring,” is winner of the 2007 National Poetry Series Open Competition.

Her new book will be published by the University of Illinois Press in fall 2008.

For more information on the poetry workshop, contact Dr. Lynn Alexander, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, at 881-7281.

For more information on the piano recital contact Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, at 881-7411.

Both events are open to the public without charge.

Rodeo street dance will feature Country Grammar Band

The University of Tennessee at Martin Rodeo and the Martin Business Association will sponsor a rodeo street dance, “Roun’lin’ Up All of Martin for a Good Time!” The Country Grammar Band will be featured at the dance set for 7 p.m., April 8, in downtown Martin. There is no admission fee, and the event is open to the public.

From the classics to today’s top hits, this band does them all. The six members of Country Grammar are seasoned performers who draw everyone into the show with great harmonies, guitar work and a professional stage presentation. Blending male and female vocals, Country Grammar brings a versatile song list.

For more information, contact Martin Business Association representatives, David Beleto, at 881-7525, or Katrina Cobb, at 881-7561.

Writing workshop for youth slated April 12

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering a youth program to include a writing workshop for young people.

“Young Writers’ Clubhouse” is scheduled from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., April 12. The cost is $30, which includes a writing notebook and pen. This workshop is a series of writing experiences for third through eighth graders where children write creatively, work with Writing Project teachers, and share with their friends.

Themes will include Monster Mysteries and Scary Suspense, Funky Fairy Tales, Crazy Creative Writing, and Writing To, From and About Music. Each child will need to provide lunch or purchase pizza by the slice.

For more information, or to register, call the ECCE at 800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.

Autry receives UTM award

Brent Autry, of Milan, was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community.
LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD — Jennifer Timmons, of Milan, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations. She is pictured with Chancellor Tom Rakes.

ECCE offers course in Intermediate Microsoft Word

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer a course in intermediate Microsoft Word in April. "Intermediate Microsoft Word" is slated from 9 a.m.-noon, April 22 and 24. Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin programmer and analyst, will instruct the course. The fee is $85. Participants will learn about templates, flyers, inserting pictures, mailings and the power of using tables. The course will also cover how to find and replace text, find synonyms and definitions for words, check spelling and grammar, hyperlinks, hotkeys, tips and more.

To register, or for more information, contact ECCE at 800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.

Educational program prepares inmates for future

By WENDY ISOM
wsom@jacksonsun.com

Education remains a key component of an inmate’s rehabilitation and successful re-entry into their communities, according to the Tennessee Department of Correction.

"Inmates who return to society without education or job skills, they are the ones who end up committing more crimes and coming back to us," said Dorinda Carter, Tennessee Department of Correction spokeswoman.

A new educational pilot program offers college courses to inmates under the age of 25, who are within five years of their release date. Carter said college credits earned through this program can be applied toward the completion of their degree.

Seventeen young men are participating in the program this semester, Carter said in a phone interview from Nashville. The program partners with the University of Tennessee Martin and gives young offenders an opportunity to enroll in English and history college courses. Inmates must have a history of good behavior to participate.

"The program is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when two state entities get together to forge new relationships and create new programs," said Katy Crapo, UTM director for degree programs and distance learning, in a release.

The program is funded through a federal grant from "Grants to States for Workforce and Community Transition Training for Incarcerated Youth Offenders."

The program is held at the Northwest Correctional Complex in Tiptonville.

"Our goal is for them to have successful re-entry into the community," said Jim Cosby, TDCC assistant commissioner of rehabilitative services, in a phone interview from Nashville.

"This is a national initiative using federal funds with goals to reduce recidivism, save taxpayers' money and improve our society," said UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes in a press release. "UT Martin is pleased to partner with the Tennessee Department of Correction in our efforts to achieve such noble goals."

UTM has had a partner relationship with the Tennessee Department of Correction for three years. They have offered courses and staff training.

UTM faculty Brent Cox and Leslie LaChance work with students at the Northwest Complex.

"I find the students at the Northwest Complex to be highly motivated and engaged in the English 100 course," LaChance said in a release.

"They are well-prepared for each class meeting, arriving with the reading done and their essays written. They regard their presence in the class as (a) privilege. It has been a pleasure to teach this group of students."

Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.

— Wendy Isom, 425-9726
April 1, 2008

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UT Martin Awarded Two THEC Grants

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently was notified that two projects have been funded under an agreement with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission for a total amount of $169,897. Dr. Cahit Erkal, associate professor of physics, will serve as project director for “Activity-Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers: Year 6.” Dr. Suzanne Maniss, assistant professor of education, will serve as project director for “Technology Enhanced Curriculum for Hispanic (TECH) Students: Year 3.”

The “Activity-Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers: Year 6” will offer a series of residential workshops over a five-day period this summer and will center on selected topics from the middle/junior high curriculum in the areas of physics, astronomy and earth science. The activities of the institute are correlated to the Tennessee Science Curriculum frameworks for grades 6-9 and include technology in the classroom and laboratory.

“The workshops will provide support for science education in the form of hands-on and technology-based teacher training by modeling a research-based teaching practice that integrates mathematical skills with science,” said Erkal. This will allow teachers to investigate ways to differentiate a healthy heart from an unhealthy heart based on electrocardiogram (EKG) signals. The outcome of the project will be the establishment of an informal forum to exchange ideas and share experiences among West Tennessee middle and junior high science teachers.

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“Dr. Maniss is continuing the tradition of providing this service started by Judy Cleek in International Studies, ” said Dr. Mary Lee Hall, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean. “We are certainly proud to begin the third year of Project TECH with the opportunity to provide professional development for area classroom teachers who have an increasing number of Hispanic students in their classes.”

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For more information on the poetry workshop, contact Dr. Lynn Alexander, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, at 731-881-7281. For more information on the piano recital contact Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, at 731-881-7411. Both events are open to the public without charge.
Students to intern at golf courses and sports facilities

Spending the summer at some of the country's premier golf courses and sports facilities sounds like easy duty, but it will be all in a day's work for five University of Tennessee at Martin students. Jimmy Gann, of Kingston Springs, will intern at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md.; David Hines, of White Bluff, and Timothy Pace, of Linden, will intern at the TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., home of The Players Championship; Andrew Floyd, of Milan, will intern at Spring Creek Golf Course in Collierville; and Eric Gardner, of Santa Fe, will intern with the West Tennessee Diamond Jaxx. The internships last from May to August.

The students are agriculture majors with concentrations in golf course and landscape management. Gann's goal is to become a Professional Golf Association Tour agronomist. Such a job entails traveling to PGA Tour events and working closely with the superintendents to assure that the course conditions are acceptable and troubleshooting any agronomic problems. He needs as much experience on courses that host PGA Tour events as possible. Congressional is the site of the PGA Tour's AT&T National Tournament hosted by Tiger Woods. Hines, Pace, Floyd and Gardner plan to become golf course superintendents, positions that will require them to be knowledgeable about carrying out golf course maintenance plans, including course setup, pest management, nutrient management and any course improvement/renovation tasks that arise. Gardner's internship responsibilities include learning about baseball field maintenance and preparation for game day.

"Gann earned this internship by his own initiative and work ethic," said Dr. Wesley Totten, UT?Martin assistant professor of plant and soil science. "He contacted the superintendent at Congressional and was accepted." He added, "The other students are very hard working and enthusiastic about their chosen majors and careers," he added. "These students are going to some very prestigious places."

For more information about the agriculture major/golf course and landscape management concentration, contact Totten, at 731-881-7936, or wtotten@utm.edu.

ECCE offers Advanced Digital Photography

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer a course in intermediate and advanced digital photography in April.

"Digital Photography," for those with intermediate and advanced skills, is planned from 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, April 8-29. Dr. Tom Gailien will instruct the course and the fee will be $75. The course will be limited to four evenings, each class being two and a half hours in length with a possible field trip or two.

This course is primarily designed as a follow-up course for the "Introduction to Digital Photography" course. However, it is open to anyone who is already familiar with digital photography and is comfortable with and understands the operation of a digital SLR. Participants will hone their camera skills by learning the more advanced capabilities of their equipment and creative use of filters, tripods, multiple lenses and flash photography. Wildlife photography, landscape photography, flower and fine art photography, as well as general digital photography will be discussed. This course will be limited to participants who use a D-SLR with interchangeable lens capability. Participants will need to bring a tripod, camera and questions to class along with their camera's instruction manual if possible. Participants may also wish to bring a notebook for note taking. Printed handouts to supplement the presentations will be provided.

Tom Gailien has more than 35 years of photographic experience including 10 years of digital camera use. He has had the opportunity to study under the personal supervision of a number of well-known professional wildlife and landscape photographers and has won a number of competitions with his images.

To register for a workshop, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.

Foreign Film Series Offers 'Rashomon' on April 4

"Rashomon," the fourth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Language Film Series, is scheduled at 7:00 p.m., April 4, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Undoubtedly one of the most famous foreign films ever made, "Rashomon" revolutionized cinematographic narrative. The title of the film has even entered our language as a term for conflicting descriptions of the same event. In this case, the event is the vicious attack of a samurai and his wife in some desolate woods. Different people - the wife, a priest, a notorious bandit, a woodsman, and the deceased samurai (communicating through a medium) - recount what happened and view- ers are left to sort out the truth. Famed director Akira Kurosawa (1910-98) made more than 400 cuts between camera shots and scenes in "Rashomon," heightening the work's mystery and suspense. Kurosawa's cinematographer, Kazuo Miyagawa, also earned praise for the extended focuses on facial expressions and the use of light. Internationally acclaimed actor, Toshiro Mifune (1920-97), stars in the role of the bandit. Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, will introduce the film.

Each foreign film is in its original foreign language and contains English subtitles. All foreign film series movies are free and open to the public. The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council. For more information, contact the Department of Modern Foreign Languages at 731-881-7420.
**Lillegard to Speak April 3**

Dr. Norman Lillegard, recipient of the 2007 Cunningham Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will deliver an address, "There Has Never Been an Atheist (I)" (based upon a remark by the 19th century Danish thinker Soren Kierkegaard), at 7:30 p.m., April 3, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center. Sponsors are Honors Programs and the Department of History, Philosophy and International Studies.

Originally from Boston, Lillegard received his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Nebraska. He has been on the faculty of UT Martin since 1989. Lillegard has earned an international reputation as a scholar, particularly on the thought of Soren Kierkegaard. He has published more than 30 articles in peer-reviewed journals and collections of essays, several of which have appeared in translation in various European languages. He is the author or co-author of four books, including The Moral Domain, now in the final stages of publication by Oxford University Press. Lillegard has been an American Scandinavian Fellow, and a visiting scholar at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark and at Cambridge University in England. He has been an invited lecturer at conferences and colloquia in the United States, England, Sweden, Finland, Latvia and Poland, and has presented papers or served as a commentator at many additional conferences in the US and abroad. In the fall of 2008 he will be an invited professor at the University of the Nationalities in Beijing, China.

A past president of the Tennessee Philosophical Association, Lillegard recently completed service as the president of the Soren Kierkegaard Society; he has also been the society’s representative to the American Philosophical Association. In addition to membership in various philosophical societies, he is a member of the American Academy of Religion, the Association of Teaching Theologians (Lutheran) and the Society of Anglican and Lutheran Theologians.

In addition to the Cunningham Award, Lillegard has been twice honored by UT Martin students with the Outstanding Educator Award. Lillegard is also an ordained Lutheran minister, who spent 12 years in parish ministry prior to assuming his position at UT Martin.

"Honor Programs applauds and appreciates the support of Chancellor Tom Rakes in continuing the new tradition of including a member of the UT Martin faculty in the Academic Speakers Program," said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. "Norman Lillegard is an outstanding member of the faculty, one who not only has established an international reputation as a scholar, but has made a name for himself as an outstanding teacher and mentor from whom students learn not only the class material, but how to think creatively and independently."

For more information, contact McDonough at 731-881-7436.

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**Hall Receives University Service Award**

Amy Hall, of Sharon, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations.

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**Ogg Receives Greek Award**

Jana Ogg, of Martin, was recently awarded Greek Woman of the Year during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Ogg also accepted other chapter awards on behalf of Alpha Delta Pi. Pictured with Ogg is Louis Ragsdale, Greek life coordinator.
Eight UT Martin students in Artists of the 21st Century Exhibition

The Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt, will present the eighth annual Artists of the 21st Century exhibition of college artists from all southeastern states.

This year's juror was Armon Means, gallery director of the Renaissance Center in Dickson. Means selected 26 works of art from 18 young artists that will be on display in the exhibition that range from painting, photography and various three dimensional media. Seven artists from UT Martin were selected for the exhibition. Artists from colleges and universities from five states submitted works for the competition.

The exhibition continues through April 24. The opening reception is April 3, from 5-7 p.m. Awards will be announced at approximately 6:30 p.m. The public and media are invited to attend. The West Tennessee Regional Art Center is located at 1200 Main St., Humboldt, Tenn. 38343.

Students participating in the exhibits include Nici Stout, of Martin; Nicole Bell, of Franklin; John Mistrice, of Dyer; Laura Hensley, of Morris Chapel; Chiyun Huang, of Taipei, Taiwan; Daniel Rose, of Dyersburg; Nicholas D'Acquisto, of Bethel Springs; and David Klinkelus, of South Fulton.

Contact Bill Hickerson, director of the WTRAC, at 731-784-1787 for more information about the exhibition, directions, or the opening event.

Joyner is named Beta Scholar

The National Beta Club announced today that Kellie Joyner has been named a Beta Scholar which entitles her to a scholarship award of $1,000.

Kellie, a senior at Peabody High School, competed against more than 1200 candidates nationwide for this honor. Two hundred thirteen scholarship recipients were chosen. She plans to attend the University of Tennessee in Martin. She was recommended for this award by Peabody Beta Club sponsors, Tere Lumley, Christy Allen and Kent Scott and Peabody Principal Tim Haney.

"This outstanding young person represents the true spirit of National Beta, having excelled not only academically, but in leadership and service to school and community as well," said Joan Burnett, interim executive director of the National Beta Club.

Kellie is the daughter of Terrie and William Joyner of Trenton and granddaughter of Frances Joyner of Trenton and the late M.C. Joyner and Bill and Jackie Stover of Dyer.

Young Writers' Clubhouse slated April 12

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering a youth program to include a writing workshop for young people.

"Young Writers' Clubhouse" is scheduled from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., April 12. The cost is $30, which includes a writing notebook and pen. This workshop is a series of writing experiences for third through eighth graders where children write creatively, work with Writing Project teachers, and share with their friends.

Each child will need to provide lunch or purchase pizza by the slice.

For more information, or to register, call the ECCE at 800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.
Commerce official to speak as part of lecture series

Dean Peterson, director of the Nashville Export Assistance Center, U.S. Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, will speak at the University of Tennessee at Martin Tuesday as part of the International Lecture Series.

The event is set for 1 p.m. in Room 206AB of Boling University Center.

Peterson’s topic will be “China and the Asian Century — Implications for the United States.” The lecture is free and open to the public.

In his role as director, Peterson is responsible for the U.S. Department of Commerce’s export promotion activities in Tennessee, including export assistance centers in Nashville, Memphis and Knoxville. He brings to his position more than 30 years of international business experience in trade policy, trade promotion, consulting, teaching and senior management.

Peterson was named director in October 2000, following tours as the senior U.S. commercial officer at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London and as principal commercial officer at the U.S. Consulate General in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. From 1992 through 1995, he served as director of the Detroit Export Assistance Center with responsibility for U.S. trade promotion activities in Michigan.

Peterson has spent most of his professional career in the private sector, including 16 years as director of economics and senior planner with the RJR/Nabisco Corporation and its predecessor companies (Nabisco and Nabisco Brands Inc.). Prior to joining Nabisco, he was a founding partner of the International Business and Economic Research Corporation, a leading Washington, D.C.-based consulting firm specializing in research and advocacy on trade policy and foreign direct investment issues on behalf of a broad spectrum of domestic and foreign clients.

From August 1990 through August 1992, he served as president of Global Market Strategies in Atlanta.

He has written extensively, particularly on international competitiveness issues and on the economic implications of multinational corporations and foreign direct investment on both the investing and host economies.

OC STUDENT HONORED — Heather Grossner of Troy was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The honor was presented by David Belote, director of Student Life. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority and in the community.
Online course teaches wedding planning

Does making a living planning weddings sound like fun? Now you can get all the training you need to become a professional wedding planner in the new “Wedding Planner Career Certificate Program” being offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin and online course provider Ed2Go.

This 170-hour online program will teach participants everything they need to know to either obtain employment with an established bridal consultant or start their own wedding planning business.

Students will learn how to plan all the phases of a wedding — from the bridal shower to the ceremony to the reception. They’ll find out how to assist customers in selecting packages and vendors that suit their particular style and budget. They’ll come away ready to plan any type of wedding — formal, informal, religious, ethnic or specialty.

“The wedding planning industry is enormous and exciting, and students who want to enter it are wise to begin with this excellent training program,” said David M. Wood, president of the Association of Bridal Consultants.

Students can take the “Wedding Planner Career Certificate Program” from the convenience of home or office and at any time of the day or night. For more information about this program, part of a growing catalog of online courses, contact ECCÉ at (731) 881-7082.
Two UT Martin projects funded through grants

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently was notified that two projects have been funded under an agreement with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission for a total amount of $169,897.

Dr. Cahit Erkal, associate professor of physics, will serve as project director for “Activity-Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers: Year 6.”

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The activities of the institute are correlated to the Tennessee Science Curriculum frameworks for grades 6-9 and include technology in the classroom and laboratory.

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“We are certainly proud to begin the third year of Project TECH with the opportunity to provide professional development for area classroom teachers who have an increasing number of Hispanic students in their classes.”

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“Rashomon,” the fourth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Foreign Film Series, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Undoubtedly one of the most famous foreign films ever made, “Rashomon” revolutionized cinematographic narrative. The title of the film has even entered our language as a term for conflicting descriptions of the same event.

In this case, the event is the vicious attack on a samurai and his wife in some desolate woods. Different people — the wife, a priest, a notorious bandit, a woodman and the deceased samurai (communicating through a medium) — recount what happened and viewers are left to sort out the truth. Famed director Akira Kurosawa (1910-98) made more than 400 cuts between camera shots and scenes in “Rashomon,” heightening the work’s mystery and suspense.

Kurosawa’s cinematographer, Kazuo Miyagawa, also earned praise for the extended focuses on facial expressions and the use of light. Internationally acclaimed actor Toshiro Mifune (1920-97) stars in the role of the bandit.

Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of Department of Modern Foreign Languages, will introduce the film.

Each foreign film is in its original foreign language and contains English subtitles. All foreign film series movies are free and open to the public. The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council.

For more information, contact the Department of Modern Foreign Languages at (731) 881-7420.
Eight students included in annual art exhibition

The Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt will present the eighth annual Artists of the 21st Century exhibition of college artists from all southeastern states.

This year’s juror was Armon Means, gallery director of the Renaissance Center in Dickson. Means selected 26 works of art from 18 young artists that will be on display in the exhibition that include painting, photography, and various three-dimensional media. Seven artists from UT Martin were selected for the exhibition. Artists from colleges and universities from five states submitted works for the competition.

The exhibition continues through April 24.

The opening reception will be Thursday from 5-7 p.m. Awards will be announced at about 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. The West Tennessee Regional Art Center is located at 1200 Main St. in Humboldt.

Students participating in the exhibits include Nicci Stout of Martin; Nicole Bell of Franklin; John Mistic of Dyer; Laura Hensley of Morris Chapel; Chi-Yun Huang of Taipei, Taiwan; Daniel Rose of Dyersburg; Nicholas D’Acquisto of Bethel Springs; and David Klinkefus of South Fulton.

Contact Bill Hickerson, director of the WTRAC, at (731) 784-1787 for more information about the exhibition, directions, or the opening event.

Pianist and poet featured in recital

The University of Tennessee at Martin departments of Music and English are bringing Oni Buchanan, concert pianist and poet, to the campus.

Buchanan will present a recital at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building.

The Philharmonic Music Guild, the Martin Area Music Teachers Association and the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts will co-sponsor the event.

Buchanan will perform works by Debussy, Brahms, Villa-Lobos and Schumann, relating them to the literary works of Baudelaire, Verlaine, Shakespeare, Ovid and Aesop. She will present a workshop on kinetic Mandrake poetry at 10 a.m. Thursday in Room 312 of the Humanities Building.

Buchanan is a young American pianist who focuses her virtuosity and inventiveness on creating and bringing to life themed concerts.

Free business consulting offered

If you are a budding entrepreneur or a business owner who needs advice to grow a company, Ron Acree wants to help you. The Tennessee Small Business Development Center consultant is available each month at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center. His next visit will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m., April 10.

This is an opportunity to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 731-587-REED (7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin, Tenn. 38237.
Buchanan, pianist, poet to perform April 3

The University of Tennessee at Martin Departments of Music and English are bringing Oni Buchanan, concert pianist and poet, to the campus. Buchanan will present a recital at 7:30 p.m., April 3, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building.

The Philharmonic Music Guild, the Martin Area Music Teachers Association and the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts will co-sponsor the event. Buchanan will perform works by Debussy, Brahms, Villa-Lobos, and Schumann, relating them to the literary works of Baudelaire, Verlaine, Shakespeare, Ovid, and Aesop. Buchanan will present a workshop on kinetic Mandrake poetry at 10 a.m., April 3, in Room 312 of the Humanities Building.

Buchanan is a young American pianist who focuses her virtuosity and inventiveness on creating and bringing to life themed concerts. She has presented solo recitals throughout the U.S. and abroad and has recorded three solo piano CDs, including "Portraits, Pictures & Prints for Piano," a compilation of piano works inspired by the visual arts.

Buchanan received a master's in piano performance from the New England Conservatory of Music and a bachelor's in music from the University of Virginia.

In addition, she holds a bachelor's in English from the University of Virginia and a master's of fine arts in poetry from the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Her first book of poems, "What Animal," won the University of Georgia Press Contemporary Poetry Series competition. Her second poetry manuscript, "Spring," is winner of the 2007 National Poetry Series Open Competition. Her new book will be published by the University of Illinois Press in fall 2008.

For more information on the poetry workshop, contact Dr. Lynn Alexander, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, at 731-881-7281. For more information on the piano recital contact Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, at 731-881-7411. Both events are open to the public without charge.

Physics, astronomy institute funded for UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently was notified that two projects have been funded under an agreement with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission for a total amount of $169,897. Dr. Cahit Erkal, associate professor of physics, will serve as project director for "Activity-Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers: Year 6." Dr. Suzanne Maniss, assistant professor of education, will serve as project director for "Technology Enhanced Curriculum for Hispanic (TECH) Students: Year 3."

The "Activity-Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers: Year 6" will offer a series of residential workshops over a five-day period this summer and will center on selected topics from the middle/junior high curriculum in the areas of physics, astronomy and earth science. The activities of the institute are correlated to the Tennessee Science Curriculum frameworks for grades 6-9 and include technology in the classroom and laboratory.

"The workshops will provide support for science education in the form of hands-on and technology-based teacher training by modeling a research-based teaching practice that integrates mathematical skills with science," said Erkal. This will allow teachers to investigate ways to differentiate a healthy heart from an unhealthy heart based on electrocardiogram (EKG) signals. The outcome of the project will be the establishment of an informal forum to exchange ideas and share experiences among West Tennessee middle and junior high science teachers.

The "Technology Enhanced Curriculum for Hispanic (TECH) Students: Year 3" project is designed to provide teachers with a rich background in basic Spanish for teachers, English as a second language pedagogy and Hispanic culture, all of which will serve to equip them to serve students from this cultural group more effectively. The project will provide intensive, professional development opportunities for selected K-8 teachers in West Tennessee that incorporate training in the integration of technology with pedagogy to improve the learning and academic achievement of the limited-English-proficient Hispanic student. TECH is a collaborative effort of the Department of Educational Studies, the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, the English as a Second Language program.

"Dr. Maniss is continuing the tradition of providing this service started by Judy Cleek in International Studies," said Dr. Mary Lee Hall, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean. "We are certainly proud to begin the third year of Project TECH with the opportunity to provide professional development for area classroom teachers who have an increasing number of Hispanic students in their classes."
Wedding planning course offered

Does making a living planning weddings sound like fun? Now all the training needed to become a professional wedding planner can be obtained through the new “Wedding Planner Career Certificate Program” being offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin and online course provider, Ed2Go.

The 170-hour online program will teach participants everything they need to know to either obtain employment with an established bridal consultant or start their own wedding planning business.

Students will learn how to plan all the phases of a wedding – from the bridal shower, to the ceremony, to the reception.

They’ll find out how to assist customers in selecting packages and vendors that suit their particular style and budget.

They’ll come away ready to plan any type of wedding – formal, informal, religious, ethnic or specialty.

“The wedding planning industry is enormous and exciting, and students who want to enter it are wise to begin with this excellent training program,” said David M. Wood, president of the Association of Bridal Consultants.

Students can take the “Wedding Planner Career Certificate Program” from the convenience of home or office, and at any time of the day or night.

For more information about this program – part of a growing catalog of online courses – contact ECCE at 731-881-7082.

Klinkefus’ art to be part of exhibit

The Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt, will present the eighth annual Artists of the 21st Century exhibition of college artists from all southeastern states.

This year’s juror was Armon Means, gallery director of the Renaissance Center in Dickson.

Means selected 26 works of art from 18 young artists that will be on display in the exhibition that range from painting, photography and various three dimensional media. Seven artists from UT Martin were selected for the exhibition.

Artists from colleges and universities from five states submitted works for the competition.

The exhibition continues through April 24. The opening reception is April 3, from 5-7 p.m. Awards will be announced at approximately 6:30 p.m. The public and media are invited to attend. The West Tennessee Regional Art Center is located at 1200 Main St., Humboldt, Tenn. 38343.

Students participating in the exhibits include Nici Stout, of Martin; Nicole Bell, of Franklin; John Mistic, of Dyersburg; Laura Hensley, of Morris Chapel; Chi-Yun Huang, of Taipei, Taiwan; Daniel Rose, of Dyersburg; Nicholas D’Acquisto, of Bethel Springs; and David Klinkefus, of South Fulton.

Contact Bill Hickerson, director of the WTRAC, at 731-784-1787 for more information about the exhibition, directions, or the opening event.

Foreign film series: ‘The Boy From Lebanon’

“The Boy From Lebanon,” the fifth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Foreign Film Series, is scheduled at 7 p.m. April 11 in Watkins Auditorium of Bolling University Center at the University of Tennessee Martin. The film deals with a controversial subject: children being recruited to fight adult wars.

Djalali, the protagonist, loses his father to Israeli soldiers; shortly thereafter he is sold to terrorists who will train him to become a professional killer. Away from the world in an underground terrorist-training camp, the young boy learns to shoot, to hate and to fight the Holy War. At the end of his training, Djalali is totally brainwashed. After being sent to Paris to work in a secret mission, he meets Karim, a young Arab who lives in one of the very poor neighborhoods of the City of Lights. Things change drastically when Djalali is forced to choose between faith and friendship. This film is directed by Gilles de Maistre and will be introduced by Lucia Florido, UT Martin assistant professor of French.

Each foreign film is in its original foreign language and contains English subtitles. All foreign film series movies are free to attend. The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council. Call (731) 881-7420.
ECCE offers advanced digital photography

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer a course in intermediate and advanced digital photography in April. “Digital Photography,” for those with intermediate and advanced skills, is planned from 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, April 8-29. Dr. Tom Gallien will instruct the course and the fee will be $75.

This course will be limited to four evenings, each class being two and a half hours in length with a possible field trip or two.

This course is primarily designed as a follow-up course for the “Introduction to Digital Photography” course.

However, it is open to anyone who is already familiar with digital photography and is comfortable with and understands the operation of a digital SLR.

Wildlife photography, landscape photography, flower and fine art photography, as well as general digital photography will be discussed.

This course will be limited to participants who use a D-SLR with interchangeable lens capability.

Participants will need to have a tripod and camera along with their camera’s instruction manu-

Nashville Export Assistance Center director to speak at UT Martin

Dean Peterson, director of the Nashville Export Assistance Center, U.S. Commercial Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, will speak at the University of Tennessee at Martin on April 8 as part of the International Lecture Series. Slated for 1 p.m., in Room 206AB, Boling University Center, his topic will be “China and the Asian Century – Implications for the United States.” The lecture is free and open to the public.

In his role as director, Peterson is responsible for the U.S. Department of Commerce’s export promotion activities in Tennessee, including export assistance centers in Nashville, Memphis and Knoxville.

He brings to his position more than 30 years of international business experience in trade policy, trade promotion, consulting, teaching and senior management.

Peterson was named director in October 2000. From 1992 through 1995, he served as director of the Detroit Export Assistance Center with responsibility for U.S. trade promotion activities in Michigan.

Peterson has spent most of his professional career in the private sector, including 16 years as director of economics and senior planner with the RJR/Nabisco Corporation and its predecessor companies (Nabisco and Nabisco Brands, Inc.).

Prior to joining Nabisco, he was a founding partner of the International Business and Economic Research Corporation, a leading Washington, D.C.-based consulting firm specializing in research and advocacy on trade policy and foreign direct investment issues on behalf of a broad spectrum of domestic and foreign clients.

From August 1990 through August 1992, he served as president of Global Market Strategies, Atlanta, Ga. He has written extensively, particularly on international competitiveness issues and on the economic implications of multinational corporations and foreign direct investment on both the investing and host economies.

For more information, contact the Center for Global Studies and International Education at 731-881-1017.

Small business consultant available at REED Center

For budding entrepreneurs or business owners who need advice to grow a company, Ron Acree wants to help.

The Tennessee Small Business Development Center Consultant is available each month at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center.

His next visit will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at (731) 587-REED (7333).

The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St. in Martin.
Business etiquette class to be offered

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering a professional development program on business etiquette for the 21st century.

“Power Etiquette: What You Don’t Know Can Kill Your Career” will be offered from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., April 8. Mary Alice Burkhart will be the presenter. The cost is $60, which includes lunch. Burkhart will explore attitudes, which encompasses topics such as body language, personal grooming, business wardrobe and communication. She will discuss the ins and outs of manners including gift giving and receiving, using titles and meal manners. Burkhart will also tackle issues of protocol, such as written and electronic correspondence, including thank you notes and telephone etiquette, as well as formal and practical business entertaining. Other general topics include personal space, cultural sensitivity and handling conflict.

To register for a workshop, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

ECCE offers acupressure course

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering an acupressure class in the spring.

“Acupressure for Wellness: Self-Applied Acupressure” will be offered from 6:30-8 p.m., April 7. Jennie Coleman, a licensed massage therapist, will instruct the course. The fee for the class is $35. Acupressure is an ancient healing art developed in Asia over 5,000 years ago, using the fingers to press key points on the surface of the skin to stimulate the body’s natural self-corrective abilities. When these points are pressed, they release muscular tension and promote the circulation of blood and the body’s life force energy to aid healing. Acupressure uses gentle but firm pressure and integrates bodywork therapies, therapeutic touch, somatic work, healing imagery, energy psychology and massage therapy techniques. In this seminar, participants will learn to use self-applied acupressure for relief from a variety of symptoms such as headache, hiccups and sciatica backache.

Participants should take a pillow, beach towel or blanket to class and wear loose, comfortable clothing.

For more information, or to register, call the ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

Bloodmobile will visit UT Martin

LIFELINE Bloodmobile will hold a blood drive from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, April 8-9, at UT Martin. There is currently a special need for A negative, O positive and O negative blood for patients in West Tennessee hospitals. For more information call (800) 924-6572.

Eight students in artists exhibition

The Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt will present the eighth annual Artists of the 21st Century exhibition of college artists from all Southeastern states.

This year’s juror was Armon Means, gallery director of the Renaissance Center in Dickson. Means selected 26 works of art from 18 young artists that include painting, photography and various three dimensional media. Seven artists from UT Martin were selected for the exhibition. Artists from colleges and universities from five states submitted works for the competition.

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Students participating in the exhibits include Nici Stout, of Martin; Nicole Bell, of Franklin; John Mistic, of Dyer; Laura Hensley, of Morris Chapel; Chi-Yun Huang, of Taipei, Taiwan; Daniel Rose, of Dyersburg; Nicholas D’Acquisto, of Bethel Springs; and David Klinkefus, of South Fulton.

Contact Bill Hickerson, director of the WTRAC, at (731) 784-1787 for more information about the exhibition or directions.
South Fulton native competing for Miss USA title in Las Vegas

Beauty queens from across the nation have gathered in Las Vegas to claim the title of Miss USA. Among them will be a South Fulton native.

The pageant will air live on NBC from the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino on April 11, with Marie Osmond and Donny Osmond hosting the show. This is the first time since 2000 that the Osmond brother-sister duo has hosted a prime-time special together and the third time they have hosted a pageant together.

Each contestant from 50 states and the District of Columbia will be judged in three categories: swimsuit, evening gown and interview.

Miss USA 2007 Rachel Smith will crown her successor at the conclusion of the two-hour prime-time telecast of the 57th Miss USA. Miss USA travels the nation as an advocate for breast and ovarian cancer awareness, education, research and legislation.

Hoping to win that title is Miss Tennessee Hailey Brown.

Born in Fulton, but raised across the state line in Obion County, Miss Brown graduated with honors in 2000 from South Fulton High School. While a student, she was a member of several clubs, served in various leadership roles and participated in track, cheerleading and gymnastics.

The 25-year-old decided at a young age to pursue a medical career. With the help of sponsors, she attended the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine at UCLA and then enrolled at the University of Tennessee at Martin to study pre-medicine.

At UTM, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority and was a chancellor's assistant and a member of the Honor Society. As a member of the "Up 'Til Dawn" committee, she helped raise funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis.

Miss Brown has had much academic success, being named UTM Freshman of the Year in 2001 and graduating magna cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in biology and chemistry in 2003.

At the time of her graduation, she was working in the emergency room of a local hospital. With the encouragement of family members, she moved to Nashville, got a job at a doctor's office and started studying for the medical college admissions test.

Before taking that test, Miss Brown happened upon a new career — medical sales. A representative for PSS World Medical servicing the doctor's office where she worked offered her a job as an assistant. She moved to Jacksonville, Fla., for a six-month training program and expected to work with a representative upon her return to Tennessee. Instead, she was offered and took over south central Tennessee.

Miss Brown said she believes her "leap of faith" to pursue medical sales without sales experience as a wise decision — and credits much of her sales success to extensive training and experienced coworkers.

She has been successful with her career choice was well, winning many awards, including 2007 Rookie of the Year.

She has run several marathons, likes to participate in just about any adventurous outdoor sport and loves to travel. Her hobbies include reading, journaling and photography. She enjoys modeling for Reflection Model and Talent agency in Nashville.

Miss Brown is an advocate for a healthy lifestyle, is involved in Nashville's American Heart Association chapter and is a certified raw food chef.

She also participates in Big Brothers Big Sisters of Nashville and is a member of Brentwood Baptist Church, where she volunteers with Kairos ministry and the youth group girls.

Miss Brown was crowned Miss Tennessee USA 2008 on Oct. 6, 2007. She is the daughter of David and Lisa Thompson of Dresden and Mike and Julia Brown of Paducah, Ky. She is the granddaughter (See Page 2, Col. 2)

South...

(Continued from Page One) of Marion and Carolyn Butler of Fulton and Martha Brown and the late Charles Brown of South Fulton.
Mason Storey of Troy was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority and in the community.

Jenny Cooper, a senior music education major from Camden, will perform her senior euphonium recital at 7:30 p.m. April 28 in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The recital is free and open to the public.

The performance will feature works by Barat, de Luca, Haddad and de La Nux. Ms. Cooper will be assisted by Bradley G. Coker, instructor of music; Dr. Jeremy Kolwinski, Department of Music chairman; Jonathan Byrd, student, of Union City; and Delana Easley, music specialist, of Union City.

The University of Tennessee at Martin University Trio — consisting of flutist Dr. Elaine Harrius, clarinetist Dr. Amy Simmons and pianist Delana Easley — will present a program of chamber music at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the campus.

Dr. Harrius, professor of music, received her doctorate from the University of Michigan and served as principal flutist in the Jackson and Paducah Symphony orchestras for a total of 25 years.

Dr. Simmons, assistant professor of music, received her doctorate from Arizona State University, has given solo and chamber recitals throughout the Europe, as well as the U.S., and has released a solo CD featuring the music of Russell Riepe.

Mrs. Easley, UT Martin staff accompanist, is active as a solo-

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Dr. G.K. Sharma, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of biology, recently was named the featured scholar for the spring semester.

Each semester, the university recognizes outstanding faculty for excellence in teaching and scholarship.

Sharma joined the UT Martin faculty in 1968 and was named a Harvard University postdoctoral research fellow in 1976-77. He was named a University of Tennessee Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor and is a recipient of the Excellence in Education Award, Featured Scholar Award, International Scholar Award and the UT Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award.

A sample of Sharma's publications and accomplishments is on display in the Paul Meek Library on the UT Martin campus.
Foreign Film Series is scheduled

"The Boy From Lebanon," the fifth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Foreign Film Series, is scheduled at 7 p.m., April 11, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

"The Boy From Lebanon" is a film that deals with a controversial subject: children being recruited to fight adult wars. Djilali, the protagonist, loses his father to Israeli soldiers; shortly thereafter he is sold to terrorists who will train him to become a professional killer. Away from the world in an underground terrorist-training camp, the young boy learns to shoot, to hate and to fight the Holy War. At the end of his training, Djilali is totally brainwashed. After being sent to Paris to work in a secret mission, he meets Karim, a young Arab who lives in one of the very poor neighborhoods of the City of Lights. It is Karim's job to help Djilali blend in. Karim knows nothing of the mission and, like other boys his age, is only interested in eating hamburgers, listening to rap music and playing on his skateboard. The two boys become very close friends and take an oath to remain so. Things change drastically when Djilali is forced to choose between faith and friendship. This film is directed by Gilles de Maistre and will be introduced by Dr. Lucia Florido, UT Martin assistant professor of French.

Each foreign film is in its original foreign language and contains English subtitles. All foreign film series movies are free and open to the public. The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council. For more information, contact the Department of Modern Foreign Languages at 881-7420.

University Trio to perform

The University of Tennessee at Martin University Trio, consisting of flutist Dr. Elaine Harris, clarinetist Dr. Amy Simmons, and pianist Delana Easley, will present a program of chamber music at 7:30 p.m., April 10, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the campus.

The trio's program includes Clifford Crawley's "Pieces of Eight," a take on several familiar tunes, Carl Vollrath's "Trio No. 2" which the University Trio premiered this past summer, Tomas Svoboda's "Theme and Variations," and Charles Koechlin's "Pastorale."

Harriss, professor of music, received her doctorate from the University of Michigan and served as principal flutist in the Jackson and Paducah Symphony orchestras for a total of 25 years. Simmons, assistant professor of music, received her doctorate from Arizona State University, has given solo and chamber recitals throughout the Europe as well as the U.S., and has released a solo CD featuring the music of Russell Riepe. Easley, UT Martin staff accompanist, is active as a soloist and collaborative pianist in the area.

Learn how to be a wedding planner

Does making a living planning weddings sound like fun? Now you can get all the training you need to become a professional wedding planner in the new "Wedding Planner Career Certificate Program" being offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin and online course provider, Ed2Go. This 170-hour online program will teach participants everything they need to know to either obtain employment with an established bridal consultant or start their own wedding planning business.

Students will learn how to plan all the phases of a wedding — from the bridal shower, to the ceremony, to the reception. They'll find out how to assist customers in selecting packages and vendors that suit their particular style and budget. They'll come away ready to plan any type of wedding — formal, informal, religious, ethnic or specialty.

"The wedding planning industry is enormous and exciting, and students who want to enter it are wise to begin with this excellent training program," said David M. Wood, president of the Association of Bridal Consultants.

Students can take the "Wedding Planner Career Certificate Program" from the convenience of home or office, and at any time of the day or night. For more information about this program — part of a growing catalog of online courses — contact ECCE at 881-7082.
ECCE offers certification in nutrition, fitness and health

University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education plans online professional certificates in nutrition, fitness and health.

These interactive, comprehensive Web-based certificate programs, several with an optional elective field internship course, will allow students from around the world to fit courses into work and home schedules. The certificate programs are designed to supply essential educational pathways and career opportunities to those seeking to start a career in the emerging health/fitness industry, as well as those actively involved in the allied health/medical field and registered dietitians who desire continuing educational units/credits. In addition, those from the surrounding community who want the most up-to-date information on how to become and stay healthy will benefit from these certificates.

Courses are led by instructors, and participants benefit from ongoing guidance, instruction and interaction from instructors who hold either a master's or doctorate in exercise physiology, kinesiology, biomechanics, physical therapy, nutrition or other exercise science-related degrees. Instructors are leading experts, national presenters and teachers in the health and fitness industry who support their students and can serve as resources and mentors.

The certificate programs are offered three times a year in the fall, spring and summer semesters, and can be completed in three to six months, depending on the certificate program. Courses may be taken individually, and students have up to two years to complete a certificate. Online programs will provide advanced education and CECs or CPEUs for group fitness instructors, personal trainers, RDs, physical therapists, nurses, athletic trainers and chiropractors seeking recertification or career advancement.

The program is offered in partnership with many of the nation's leading health and fitness organizations. Students graduating from the certificate programs will be eligible to receive educational, membership and national certification exam opportunities. The following national organizations are partners in these programs: The American Council on Exercise, Health Club Managers Inc., IDEA Health and Fitness Association, International Council on Active Aging, Aquatic Exercise Association, American Senior Fitness Association, Healthways SilverSneakers® Fitness Program, Personal Fitness Professional, Women's Health Foundation and Healthy Moms.

For additional information, visit the UT Martin online instruction center at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinetourcourses.php, and select the program of choice listed under Educational Fitness Solutions Inc.

Demonstrations, panel discussion, movie highlight Earth Week

The third annual Earth Week activities, highlighted by demonstrations, panel discussion with industry representatives, a movie and recycling day, is slated April 21-26, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Earth Day is April 22. The week's events are sponsored by the American Democracy Project and UTM Recycles.

Following is schedule of events:

• April 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. — "Showcase of Sustainability" — what UT Martin is doing to help the natural environment/variety of displays and demonstrations, cafeteria hallway, Boling University Center;

• April 22, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — "Time Talk," speaker, Mary Carpenter, Paul Meek Library director, topic - literature on sustainability, Room 125, university center;

• April 23, noon-2 p.m. — Movie, "Kilowatt Ours," discussion to follow led by Dr. Mike McCullough, UT Martin American Democracy Project director, Gallien Auditorium, Gooch Hall;

• April 24, 3-5 p.m. — Weakley County Green Symposium, Dr. David Coffey, UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts co-interim dean, moderator; and Dennis Kosta, UT Martin supervisor of custodial services; Keith Kersey, MTD; Mark Kinsey, Goodyear; Mike Cary, Obion County Recycling Center; and a representative from Barker Bros. Waste Inc., panelists, Watkins Auditorium, university center; 9-10 p.m., Lights Out Party, lights out all over Weakley County to celebrate the earth; and

• April 26, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., recycling event, parking lot, Hardy Graham Stadium.

Others assisting with the week's activities include Dr. Sarah Holliday, UT Martin assistant professor of mathematics; Dr. Arthur Hunt, associate professor of communications; and Tommy York, UT Martin graduate student.

For more information about Earth Week events, call or e-mail McCullough, at 881-7325 or mccullou@utm.edu.
Students to intern at Congressional, Sawgrass, Spring Creek golf courses

Students to intern at Congressional, Sawgrass, Spring Creek golf courses and with Diamond Jaxx.

Spending the summer at some of the country's premier golf courses and sports facilities sounds like easy duty, but it will be all in a day's work for five University of Tennessee at Martin students. Jimmy Gann, of Kingston Springs, will intern at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md.; David Hines, of White Bluff, and Timothy Pace, of Linden, will intern at the TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., home of The Players Championship; Andrew Floyd, of Milan, will intern at Spring Creek Golf Course in Collierville; and Eric Gardner, of Santa Fe, will intern with the West Tennessee Diamond Jaxx. The internships last from May to August.

The students are agriculture majors with concentrations in golf course and landscape management. Gann's goal is to become a Professional Golf Association Tour agronomist. Such a job entails traveling to PGA Tour events and working closely with the superintendents to assure that the course conditions are acceptable and troubleshooting any agronomic problems. He needs as much experience on courses that host PGA Tour events as possible. Congressional is the site of the PGA Tour's AT&T National Tournament hosted by Tiger Woods. Hines, Pace, Floyd and Gardner plan to become golf course superintendents, positions that will require them to be knowledgeable about carrying out golf course maintenance plans, including course setup, pest management, nutrient management and any course improvement/renovation tasks that arise. Gardner's internship responsibilities include learning about baseball field maintenance and preparation for game day.

"Gann earned this internship by his own initiative and work ethic," said Dr. Wesley Totten, UT Martin assistant professor of plant and soil science. "He contacted the superintendent at Congressional and was accepted." He added, "The other students are very hard working and enthusiastic about their chosen majors and careers," he added. "These students are going to some very prestigious places."

For more information about the agriculture major/golf course and landscape management concentration, contact Totten, at 881-7936, or wtotten@utm.edu.

UTM spring alumni weekend marks opening of new center

A special spring alumni weekend event is planned, April 11-13, to mark the grand opening of the new Alumni Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin. After minor renovations, the Office of Alumni Relations has relocated to the Alumni Center, the building formerly known as the Chancellor's Residence.

On April 12, an Alumni Center open house is planned from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The spring football game is slated for 10 a.m., followed by the Rodeo Community Feed and Auction, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and Skyhawk softball and baseball games at 1 p.m. Musical entertainment is scheduled at 3:30 p.m. at the Alumni Center featuring an alumni band, 27bStroke6. The rodeo begins at 7:30 p.m. Sunday brunch is from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria in Boling University Center.

A weekend package is available for alumni to purchase online at www.utmforever.com or by calling 881-7610. The package includes lunch Saturday, compliments of the UT Martin Rodeo team and MTD; ticket to the Saturday night performance of the rodeo; Sunday brunch, sponsored by Sodexho Dining Services; and a UT Martin T-shirt. The package is $35 per person older than 18 years of age and $30 for those younger than 18.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations, at 881-7610.
UTM awarded two THEC grants

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently was notified that two projects have been funded under an agreement with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission for a total amount of $169,897. Dr. Cahit Erkal, associate professor of physics, will serve as project director for “Activity-Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers: Year 6.” Dr. Suzanne Maniss, assistant professor of education, will serve as project director for “Technology Enhanced Curriculum for Hispanic (TECH) Students: Year 3.”

The “Activity-Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers: Year 6” will offer a series of residential workshops over a five-day period this summer and will center on selected topics from the middle/junior high curriculum in the areas of physics, astronomy and earth science. The activities of the institute are correlated to the Tennessee Science Curriculum frameworks for grades 6-9 and include technology in the classroom and laboratory.

“The workshops will provide support for science education in the form of hands-on and technology-based teacher training by modeling a research-based teaching practice that integrates mathematical skills with science,” said Erkal. This will allow teachers to investigate ways to differentiate a healthy heart from an unhealthy heart based on electrocardiogram (EKG) signals. The outcome of the project will be the establishment of an informal forum to exchange ideas and share experiences among West Tennessee middle and junior high science teachers.

The “Technology Enhanced Curriculum for Hispanic (TECH) Students: Year 3” project is designed to provide teachers with a rich background in basic Spanish for teachers, English as a second language pedagogy and Hispanic culture, all of which will serve to equip them to serve students from this cultural group more effectively. The project will provide intensive, professional development opportunities for selected K-8 teachers in West Tennessee that incorporate training in the integration of technology with pedagogy to improve the learning and academic achievement of the limited-English-proficient Hispanic student. TECH is a collaborative effort of the Department of Educational Studies, the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, the English as a Second Language program, as well as four partnering school districts.

“Dr. Maniss is continuing the tradition of providing this service started by Judy Cleek in International Studies,” said Dr. Mary Lee Hall, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean. “We are certainly proud to begin the third year of Project TECH with the opportunity to provide professional development for area classroom teachers who have an increasing number of Hispanic students in their classes.”

Young Writers’ Clubhouse offered by ECCE

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering a youth program to include a writing workshop for young people. “Young Writers’ Clubhouse” is scheduled from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., April 12. The cost is $30, which includes a writing notebook and pen. This workshop is a series of writing experiences for third through eighth graders where children write creatively, work with Writing Project teachers, and share with their friends. Themes will include Monster Mysteries and Scary Suspense, Funky Fairy Tales, Crazy Creative Writing, and Writing To, From and About Music. Each child will need to provide lunch or purchase pizza by the slice.

For more information, or to register, call the ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.
Babies, parents bonding in yoga

By ASHLEY ANTHONY
aanthony@jacksonsun.com

MARTIN — William Whites smiled as he balanced his 5-month-old son on his stomach. He glanced down at his son to see if he was enjoying the stretch as much as he was.

“He seems to like it,” Whites said as his son laughed.

They were the only father-son duo in the baby yoga class on March 28.

Whites, a stay-at-home dad, wanted to try something new with his son, Jackson Connor.

In February, they took their first baby yoga class. He thought the class would help make them both stronger, Whites said.

For more than a year, Whites was in physical and occupational therapy after injuring his right shoulder, arm and hand in 2006 while serving in the war in Iraq. When his son was born in October, Jackson Connor was in a breech position.

The stretches they’ve learned in the yoga class are similar to the ones doctors suggested to help Jackson Connor’s body straighten out, Whites said.

But the yoga class has done more than that, he said. His son is more active, Whites said.

“He’s crawling more and trying to stand up,” he said.

“He also gets to see what other children are like. Otherwise, it’s just him and I at home while my wife is at work.”

White, 35, said the yoga class provides a playful and learning environment for his son.

“There’s not many gymkhana classes like that around here, and he’s too young to take to the park to play,” he said. “It’s great one-on-one time with your child.”

Kathleen Vandenberg, the facilitator of the Itsy Bitsy Yoga class, said the class gives parents a chance to interact and bond with their infants and toddlers while simulating their child’s development, helping them sleep and digest better.

She’s been teaching the class free while she completes her certification.

“Plus, it’s fun,” she said. “For the babies class, we do a lot of poses where the (parents) manipulate the baby’s limbs, helping them to stretch and relax. We sing songs as we do the poses.”

Vandenberg is also an assistant professor of English at the University of Tennessee Martin.

Her toddler class practices subtle versions of adult yoga to encourage balance, flexibility, strength and coordination, she said.

She’s practiced yoga for almost four years. When Vandenberg became pregnant with her first child in 2006, she continued to do yoga as part of a healthy pregnancy, she said.

When her son, Beckett, was born, she wanted to share her love for yoga with him. While looking for resources about practicing yoga with babies, she found author Helen Gurunadian’s

Please see YOGA, 2C

BENEFITS OF ITSY BITSY YOGA

- Encourages one-on-one interaction with your child
- Stimulates child development and coordination
- Encourages balance and flexibility
- Can help a child grow stronger, sleep and digest better

Source: Kathleen Vandenberg, a facilitator of an Itsy Bitsy Yoga class in Martin

ABOVE: Merry Brown and her 8-month-old son, Thomas, participate in a toddler yoga class in Martin. RIGHT: Heather Scarano and her 2-year-old son Christian, left, and Julie Ann Maddox and her 18-month-old daughter, Jayden, enjoy the class.
Yoga
Continued from cover

book, "Itsy Bitsy Yoga." Vandenberg and her son began to do poses from the book. She enjoyed it so much that she contacted Garabedian and was able to train with her to learn how to teach the poses to other mothers and their children.

Vandenberg will complete her certification this month. Her last class is this week.

She is interested in leading more yoga classes for babies and toddlers in the summer.

Even with the yoga mats and soft Indian music playing in the background, a child yoga class isn’t your normal yoga class for adults, Vandenberg said.

It’s louder and emphasizes the union of the adult and child, she said.

Laurie Baker of Martin said her 11-month-old son, Ethan, has gotten more out of the class than she anticipated.

“I was surprised he remembered some of the motions we did from week to week,” she said. “It’s definitely helped with his coordination.”

A pose called half moon has helped his son become more aware of each side of his body, Baker said.

Merry Brown, also of Martin, practices some of the techniques at home with her 8-month-old son, Thomas, to help him relax.

Her favorite technique for her son is the heart warm touch.

“You rub your hands together before you touch him from his chest down to his toes,” Brown said. “He really likes that. That’s the move that calms him down.”

She enjoys coming to the class to meet other moms and their babies.

“So much of my life is hectic, and this is very child centered,” Brown said. “You get to focus on your baby.”

Visit jacksunsun.com and share your thoughts.

— Ashley Anthony, 425-9631

William Whites and his 5-month-old son, Jackson Connor, rest after a recent baby yoga class in Martin. Whites, a stay-at-home dad, wanted to try something new with his son.
Retired UTM Professor Receives Prestigious Award

Betty H. Rrasberry, retired Professor of Social Work at UTM, recently received the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award for her career-long dedication to child advocacy. The award was presented in Nashville at the 20th annual meeting of Children's Advocacy Days. Executive Director Linda O'Neal of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth presented the award, referencing Ms. Rrasberry's legacy of advocacy, her leadership roles within many state and national professional organizations, as well as her leadership in numerous service-related programs and civic groups. Ms. Rrasberry was particularly recognized for her integral role in the development and accreditation of UTM's Bachelor's Degree program in Social Work. Following her retirement from UTM, Ms. Rrasberry continued to advocate for children and their families through training, workshops, consultation, and private clinical practice. Ms. O'Neal also commended Ms. Rrasberry for her contributions as a member of the legislatively-appointed Blue Ribbon Panel that established the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth with nine regional councils across the state. Ms. Rrasberry continues as an active member of the Northwest Tennessee Regional Council and currently serves as an officer.

Additionally, State Representative Mark Maddox of Dresden presented a Resolution to honor and commend Ms. Rrasberry upon receiving the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award and for her meritorious service to children in Tennessee. In the resolution, Representative Maddox cited many specific awards and recognitions Ms. Rrasberry has received throughout her years of personal and professional service to others. In closing, Representative Maddox read from House Joint Resolution 971: "Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Fifth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, the Senate concurring, that we hereby honor and commend Betty H. Rrasberry upon receiving the Jim Pryor Advocacy Award for 2008, offer our gratitude on behalf of her many significant and meritorious contributions to the health and welfare of the children of this fine state, and extend her our best wishes for every future success."

ECCE Offers Online Certification in Nutrition, Fitness and Health

University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education plans online professional certificates in nutrition, fitness and health. These interactive, comprehensive Web-based certificate programs, several with an option elective field internship course, will allow students from around the world to fit courses into work and home schedules. The certificate programs are designed to supply essential educational pathways and career opportunities to those seeking to start a career in the emerging health/fitness industry, as well as those actively involved in the allied health/medical field and registered dietitians who desire continuing educational units/credits. In addition, those from the surrounding community who want the most up-to-date information on how to become and stay healthy will benefit from these certificates.

Courses are led by instructors, and participants benefit from ongoing guidance, instruction and interaction from instructors who hold either a master’s or doctorate in exercise physiology, kinesiology, biomechanics, physical therapy, nutrition or other exercise science-related degrees. Instructors are leading experts, national presenters and teachers in the health and fitness industry who support their students and can serve as resources and mentors. The certificate programs are offered three times a year in the fall, spring and summer semesters, and can be completed in three to six months, depending on the certificate program. Courses may be taken individually, and students have up to two years to complete a certificate. Online programs will provide advanced education and CEU's and CPEUs for group fitness instructors, personal trainers, RDs, physical therapists, nurses, athletic trainers and chiropractors seeking recertification or career advancement.

The program is offered in partnership with many of the nation’s leading health and fitness organizations. Students graduating from the certificate programs will be eligible to receive educational, membership, and national certification exam opportunities. The following national organizations are partners in these programs: The American Council on Exercise, Health Club Managers, Inc., IDEA Health and Fitness Association, International Council on Active Aging, Aquatic Exercise Association, American Senior Fitness Association, Healthways SilverSneakers Fitness Program, Personal Fitness Professional, Women’s Health Foundation and Healthy Moms.

For additional information, visit the UT Martin online instruction center at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php, and select the program of choice listed under Educational Fitness Solutions, Inc.
Cooper to Perform Senior Euphonium Recital in April

Jenny Cooper, a senior music education major from Camden, will perform her senior euphonium recital at 7:30 p.m. April 28, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The recital is free and open to the public.

The performance will feature works by Barat, de Luca, Haddad and de La Nux. Bradley G. Coker, instructor of music; Dr. Jeremy Kolwinski, Department of Music chair; Jonathan Byrd, student, of Union City; and Delana Easley, music specialist; will assist her.

For more information contact Coker at 731-881-7401.

Grand Opening of New Alumni Center April 11-13

A special spring alumni weekend event is planned, April 11-13, to mark the grand opening of the new Alumni Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin. After minor renovations, the Office of Alumni Relations has relocated to the Alumni Center, the building formerly known as the Chancellor’s Residence.

On April 12, an Alumni Center open house is planned from 4:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The spring football game is slated for 10:00 a.m., followed by the Rodeo Community Feed and Auction, from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., and Skyhawk softball and baseball games at 1:00 p.m. Musical entertainment is scheduled at 3:30 p.m. at the Alumni Center featuring an alumni band, 27bStrokes.

The rodeo begins at 7:30 p.m. Sunday brunch is from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria in Bolling University Center.

A weekend package is available for alumni to purchase online at www.utmforever.com or by calling 731-881-7610. The package includes: lunch Saturday, compliments of the UT Martin Rodeo team and MTD; ticket to the Saturday night performance of the rodeo; Sunday brunch, sponsored by Sodexo Dining Services; and a UT Martin T-shirt. The package is $35 per person older than 18 years of age and $30 for those under 18.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations, at 731-881-7610.

Demonstrations, Panel Discussion, Movie Highlight Earth Week

The third annual Earth Week activities, highlighting by demonstrations, panel discussion with industry representatives, a movie and recycling day, is slated April 21-28, at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Earth Day is April 22. The week’s events are sponsored by the American Democracy Project and UTM Recycles.

Following is schedule of events:

- April 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. - "Showcase of Sustainability" - what UT-Martin is doing to help the natural environment/variety of displays and demonstrations, cafeteria hallway, Boling University Center;
- April 22, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - "Time Talk," speaker, Mary Carpenter, Paul Meek Library director, topic - literature on sustainability, Room 125, university center;
- April 23, noon-2 p.m. - Movie, "Kilowatt Ours," discussion to follow led by Dr. Mike McCullough, UT-Martin American Democracy Project director, Gallien Auditorium, Gooch Hall;

- April 24, 3-5 p.m. - Weakley County Green Symposium, Dr. David Coffey, UT-Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts co-interim dean, moderator; and Dennis Kosta, UT Martin supervisor of custodial services; Keith Kersey, MTD; Mark Kinney, Goodfellow; Mike Cary, Obion County Recycling Center; and a representative from Barker Bros Waste, Inc., panelists, Watkins Auditorium, university center; 9-10 p.m., Lights Out Party, lights out all over Weakley County to celebrate the earth; and
- April 26, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., recycling event, parking lot, Hardy Graham Stadium.

Others assisting with the week’s activities include: Dr. Sarah Holliday, UT-Martin assistant professor of mathematics; Dr. Arthur Hunt, associate professor of communications; and Tommy York, UT-Martin graduate student.

For more information about Earth Week events, call or e-mail McCullough, at 731-881-7325 or mccullou@utm.edu.

Ensembles Concert Scheduled for April 20

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will present its second student chamber ensembles concert of the spring semester at 7:30 p.m., April 20, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus.

The event will feature chamber music by a variety of student ensembles. The concert is free and open to the public.

For more information, call the Department of Music at 731-881-7402.
Seitz Book Signing April 24

Rebecca Deboard Seitz

The University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library will host a book signing from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., April 24, for Rebecca Deboard Seitz, of Fulton, Kentucky, a UT Martin graduate and University Scholar. The title of her book is “Sisters Inc.” It is the first book in a series of four that centers on the popular world of scrapbooking.

Seitz will discuss and share journaling with samples of projects she has made using Ellison die cuts, similar to those that are available in the university’s Learning Resource Center. The event is free and open to the public. Participants will receive free samples of various die cuts available from the resource center.

Contact Nan Murphey, at ext. 7078, for more information about the journaling session from noon-12:45 p.m. For additional information, contact Cindy Gaylord at ext. 7078 or cgaylord@utm.edu.

University Trio to Perform

The University of Tennessee at Martin University Trio, consisting of flutist Dr. Elaine Harriss, clarinetist Dr. Amy Simmons, and pianist Delana Easley, will present a program of chamber music at 7:30 p.m., April 10, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the campus.

The trio’s program includes Clifford Crawley’s “Pieces of Eight,” a take on several familiar tunes, Carl Vollrath’s “Trio No. 2,” which the University Trio premiered this past summer, Tomas Svoboda’s “Theme and Variations,” and Charles Koechlin’s “Pastorale.”

Harriss, professor of music, received her doctorate from the University of Michigan and served as principal flutist in the Jackson and Paducah Symphony orchestras for a total of 25 years. Simmons, assistant professor of music, received her doctorate from Arizona State University, has given solo and chamber recitals throughout Europe as well as the U.S., and has released a solo CD featuring the music of Russell Riepe. Easley, UT Martin staff accompanist, is active as a soloist and collaborative pianist in the area.

University of Tennessee at Martin professor of biology, who recently was named the featured scholar for the spring semester, is pictured with Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, left, and Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Sharma Recognized as Spring Featured Scholar

Dr. G.K. Sharma, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of biology, recently was named the featured scholar for the spring semester.

Each semester, the university recognizes outstanding faculty for excellence in teaching and scholarship. Sharma received a bachelor of science, a master of science and doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia; and also received a doctorate in homeopathic medicine from the British Institute of Homeopathy. Sharma joined the UT Martin faculty in 1968, and was named a Harvard University postdoctoral research fellow in 1976-77. He was named a University of Tennessee Alumni Association Distinguished Service Professor, and is a recipient of the Excellence in Education Award, Featured Scholar Award, International Scholar Award and the UT Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award.

A sample of Sharma’s publications and accomplishments is on display in the Paul Meek Library on the UT Martin campus.
VTA Art Exhibition April 15

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will present another VTA Annual Student Art Exhibition beginning with an opening reception, slated from 5-7 p.m., April 15, in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus. The exhibition will run through Monday, April 28.

The exhibition features the works of visual arts students from throughout the 2007-2008 school year. Students submit artwork in several categories for review by the visual arts faculty for inclusion in the department’s end-of-the-year exhibit. This year’s exhibition categories include painting, drawing, ceramics and sculpture, graphic design/photography/2-D and mixed media/fibers/printmaking. Cash awards are given for Best of Show and first, second and third place in each category.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

ECCE Offers Microsoft Courses

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider Ed2go, to offer a series of online Microsoft courses.

The spring courses will include introductions to Microsoft Access, Excel, PowerPoint and Word. All courses last for six weeks and include lessons, quizzes, hands-on assignments, a discussion area and supplementary links. The courses are informative, fun and interactive. Courses begin monthly and include the upcoming dates of April 16, May 21 and June 18. The registration fee is $85 per course.

For more information about these courses and others, visit the online instruction center at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php and select Education To Go or call ECCE at 731-881-7082.

University of Tennessee at Martin Alumni Center complete

A special spring alumni weekend event is planned, April 11-13, to mark the grand opening of the new Alumni Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin. After minor renovations, the Office of Alumni Relations has relocated to the Alumni Center, the building formerly known as the Chancellor’s Residence.

On April 12, an Alumni Center open house is planned from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The spring football game is slated for 10 a.m., followed by the Rodeo Community Feed and Auction, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and Skyhawk softball and baseball games at 1 p.m. Musical entertainment is scheduled at 3:30 p.m. at the Alumni Center featuring an alumni band, 27bStroke6. The rodeo begins at 7:30 p.m. Sunday brunch is from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria in Boling University Center.

A weekend package is available for alumni to purchase online at www.utmforever.com or by calling 731-881-7610. The package includes: lunch Saturday, compliments of the UT Martin Rodeo team and MTD; ticket to the Saturday night performance of the rodeo; Sunday brunch, sponsored by Sodexo Dining Services; and a UT Martin T-shirt. The package is $35 per person older than 18 years of age and $30 for those under 18.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations, at 731-881-7610.
Online professional certificates fit schedules

University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education plans online professional certificates in nutrition, fitness and health. These interactive, comprehensive Web-based certificate programs, several with an optional elective field internship course, will allow students from around the world to fit courses into work and home schedules.

The certificate programs are designed to supply essential educational pathways and career opportunities to those seeking to start a career in the emerging health/fitness industry, as well as those actively involved in the allied health/medical field and registered dietitians who desire continuing educational units/credits.

In addition, those from the surrounding community who want the most up-to-date information on how to become and stay healthy will benefit from these certificates.

Courses are led by instructors, and participants benefit from ongoing guidance, instruction and interaction from instructors who hold either a master's or doctorate in exercise physiology, kinesiology, biomechanics, physical therapy, nutrition or other exercise science-related degrees.

Instructors are leading experts, national presenters and teachers in the health and fitness industry who support their students and can serve as resources and mentors.

The certificate programs are offered three times a year in the fall, spring and summer semesters, and can be completed in three to six months, depending on the certificate program.

Courses may be taken individually, and students have up to two years to complete a certificate.

Online programs will provide advanced education and CECs or CPEUs for group fitness instructors, personal trainers, RDs, physical therapists, nurses, athletic trainers and chiropractors seeking recertification or career advancement.

The program is offered in partnership with many of the nation's leading health and fitness organizations. Students graduating from the certificate programs will be eligible to receive educational, membership, and national certification exam opportunities.

The following national organizations are partners in these programs:

- The American Council on Exercise
- Health Club Managers, Inc.
- Idea Health and Fitness Association
- International Council on Active Aging
- Aquatic Exercise Association
- American Senior Fitness Association
- Healthways SilverSneakers®
- Personal Fitness Professional
- Women's Health Foundation and Healthy Moms.

For additional information, visit the UT Martin online instruction center at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecee/onlinenewcourses.php and select the program of choice listed under Educational Fitness Solutions, Inc.

Digital photography course available

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer a course in intermediate and advanced digital photography in April. "Digital Photography," for those with intermediate and advanced skills, is planned from 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, April 8-29. Dr. Tom Gallien will instruct the course and the fee will be $75. This course will be limited to four evenings, each class being two and a half hours in length with a possible field trip or two.

This course is primarily designed as a follow-up course for the "Introduction to Digital Photography" course. However, it is open to anyone who is already familiar with digital photography and is comfortable with and understands the operation of a digital SLR.

Participants will hone their camera skills by learning the more advanced capabilities of their equipment and creative use of filters, tripods, multiple lenses and flash photography. Wildlife photography, landscape photography, flower and fine art photography, as well as general digital photography will be discussed. This course will be limited to participants who use a D-SLR with interchangeable lens capability.

Participants will need to travel with their cameras' instruction manual, if possible. Participants may also wish to bring a notebook for note taking. Printed handouts to supplement the presentations will be provided.

Tom Gallien has more than 35 years of photographic experience including 10 years of digital camera use.

He has had the opportunity to study under the personal supervision of a number of well-known professional wildlife and landscape photographers and has won a number of competitions with his images.

To register for a workshop, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.
UTM to host book signing for Seitz

The University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library will host a book signing from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., April 24, for Rebecca Deboard Seitz, a UT Martin graduate and University Scholar. The title of her book is "Sisters Inc." It is the first book in a series of four that centers on the popular world of scrapbooking.

Seitz will discuss and share journaling with samples of projects she has made using Ellison die cuts, similar to those that are available in the university’s Learning Resource Center.

Contact Nan Murphey, at ext. 7078, for more information about the journaling session from noon-12:45 p.m. For additional information, contact Cindy Gaylord at ext. 7078 or cgaylord@utm.edu.

EMERGING LEADER AWARD - Starla Scott of Medina was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. She is pictured with David Belote, director of Student Life.

Spring alumni weekend marks opening of center

A special spring alumni weekend event is planned for Friday through Sunday to mark the grand opening of the new Alumni Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

After minor renovations, the Office of Alumni Relations has relocated to the Alumni Center, the building formerly known as the chancellor’s residence.

Saturday, an Alumni Center open house is planned from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The spring football game is slated for 10 a.m., followed by the Rodeo Community Feed and Auction from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and Skyhawk softball and baseball games at 1 p.m.

Musical entertainment is scheduled at 3:30 p.m. at the Alumni Center featuring an alumni band, 27bStroke6. The rodeo begins at 7:30 p.m. Sunday brunch will be from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria in Boling University Center.

A weekend package is available for alumni to purchase online at www.utmforever.com or by calling (731) 881-7610. The package includes: lunch Saturday, compliments of the UT Martin Rodeo team and MTD; a ticket to the Saturday night performance of the rodeo; Sunday brunch, sponsored by Sodexo Dining Services; and a UT Martin T-shirt. The package is $35 per person older than 18 years of age and $30 for those under age 18.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (731) 881-7610.
UT Martin to observe Earth Day

The third annual Earth Week activities—highlighted by demonstrations, panel discussion with industry representatives, a movie and a recycling day—are slated for April 21-26 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Earth Day is April 22.

The week’s events are sponsored by the American Democracy Project and UT Martin Recycles.

The schedule of events includes:

- April 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. — “Showcase of Sustainability,” featuring what UT Martin is doing to help the natural environment and a variety of displays and demonstrations in the cafeteria hallway at Boling University Center;

- April 22, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. — “Time Talk,” featuring speaker Mary Carpenter, Paul Meek Library director, and the topic, “Literature on Sustainability,” in Room 125 of the university center;

- April 23, noon-2 p.m. — Movie “Kilowatt Ours,” followed by discussion led by Dr. Mike McCullough, UT Martin American Democracy Project director, in Gallien Auditorium of Gooch Hall;

- April 24, 3-5 p.m. — Weakley County Green Symposium, with moderator Dr. David Coffey, UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts co-interim dean, and panelists Dennis Kosta, UT Martin supervisor of custodial services; Keith Kersey of MTD; Mark Kinsey of Goodyear; Mike Cary of the Obion County Recycling Center; and a representative from Barker Brothers Waste Inc. in Watkins Auditorium of the university center;

- April 24, 9-10 p.m. — Lights Out Party, with lights out all over Weakley County to celebrate the earth; and

- April 26, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. — recycling event in the parking lot of Hardy Graham Stadium.

Others assisting with the week’s activities include Dr. Sarah Holliday, UT Martin assistant professor of mathematics; Dr. Arthur Hunt, associate professor of communications; and Tommy York, UT Martin graduate student.

For more information about Earth Week events, call or e-mail McCullough at (731) 881-7325 or mccullou@utm.edu.

UTM library will offer new venue for art exhibits

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Paul Meek Library and Department of Visual and Theatre Arts are collaborating to bring contemporary art exhibitions and events to the library.

“Both the library and the visual and theatre arts department understand the importance of a supportive arts culture in the community and will work together to develop a yearly program of visual arts and culture,” said Lane Last, UT Martin associate professor of art.

The effort recently began with the hanging of a work, “Of Vibrations and Time,” by Last in the library. It will continue as more exhibition infrastructure can be secured and installed. Future exhibitions will include other faculty members’ work, student art, traveling exhibitions and possibly regional artists.

“Our department is thrilled to have this opportunity to work with another division on campus to expand the visual arts and cultural environment in northwest Tennessee,” Last said. “Exciting things will be happening in the Paul Meek Library for everyone. I’m looking forward to working with (library director) Mary Carpenter and her staff to help this initiative grow.”

“Lane Last’s art has brought a new dimension to the Paul Meek Library and we are very pleased with the results,” said Sam Richardson, circulation/instruction librarian.

“We believe the library is the heart of the campus and should mirror it, and we hope to represent all academic departments some way.”

“The Paul Meek Library is a perfect destination for more public art on campus, as it is becoming a cultural institution on campus as well as a resource hub,” Mrs. Carpenter said.

For more information, contact Mrs. Carpenter at (731) 881-7070 or Last at 881-7489.

Bioenergy research associate slated to speak

Tanya McDonald, bioenergy research associate at Olds College School of Innovation in Olds, Alberta, and energy and environmental development chair for the Alberta Association of Colleges and Technical Institutes, will speak at the University of Tennessee at Martin Tuesday as part of the International Lecture Series.

The event is set for 4 p.m. in the Legislative Chambers of Boling University Center. Her topic will be “A Canadian Perspective on Bridging the Gap Between Agriculture and Energy.”

This event is free and open to the public.

McDonald was named development chair in January 2007, following her appointment as research associate for the Olds College School of Innovation in May 2006. She has also been serving as an instructor in the Land and Water Resources Program at Olds College since 2005.

As research associate and development chair, McDonald is responsible for project acquisition, management and accountability for applied research projects in the area of bioenergy production, waste management, greenhouse and gas mitigation and sustainable agriculture.

She brings to her positions more than 10 years of combined experience in applied research and technical and feasibility assessments for large-scale renewable energy projects.

She holds a bachelor of science degree from Athabasca University and a master of science degree in civil engineering, with a specialization in environmental engineering, from the University of Calgary.

In her lecture, McDonald will speak of her own biofuels research at Olds College within the context of Alberta’s energy policies. Although Alberta is home to the Athabasca tar sands and is a major producer of petroleum, the province also supports an innovative program of research in alternative sources of energy.

McDonald’s talk will explore Alberta’s alternative energy programs and will explain how her own work at Olds contributes to them.

For more information about the program at UT Martin, contact the Center for Global Studies and International Education at (731) 881-1017.
**Piano ensembles to perform**

The University of Tennessee at Martin piano ensemble will present a concert at 7:30 p.m., April 14, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre on the UT Martin campus. It is free and open to the public. The piano ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music.

A wide variety of musical selections for one piano, four hands, and two pianos, four and eight hands will be presented. Included on the program are two eight-hand works, Smetena’s “Rondo in C Major” and Moszkowski’s “Spanish Dance.” Works for piano duo, two pianos and four hands, will be Rachmaninoff’s “Romanza” from his second suite, “Venus” from Holst’s “Planets,” and two short pieces by Gurlitt. Piano duets, one piano and four hands, include Jensen’s “Nocturne,” Op. 59, No. 1, and two light-hearted numbers, “C.S. Theme and Variations” by Compton and “Put On a Happy Face” from “Bye Bye Birdie” by Strouse.

UT Martin piano students performing are Harold Johnson, of Memphis; Andrew Moore, of South Fulton; Brandon Whaley, of Dresden; and Terrill Wilson, of Munford. Special guests performing are members of the Martin Philharmonic Music Guild: Reba Carpenter, Linda Farmer, Elaine Harriss, Allison Nelson, and Amy Yeung.

For more information, contact Harriss at 881-7411.

**Bioenergy research associate to speak April 15 at UT Martin**

Tanya McDonald, bioenergy research associate, Olds College School of Innovation, Olds, Alberta, and energy and environmental development chair, Alberta Association of Colleges and Technical Institutes, will speak at the University of Tennessee at Martin on April 15 as part of the International Lecture Series. Slated for 4 p.m., in the Legislative Chambers, Boling University Center, her topic will be “A Canadian Perspective on Bridging the Gap Between Agriculture and Energy.” This event is free and open to the public.

McDonald was named development chair in January 2007, following her appointment as research associate for the Olds College School of Innovation in May 2006. She has also been serving as an instructor in the Land and Water Resources Program at Olds College since 2005. As research associate and development chair, McDonald is responsible for project acquisition, management and accountability for applied research projects in the area of bioenergy production, waste management, greenhouse and gas mitigation and sustainable agriculture. She brings to her positions more than 10 years of combined experience in applied research and technical and feasibility assessments for large-scale renewable energy projects. She holds a bachelor of science degree from Athabasca University and a master of science degree in civil engineering, with a specialization in environmental engineering, from the University of Calgary.

In her lecture, McDonald will speak of her own biofuels research at Olds College within the context of Alberta’s energy policies. Although Alberta is home to the Athabasca tar sands and is a major producer of petroleum, the province also supports an innovative program of research in alternative sources of energy. McDonald’s talk will explore Alberta’s alternative energy programs and will explain how her own work at Olds contributes to them.

For more information, contact the Center for Global Studies and International Education at 881-1017.

**ECCE offers Microsoft courses online**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider, Ed2go, to offer a series of online Microsoft courses.

The spring courses will include introductions to Microsoft Access, Excel, PowerPoint, and Word. All courses last for six weeks and include lessons, quizzes, hands-on assignments, a discussion area and supplementary links. The courses are informative, fun and interactive. Courses begin monthly and include the upcoming dates of April 16, May 21 and June 18. The registration fee is $95 per course.

For more information about these courses and others, visit the online instruction center at [http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php](http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php) and select Education To Go or call ECCE at 881-7082.

**Student art exhibition slated for April 15**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will present another VTA Annual Student Art Exhibition beginning with an opening reception, slated from 5-7 p.m., April 15, in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus. The exhibition will run through Monday, April 28.

The exhibition features the works of visual arts students from throughout the 2007-08 school year. Students submit artwork in several categories for review by the visual arts faculty for inclusion in the department’s end-of-the-year exhibit. This year’s exhibition categories include painting, drawing, ceramics and sculpture, graphic design/photography/2-D and mixed media/fibers/printmaking. Cash awards are given for Best of Show and first, second and third place in each category.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 881-7400.
Pinion's opted out of race

John Brannon
Special to The Press

In a surprise move Tuesday, incumbent Democratic state Rep. Phillip Pinion of Union City announced his retirement, effective Nov. 4.

"I've been thinking about it a couple of years. I just decided it was time to go. I've thought about it, prayed about it. I just felt it's time to retire," said the veteran legislator, who represents House District 77 in the Tennessee House of Representatives.

The district is comprised of Obion and Lake counties and a portion of Dyer County.

Pinion recently filed qualifying papers to run for re-election. His decision to retire negates his candidacy. He said he will deliver a formal letter to the Election Commission Thursday morning stating that he wishes to remove his name from the ballot of the upcoming primary election.

Pinion, 55, was first elected state Representative in 1988. He has been re-elected in each election cycle.

A rare combination of preacher and politician, Pinion borrows from Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3 — "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the Heaven" — in writing a personal message to the people of House District 77.

Pinion said he's not retiring because of health problems. He said he feels better than he's felt in years. "I feel I have 10 more good working years in me," he said.

He doesn't know exactly what he'll do after he leaves office. He has been "looking at some opportunities."

But this much he does know: It's time to go. "To everything there is a season, and I know it's time for new blood," he said. "I just feel that, with 20 years' service in the Legislature, it's time. I just want to step out of the limelight and go to the highest office of all, that of citizen of the great State of Tennessee."

Pinion said he's notified Gov. Phil Bredesen and House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh of his decision, and that both "tried every way they could to get me to reconsider."

"I told them it's a decision I've prayed about and thought about, and I feel at peace about," he said. "You know when you're burned out. I'm totally burned out. It's time for something different."

A successor?

Before he announced his retirement, Pinion faced only one announced opponent. His imminent departure from the House seat he's held so long may throw the race for the Democratic nomination for the District 77 House seat "wide open."

"Under Tennessee code, they have seven days (to file qualifying papers)," he said. "There are some who will qualify whom I think will be very good candidates to take my place in the Legislature."

Does he have anyone in particular in mind that he would support? "Not that I've heard," he said. "Let them do that. There'll be an announcement in Friday's paper of someone who's going to run."

Looking back

Pinion, who is chairman of the House Transportation Committee, also served on the House Education Committee. Looking back, he said he has good feelings about several public projects that, with the help of Congressman John Tanner and state Rep. Roy Herron, are "in line" to be completed. They include four-laning Highway 45 from Trenton to Union City; building the I-69 route through West Tennessee; building the Cates Landing Riverport in Lake County; and building a new spillway at Reelfoot Lake.

"My term expires on Nov. 4. I've got seven more months left in office," he said.

Reaction

State Sen. Roy Herron (D-Dresden) said Pinion has served the 77th District with uncommon devotion and exceptional effectiveness. The people of the district, "and I personally," will miss him.

"He has not only been an excellent legislator, he's been my friend of many years," Herron said. "I've known him since we were students at UT Martin together. Our friendship has been both long and solid."

Program on "hard to reach child" set

Dr. Maria Sargent will present "How to Reach the Hard to Reach Child" from 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17, in the Watkins Auditorium of the Boling University Center on the UT Martin campus.

Gospel choir to perform April 15

The University of Tennessee at Martin gospel choir will perform at 3 p.m., April 15, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Jeremy Kolwinska, Department of Music chair, at 881-7402.

Trumpet recital slated for April 13

Justin Brown, a senior music education major from Dyersburg, will perform his senior trumpet recital at 3 p.m., April 13, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the University of Tennessee at Martin Fine Arts Building.

His program will include works by Jeremiah Clarke, Alexander Arutunian, John Cheetham and Morton Lauridsen. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Kurt Gorman, assistant professor of music, at 881-7404.
Phi Sig Follies set for tonight, will benefit Carl Perkins Center

The Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity at the University of Tennessee at Martin is hosting Phi Sig Follies Comedy Night Thursday, April 10, at Cheers in Martin. The event will begin immediately following the UTM Rodeo that evening. Proceeds from the door will benefit the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse in Martin, which serves families and children in Obion and Weakley Counties.

The doors will open for the event at 10 p.m. The show will start at 11 p.m. David Ridings, graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin and Phi Sigma Kappa Alumni will kick off the event. Gary Dull, voted as Nashville and Murfreesboro’s Funniest Person, will take the stage next.

The local Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center is a vital member of a West Tennessee wide system of 14 locations, headquartered in Jackson. This Center, recently receiving the Children’s National Alliance accreditation, is one the nation’s most prominent child abuse prevention agencies and is recognized by the State of Tennessee as a model for the integrated delivery of child advocacy, crisis intervention, family counseling, public education and other services addressing child abuse.

Approximately 5,000 families in West Tennessee benefited from the services provided at the Center’s locations last year.

For more information contact Dale Hendon at (731) 446-0016 or Lori Hendon with the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center at 587-0768. The event Web site is www.phisigfollies.com.

Microsoft courses offered

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider, Ed2go, to offer a series of online Microsoft courses.

The spring courses will include introductions to Microsoft Access, Excel, PowerPoint and Word.

All courses last for six weeks and include lessons, quizzes, hands-on assignments, a discussion area and supplementary links. The courses are informative, fun and interactive.

Courses begin monthly and include the upcoming dates of Wednesday, May 21 and June 18. The registration fee is $95 per course.

For more information about these courses and others, visit the online instruction center at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php and select “Education To Go” or call ECCE at (731) 881-7082.

“Intermediate Microsoft Word” is slated from 9 a.m.-noon April 22 and 24.

Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin programmer and analyst, will instruct the course. The fee is $85.

Participants will learn about templates, flyers, inserting pictures, mailings and the power of using tables.

The course will also cover how to edit and replace text, find synonyms and definitions for words, check spelling and grammar, hyperlinks, hotkeys, tips and more.

To register, or for more information, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or (731) 881-7082.

Art exhibition planned

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will present a VTA Annual Student Art Exhibition, beginning with an opening reception 5-7 p.m. Tuesday in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus.

The exhibition will run through April 28.

The exhibition features the works of visual arts students from the 2007-08 school year.

Students submit artwork in several categories for review by the visual arts faculty for inclusion in the department’s end-of-the-year exhibit.

Cash awards are given for Best of Show and first-, second- and third-place in each category.

Piano ensembles to perform Monday

The University of Tennessee at Martin piano ensemble will present a concert at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the Harriet Fulton Theatre on the UT Martin campus.

It is free and open to the public.

The piano ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music.

A wide variety of musical selections for one piano, four hands and two pianos, four and eight hands will be presented. Included on the program are two eight-hand works, Smetena’s “Rondo in C Major” and Moszkowski’s “Spanish Dance.” Works for piano duo, two pianos and four hands, will be Rachmaninoff’s “Romance” from his second suite, “Venus” from Holst’s “Planets,” and two short pieces by Garlitz. Piano duets, one piano and four hands, include Jensen’s “Nocturne,” Op. 59, No. 1, and two light-hearted numbers, “C. S. Theme and Variations” by Compton and “Put On a Happy Face” from “Bye Bye Birdie” by Strouse.

UT Martin piano students performing are Harold Johnson of Memphis, Andrew Moore of South Fulton, Brandon Whaley of Dresden and Terrill Wilson of Munford.

Special guests performing will be members of the Martin Philharmonic Music Guild, including Relia Carp, Linda Farmer, Elaine Harriss, Allison Nelson Lockeback and Amy Yeung.

For more information about the performance, contact Harriss at (731) 881-7411.
Spring percussion performance slated

The University of Tennessee at Martin percussion ensemble will perform its spring program 3 p.m. April 27 in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building. The concert is free and open to the public.

Organizers have said this may be ensemble members' most exciting concert yet, with guest artist Dr. Morris Palter from the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. Palter will perform several pieces of contemporary music with the UT Martin ensemble.

UT Martin percussion alumni will also play in a grand finale with the percussion ensemble and jazz band. They will perform a mass band/percussion piece called "La Vide Es Un Carnaval," made popular by the great Cuban singer Celia Cruz. In addition, the UT Martin ensemble will play Edgar Varese's "Ionisation," (1931), the first piece written for percussion ensemble in 1931.

Members of the percussion ensemble include Scottie Somerville of Kenton, Mark Fairless of Trenton, Daniel Vargason of Selmer, Richard Henson of Gibson, Cory Bozard and Jeff Moore, both of Newbern, Sean Johnson of Memphis, Andrew Lynn and Jacob Abbot, both of Dyer, and Stephen Hughes of Memphis.

The UT Martin percussion ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music.

Contact Hill at jhill@utm.edu for more information about the event or visit the UT Martin percussion Web site at www.utm.edu/percussion.

The University of Tennessee at Martin
Collegiate FFA chapter was named top collegiate chapter in the state for a fourth consecutive year at the recent Tennessee FFA Alumni State Convention at Montgomery Bell State Park. Agriculture majors Haley Eskew of Bells, Tenn., and Ashley Amsden of Drummonds, Tenn., each received a $500 Harold Lineberry Scholarship at the convention.

Dr. Jerald Ogg has been named University of Tennessee at Martin vice chancellor for academic affairs effective July 1. He has been serving as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs since July 2007. Ogg has been with UTM since 1987 and was chosen from 32 applicants nationwide.

REED Center and UT Martin offering women's workshop

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin is offering a small business workshop for women in small business or those considering starting a small business.

"Opportunities for Women in Small Business" is being sponsored from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday at the REED Center, located at 406 South Lindell St. in Martin.

The workshop will focus on the opportunities for women in the small-business world and women interested in starting a business. Participants will gain newfound motivation and inspiration and obtain valuable business information from guest speakers. Real-world experiences will be shared, as well as the many resources available for business owners.

Sharon Younger, president and founder of Younger & Associates, LLC, and Susan O'Connell, vice president of marketing and business development of Henco Furniture, will share with attendees their experiences as women in the business world.

A panel of small-business resource specialists and owners will educate the group on the many resources available to women-owned businesses. The panel will include Saundra Jackson, senior area manager, Small Business Administration; Sharon Taylor McKinney, enterprise specialist, State of Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development; Russell Toone, counselor, University of Tennessee Procurement Technical Assistance Center; Claire Wade, owner, Claire & Schuster Interiors; and Tracy Crawford, owner, On the Square.

The cost for the workshop is $20, which includes lunch and materials.

To register or for additional information, visit the Web at www.utm.edu/reed or call (731) 587-7333.
Boling University to screen 'Volver'

"Volver," the fifth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Film Series, is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. this Friday at Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee Martin.

In "Volver," Penélope Cruz plays Raimunda, the strong-willed mother of 14-year-old Paula. Raimunda works hard to support her family, but with little support from Paco, her lazy and unscrupulous husband. After a visit to the village of their birth, Acañor de las Infantas, Raimunda and her sister, Soledad, start to discover the truth about their family's troubled history. Shortly before their friend and neighbor Agustina is diagnosed with cancer, a virtual ghost from the past returns to set the record straight.

The film has earned numerous awards, including Spain's Goya for Best Film, Director, and Actress; Best Original Screenplay at Cannes; and an Oscar nomination for Best Actress.

Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, will introduce the film. Each foreign film is in its original language and contains English subtitles. All foreign film series movies are free. The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council. Call (731) 881-7420.

UT Martin Student Interns with Congressman Tanner


Rainey, a junior political science major from Huntingdon, is the son of Warren and Gena Rainey. He is a graduate of Jackson Christian High School and plans a career in law.

Weakley County Student Receives Scholarship to Attend UT Martin

MARTIN - A Weakley County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2008-2009 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Jill Mitchell, daughter of Karen Mitchell of Gleason and Woody Mitchell of McKenzie, will be a freshman. She received the Dean's Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38236. In-state residents telephone 880-829-UTM1; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.

Library will offer new venue for art

The University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library and Department of Visual and Theatre Arts are collaborating to bring contemporary art exhibitions and events to the library.

"Both the library and the visual and theatre arts department understand the importance of a supportive arts culture in the community and will work together to develop a yearly program of visual arts and culture," said Lane Last, UT Martin associate professor of art.

The effort recently began with the hanging of a work, "Of Vibrations and Time," by Last in the library. It will continue as more exhibition infrastructure can be secured and installed. Future exhibitions will include other faculty members, student art, traveling exhibitions, and possibly regional artists.

"Our department is thrilled to have this opportunity to work with another division on campus to expand the visual arts and cultural environment in northwest Tennessee," said Last. "Exciting things will be happening in the Paul Meek Library for everyone. I'm looking forward to working with Mary Carpenter and her staff to help this initiative grow."

"Lane Last's art has brought a new dimension to the Paul Meek Library, and we are very pleased with the results," said Sam Richardson, circulation/instruction librarian. "We believe the library is the heart of the campus and should mirror it, and we hope to represent all academic departments some way."

"The Paul Meek Library is a perfect destination for more public art on campus, as it is becoming a cultural institution on campus as well as a resource hub," said Mary Carpenter, library director. For more information, contact Carpenter, at 881-7070, or Last, at 881-7489.
Administrative Professionals Week to be observed

Administrative Professionals Week is an annual event, which was originally organized in 1952 as "National Secretaries Week" by the National Secretaries Association (now known as the International Association of Administrative Professionals or IAAP) in an effort to recognize secretaries for their contributions in the workplace, and to attract people to secretarial/ administrative careers. In the year 2000, IAAP announced a name change for Professional Secretaries Week and Professional Secretaries Day. The names were changed to Administrative Professionals Week and Administrative Professionals Day to keep pace with changing job titles and expanding responsibilities of today's administrative workforce.

Administrative professionals seeking to develop and advance their careers can find help through membership in the International Association of Administrative Professionals. IAAP is the world's leading association for administrative assistants, secretaries, office managers and other administrative support staff, with 40,000 members and affiliates worldwide.

Over the years, Administrative Professionals Week has become one of the largest workplace observances. The Martin Chapter IAAP is hosting their annual Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon at noon on Wednesday, April 23rd, in the Boling University Center Ballroom on the UT Martin campus. Reservations are required. The cost is $18 per person, and reservations are being accepted until noon on Wednesday, April 16th. For more information or to make your reservation, email Susan Lemond at salemond@utm.edu or call 881-7226.

Membership in the Martin Chapter IAAP is open to all administrative professionals in Martin and the surrounding area. Anyone who would like more information about membership benefits, programs and services, and local chapter meetings should send an email requesting membership information to mtnck@utm.edu or call 881-7846.

Jazz Band performance slated for April 24

The Weakley, Obion, Gibson, Henry, Carroll and Lake County Alumni Chapters of the University of Tennessee are sponsoring a night of jazz at 7 p.m., April 24, featuring the UT Martin Jazz Band.

The Jazz Band, under the direction of Dr. Kurt Gorman, assistant professor of music, is comprised of musically talented students who audition regardless of their major. The performance will take place at the UT Martin Alumni Center, formerly the Chancellor's Residence. In the event of rain, the event will be held in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building.

The event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required, and refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Carol Kirkland, at (731) 225-8445 or by e-mail; cgkirkland@yahoo.com, or Charley Deal, at 881-7611.
Retired professor receives award

Betty H. Rasberry, retired professor of social work at the University of Tennessee at Martin, recently received the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award for her career-long dedication to child advocacy. The award was presented in Nashville at the 20th annual meeting of Children’s Advocacy Days. Executive Director Linda O'Neal of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth presented the award, referencing Rasberry’s legacy of advocacy, her leadership roles within many state and national professional organizations, as well as her leadership in numerous service-related programs and civic groups.

Rasberry was particularly recognized for her integral role in the development and accreditation of UT Martin’s bachelor’s degree program in social work. O’Neal also commended Rasberry for her contributions as a member of the legislatively-appointed blue ribbon panel that established the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth with nine regional councils across the state.

Following her retirement from UTM, Rasberry continued to advocate for children and their families through training, workshops, consultation and private clinical practice. She continues as an active member of the Northwest Tennessee Regional Council and currently serves as an officer.

Additionally, state Rep. Mark Maddox of Dresden presented a resolution to honor and commend her upon receiving the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award and for her meritorious service to children in Tennessee. In the resolution, Maddox cited many specific awards and recognitions she has received throughout her years of personal and professional service to others.

In closing, Maddox read from House Joint Resolution 971: “Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Fifth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, the Senate concurring, that we hereby honor and commend Betty H. Rasberry upon receiving the Jim Pryor Advocacy Award for 2008, offer our gratitude on behalf of her many significant and meritorious contributions to the health and welfare of the children of this fine state, and extend her our best wishes for every future success.”

LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD – Amy Hall, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2008 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations.

NEW PHI ALPHA THETA MEMBERS – University of Tennessee at Martin students, James Hawkins III, of Sewanee, and Lori Beth Wilson, of Martin, were initiated into Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, as part of the banquet program at the Phi Alpha Theta Tennessee Regional History Conference recently hosted on campus. Not pictured is Lindsey Cates, of Martin, who also was initiated.
Dr. G.K. Sharma, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of biology, recently was named the featured scholar for the spring semester.

Each semester, the university recognizes outstanding faculty for excellence in teaching and scholarship. Sharma received a bachelor of science, a master of science and doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia; and also received a doctorate in homeopathic medicine from the British Institute of Homoeopathy.

Sharma joined the UT Martin faculty in 1968, and was named a Harvard University postdoctoral research fellow in 1976-77. He was named a University of Tennessee Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor and is a recipient of the Excellence in Education Award, Featured Scholar Award, International Scholar Award and the UT Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award.

A sample of Sharma’s publications and accomplishments is on display in the Paul Meek Library on the UT Martin campus.

Percussion ensemble to perform

The University of Tennessee at Martin percussion ensemble will perform its spring program at 3 p.m., April 27, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building. The concert is free and open to the public.

Guest artist Dr. Morris Palter, from the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, will perform several pieces of contemporary music with the UT Martin ensemble. UT Martin percussion alumni will also play in a grand finale with the percussion ensemble and jazz band. They will perform a mass band/percussion piece called “La Vide Es Un Carnaval,” made popular by the great Cuban singer, Celia Cruz. In addition, the UT Martin ensemble will play Edgard Varese’s “Ionisation,” (1931), the first piece written for percussion ensemble in 1931. The concert will prove to be exciting spanning the gamut of percussion ensemble literature and instrumentation. There will be something for everyone.

Members of the percussion ensemble include Scottie Somerville of Kenton, Mark Fairless of Trenton, Daniel Vargason of Selmer, Richard Henson of Gibson, Cory Bozard of Newbern, Sean Johnson of Memphis, Andrew Lynn of Dyer, Jacob Abbot of Dyer, Jeff Moore of Newbern and Stephen Hughes of Memphis. The UT Martin percussion ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music.

Contact Hill at jhill@utm.edu for more information or visit the UT Martin percussion Web site at www.utm.edu/percussion.

Cooper to perform recital

Jenny Cooper, a senior music education major from Camden, will perform her senior euphonium recital at 7:30 p.m., April 28, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The recital is free and open to the public.

The performance will feature works by Barat, de Luca, Haddad and de La Nux. Bradley G. Coker, instructor of music; Dr. Jeremy Kolwinska, Department of Music chairman; Jonathan Byrd, student, of Union City; and Delana Easley, music specialist, will assist her.

For more information contact Coker at 881-7401.
Foreign film series set

"Volver," the fifth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Film Series, is scheduled at 6:30 p.m., April 18, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In "Volver," Penélope Cruz plays Raimunda, the strong-willed mother of 14-year-old Paula. Raimunda works hard to support her family, but with little support from Paco, her lazy and unscrupulous husband. After a visit to the windy and superstitious village of their birth, Alcanfor de las Infantas, Raimunda and her sister, Soledad, start to discover the truth about their family's troubled history. Shortly before their friend and neighbor Agustina is diagnosed with cancer, a virtual ghost from the past returns to set the record straight. The film has earned numerous awards, including Spain's Goya for Best Film, Director, and Actress; Best Original Screenplay at Cannes; and an Oscar for Best Actress.

Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of Department of Modern Foreign Languages, will introduce the film.

Each foreign film is in its original foreign language and contains English subtitles. All foreign film series movies are free and open to the public. The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council. For more information, contact the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, at 881-7420.

Wellness Q&A will be held April 21

The Tri-County Community Wellness Initiative will host the second educational question and answer session with Cile Grasfeder at 7:30 p.m., April 21, in Room 229 of UT Martin's Boling University Center. The topic will be "Health Behavior Change Strategies for the Prevention and Management of Diabetes." Everyone is invited.
New Phi Alpha Theta Members Initiated

University of Tennessee at Martin students, James Hawkins III, of Sewanee, and Lori Beth Wilson, of Martin, were initiated into Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, as part of the banquet program at the Phi Alpha Theta Tennessee Regional History Conference recently hosted on campus. Not pictured is Lindsey Cates, of Martin, who also was initiated.

Online Professors Honored

Dr. Glenda Rakes, left, of Martin, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of instructional technology, and Dr. Jim Fieser, of Martin, right, UT-Martin professor of philosophy, recently were honored at the second annual awards ceremony for Online Teachers of the Year at UT-Martin. Awards were presented by Dr. Tommy Cates, UT-Martin director of Online and University Studies. Both Rakes and Fieser have taught online classes for several years. "Their online classes are known for being well-designed, and the professors are readily accessible to online students," said Cates.

Library Will Offer New Venue for Art on Campus

The University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library and Department of Visual and Theatre Arts are collaborating to bring contemporary art exhibitions and events to the library.

"Both the library and the visual and theatre arts department understand the importance of a supportive arts culture in the community and will work together to develop a yearly program of visual arts and culture," said Lane Last, UT-Martin associate professor of art.

The effort recently began with the hanging of a work, "Of Vibrations and Time," by Last in the library. It will continue as more exhibition infrastructure can be secured and installed. Future exhibitions will include other faculty members, student art, traveling exhibitions and possibly regional artists.

"Our department is thrilled to have this opportunity to work with another division on campus to expand the visual arts and cultural environment in northwest Tennessee," said Last. "Exciting things will be happening in the Paul Meek Library for everyone. I'm looking forward to working with Mary Carpenter and her staff to help this initiative grow."

"Lane Last's art has brought a new dimension to the Paul Meek Library, and we are very pleased with the results," said Sam Richardson, circulation/instruction librarian. "We believe the library is the heart of the campus and should mirror it, and we hope to represent all academic departments in some way."

"The Paul Meek Library is a perfect destination for more public art on campus, as it is becoming a cultural institution on campus as well as a resource hub," said Mary Carpenter, library director.

For more information, contact Carpenter, at 731-881-7070, or Last, at 731-881-7489.
UT Martin Hosts History Conference

Rebecca Conard, second from right, Middle Tennessee State University professor of public history, was the keynote speaker at the recent University of Tennessee at Martin Phi Alpha Theta Conference banquet. Her topic was “Cultural Federalism and the Public History Impulse.” Pictured with Conard are, from left, Dr. David Coffey, UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy chair, and College of Humanities and Fine Arts co-interim dean; Dr. Donna Cooper Graves, UT-Martin associate professor of history, Phi Alpha Theta faculty adviser and conference organizer; and Dr. Stephen J. Caris, Union University History Department chair; Phi Alpha Theta faculty adviser and Phi Alpha Theta national headquarters representative. It was the first time UT Martin has hosted the conference. Twenty-five papers were presented by students (graduate and undergraduate) representing 10 Tennessee schools. More than 50 people attended. Six awards were given to students for best papers in the categories of regional history, cultural history, Post-War American history, Early American history, European history, the issue of race in American history.

Local Students Receive Scholarships to UT Martin

Three Weakley County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2008-2009 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

* Riley Auvenshine, daughter of Tracey Auvenshine of Dresden and Sheila Keeling of Gleason, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship.
* Kesley Gibson, daughter of Michael and Edie Gibson of Martin, will be a freshman. She received the Chancellor’s Award.
* Jill Mitchell, daughter of Karen Mitchell of Gleason and Woody Mitchell of McKenzie, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238. In-state residents telephone 800-829-UTML; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.

Percussion Ensemble Performance April 27

The University of Tennessee at Martin percussion ensemble will perform its spring program at 3 p.m., April 27, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building. The concert is free and open to the public.

This may be their most exciting concert yet with guest artist, Dr. Morris Palter, from the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. Palter will perform several pieces of contemporary music with the UT Martin ensemble. UT Martin percussion alumni will also play in a grand finale with the percussion ensemble and jazz band. They will perform a mass band/percussion piece called “La Vide Es Un Carnaval,” made popular by the great Cuban singer, Celia Cruz. In addition, the UT Martin ensemble will play Edgar Varese’s “Ionisation,” (1931), the first piece written for percussion ensemble in 1931. The concert will prove to be exciting spanning the gamut of percussion ensemble literature and instrumentation. There will be something for everyone.

Members of the percussion ensemble include Scottie Somerville of Kenton, Mark Fairless of Trenton, Daniel Vargason of Selmer, Richard Henson of Gibson, Cory Bozard of Newbern, Sean Johnson of Memphis, Andrew Lynn of Dyer, Jacob Abbot of Dyer, Jeff Moore of Newbern and Stephen Hughes of Memphis. The UT Martin percussion ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music.

Contact Hill at jhill@utm.edu for more information or visit the UT Martin percussion Web site at www.utm.edu/percussion.
Opportunities for Women in Business Workshop Offered

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin is offering a small business workshop for women in small business or those considering starting a small business. "Opportunities for Women in Small Business" is being sponsored from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., April 16, at the REED Center, 406 S. Lindell St. in Martin. The workshop will focus on the opportunities for women in the small-business world and women interested in starting a business. Participants will gain newfound motivation and inspiration and obtain valuable business information from guest speakers. Real-world experiences will be shared as well as the many resources available for business owners.

Sharon Younger, president and founder, Younger & Associates, LLC, and Susan O'Connell, vice president of marketing and business development, Henco Furniture, will share with attendees their experiences as women in the business world.

A panel of small-business resource specialists and owners will educate the group on the many resources available to women-owned businesses. Sandra Jackson, senior area manager, Small Business Administration, Sharon Taylor McKinney, enterprise specialist, State of Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development and Russell Toone, counselor, University of Tennessee Procurement Technical Assistance Center, along with Claire Wade, owner, Claire & Schuster Interiors and Tracy Crawford, owner, On the Square, will make up the panel.

The cost for the workshop is $20, which includes lunch and materials. To register or for additional information, visit the Web at www.utm.edu/reed or call 731-587-7333.

Foreign Film Series offers 'Volver' on April 18

"Volver," the fifth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Foreign Film Series, is scheduled at 6:30 p.m., April 18, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In "Volver," Penélope Cruz plays Raimunda, the strong-willed mother of 14-year-old Paula. Raimunda works hard to support her family, but with little support from Paco, her lazy and unscrupulous husband. After a visit to the windy and superstitious village of their birth, Alcarza de las Infantas, Raimunda and her sister, Soledad, start to discover the truth about their family's troubled history. Shortly before their friend and neighbor Agustina is diagnosed with cancer, a virtual ghost from the past returns to set the record straight. The film has earned numerous awards, including Spain's Goya for Best Film, Director, and Actress; Best Original Screenplay at Cannes; and an Oscar for Best Actress. Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of Department of Modern Foreign Languages, will introduce the film.

Each foreign film is in its original foreign language and contains English subtitles. All foreign film series movies are free and open to the public. The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council. For more information, contact the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, at 731-881-7420.
Marketing dynamics workshop in April

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin is offering a marketing dynamics course for small businesses in April.

"The Dynamics of Marketing Your Business" will be offered from 5:00-7:00 p.m., April 22, at the REED Center for a cost of $10, and additional $10 for continuing education credits. Jamie Frakes will instruct the course. This program focuses on distinct issues that will affect how a business is marketed. The program is informative and includes activities designed to be integrated into a marketing plan immediately. Attendees will establish a foundation for building a more comprehensive marketing plan for their businesses.

To register for a workshop, visit the Web at www.utm.edu/reed or call 731-587-7333.

Jazz Band performance slated for April 24

The Weakley, Obion, Gibson, Henry, Carroll and Lake County Alumni Chapters of the University of Tennessee are sponsoring a night of jazz at 7:00 p.m., April 24, featuring the UT Martin Jazz Band.

The Jazz Band, under the direction of Dr. Kurt Gorman, assistant professor of music, is comprised of musically talented students who audition regardless of their major. The performance will take place at the UT Martin Alumni Center, formerly the Chancellor's Residence. In the event of rain, the event will be held in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building.

The event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required, and refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Carol Kirkland at 731-225-8445 or egkirkland@yahoo.com, or Charley Deal at 731-881-7611.

2008 Modern Foreign Languages Film Festival continues at UTM

"Volver," the fifth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Foreign Film Series, is scheduled at 6:30 p.m., April 18, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In "Volver," Penélope Cruz plays Raimunda, the strong-willed mother of 14-year-old Paula. Raimunda works hard to support her family, but with little support from Paco, her lazy and unscrupulous husband.

After a visit to the windy and superstitious village of their birth, Alcanfor de las Infantas, Raimunda and her sister, Soledad, start to discover the truth about their family's troubled history.

Shortly before their friend and neighbor Agustina is diagnosed with cancer, a virtual ghost from the past returns to set the record straight.

The film has earned numerous awards, including Spain's Goya for Best Film, Director, and Actress; Best Original Screenplay at Cannes; and an Oscar for Best Actress.

Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, will introduce the film.

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For more information, contact the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, at 731-881-7420.
Gibson County students receive UTM scholarships

Four Gibson County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2008-2009 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

• Hilary Atkins, daughter of Loretta Atkins of Kenton, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship and the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

• Kiara Champion, daughter of Tony and Darla Champion of Humboldt, will be a freshman. She received the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

• Emma Leatherland, daughter of Steven and Jane Leatherland of Humboldt, will be a freshman. She received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship.

• Joseph Lindsey, son of Jerry and Mitzie Privett of Humboldt, will be a freshman. He received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238. In-state residents telephone 800-829-UTML; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.

Local students participate in ensemble performance

The University of Tennessee at Martin percussion ensemble will perform its spring program at 3 p.m., April 27, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building. The concert is free and open to the public.

This may be their most exciting concert yet with guest artist, Dr. Morris Palter, from the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. Palter will perform several pieces of contemporary music with the UT Martin ensemble. UT Martin percussion alumni will also play in a grand finale with the percussion ensemble and jazz band. They will perform a mass band/percussion piece called “La Vie Es Un Carnaval,” made popular by the great Cuban singer, Celia Cruz. In addition, the UT Martin ensemble will play Edgard Varése’s “Ionisation,” (1931), the first piece written for percussion ensemble in 1931.

Members of the percussion ensemble include Scottie Somerville of Kenton, Mark Fairless of Trenton, Daniel Vargason of Selmer, Richard Henson of Gibson, Cory Bozard of Newbern, Sean Johnson of Memphis, Andrew Lynn of Dyer, Jacob Abbot of Dyer, Jeff Moore of Newbern and Stephen Hughes of Memphis. The UT Martin percussion ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music.

Contact Hill at jhill@utm.edu for more information or visit the UT Martin percussion Web site at www.utm.edu/percussion.

Second chamber ensemble concert slated for April 20

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will present its second student chamber ensembles concert of the spring semester at 7:30 p.m., April 20, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus.

The event will feature chamber music by a variety of student ensembles. The concert is free and open to the public.

For more information, call the Department of Music at 881-7402.

Jazz Band performance set April 24

The Gibson, Weakley, Obion, Henry, Carroll and Lake County Alumni Chapters of the University of Tennessee are sponsoring a night of jazz at 7 p.m., April 24, featuring the UT Martin Jazz Band.

The Jazz Band, under the direction of Dr. Kurt Gorman, assistant professor of music, is comprised of musically talented students who audition regardless of their major. The performance will take place at the UT Martin Alumni Center, formerly the Chancellor’s Residence. In the event of rain, the event will be held in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building.

The event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required, and refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Carol Kirkland at 731-225-8445/crkirkland@yahoo.com, or Charley Deal, at 731-881-7611.

ROTORAY GOES TO HONDURAS — Rotaract member Liz Hudson and Rotary member David Taylor tell other Rotary members about their recent trip to Honduras to help with a project to provide electricity and filtered water to the community and provide school supplies to the children of the area. Rotaract is an extension of Rotary involving students through UT Martin.
Foreign film series offers ‘Volver’

“Volver,” the fifth movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Foreign Film Series, is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Friday in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In “Volver,” Penélope Cruz plays Raimunda, the strong-willed mother of 14-year-old Paula. Raimunda works hard to support her family, with little support from Paco, her lazy and unscrupulous husband.

After a visit to the windy and superstitious village of their birth, Alcanfor de las Infantas, Raimunda and her sister, Soledad, start to discover the truth about their family’s troubled history. Shortly before their friend and neighbor Agustina is diagnosed with cancer, a virtual ghost from the past returns to set the record straight.

The film has earned numerous awards, including Spain’s Goya for Best Film, Best Director and Best Actress; Best Original Screenplay at Cannes; and an Oscar for Best Actress.

Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, will introduce the film.

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The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council.

For more information, contact the Department of Modern Foreign Languages at (731) 881-7420.

Night of jazz scheduled for April 24

The Weakley, Obion, Gibson, Henry, Carroll and Lake County alumni chapters of the University of Tennessee are sponsoring a night of jazz featuring the UT Martin Jazz Band at 7 p.m. April 24.

The Jazz Band, under the direction of Dr. Kurt Gorman, assistant professor of music, is comprised of musically-talented students who audition regardless of their majors.

The performance will take place at the UT Martin Alumni Center, formerly the Chancellor’s Residence. In the event of rain, it will be held in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building.

The event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required and refreshments will be served.

Youth panel members - Eboni Eaton, Jamie Bond, Deltra Fowlkes and Erin Chambers say old-fashioned guidance through mentorship and friendship is the way to lead their generation. They look up to teachers, principals, church and business leaders. (Photo by Rita Mitchell, UT Martin)
Mentor Us
WestStar Conference Promotes Leadership

By Florence M. Howard
Special to the Tri-State Defender

Four young people explained their generation's greatest need to those attending the WestStar Leadership Program's 10th Annual African-American Leadership "Challenges and Opportunities" Conference held Tuesday in Jackson, Tenn.

The WestStar Leadership Program, housed at the University of Tennessee at Martin, brought together some 150 program graduates, business people, entrepreneurs, community leaders, representatives from local, state and federal community and economic development agencies and at least one elected official, State Rep. Johnny Shaw, to the West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research for the conference.

Presenters included My Harrison, Rodricus Kirby and Linda Street as well as FDIC's Clinton Vaughn, SBA's Sandra Jackson and Katherine Avant of West Tennessee Legal Services. Evelyn Robertson Jr., a member of the WestStar Class of 1997, was master of ceremonies.

The four students acknowledged that, thanks to technology, their lives are different from the youthful days of most conference attendees. Yet, Eboni Eaton, Jamie Bond, Deltra Fowlkes and Erin Chambers said that what young people need most from caring adults, parents and older siblings is old-fashioned guidance.

A student at Dyersburg Community College, Fowlkes said, when adults see young people going astray, "stop us." "We need more guidance," she said, especially from older brothers and sisters.

"Mentor us in the way that we should go to become more successful and more productive," said Bond, 21, a student at Tennessee Technology Center at Covington.

Chambers, who is student body president at University of Tennessee at Martin, encouraged adults to make the first move. She said that they should approach young people in a friendly manner and invite them to be part of conversations and activities.

"It's hard to network with people who are only talking to each other," said the graduating senior, who believes making the first move "helps overcome the intimidation factor" of talking to successful adults or those in authority. "It makes a significant difference in their success if you mentor someone," Chambers said.

Eaton, 17, has plans to become a pharmacist. A student at Covington High School, she said young people need more help making career choices. "We don't have a lot of time to decide what to do with the rest of our lives."

The four mentioned job shadowing and internships — with or without pay — as important in helping young people make career choices. However, there was one caveat from Chambers. "We don't mind volunteering, but remember that college students are the 'poorest people in the world.' Feel free to compensate us."

Harrison, special agent in charge of the Memphis Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said that the FBI has a nonpaid internship program in Memphis for high school students and paid internships in Washington, D.C., for college juniors and seniors.

Using a topic of "Integrity and Responsibility," she spoke extensively about the crime-fighting work of the FBI whose areas of concern are cybercrime, public corruption, civil rights crimes, violent crimes and criminal enterprise. She said that while the FBI does not investigate street-level crime, it works jointly with local and state agencies on violent business robberies, which has resulted in a 24 percent decrease. "It's not about the glory," Harrison said, "it's about getting the bad guys in jail."

She also spoke about the FBI Citizens' Academy, a six-week program offered in Memphis, Jackson and Nashville that gives participants a deeper understanding of FBI operations. Harrison said that the next Citizens' Academy in Memphis starts in October.

One of only three African American females who are senior executives in the FBI, she said that she decided on a law enforcement career at the age of 10 and that her family's involvement in security (law enforcement) can be traced back to slavery days.

Kirby, 24, served as keynote speaker for the conference. The owner of Small Business Learning Series (SBLS) in Memphis, he said "Leadership is not about you. It's about the people you want to affect." He encouraged business owners to listen for opportunities, calling it the "power of the shut-up."

A fitness consultant, Street spoke on having a long, healthy life. At 6-1 and 170 lbs., she encouraged five small meals a day, more grains, fruits and vegetables, less meat, use of almond, rice, or soy milk instead of dairy, use of a multi-vitamin, more meals cooked at home, and absolutely no eating after 7 p.m. "It's expensive to eat healthy. It's expensive not to," said Street.

Executive Director David Belote said WestStar graduates put the conference together and the organization brings together a new class of 30 people from January to June each year. Participants from 21 counties learn "new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential," and they become part of a network of leaders who "shape the future of West Tennessee."
By HEATHER BRYANT  
P-I Asst. News Editor

She wore a beautiful white formal gown during the Hostess Princess pageant, but hopes to one day be wearing a crisp white lab coat.

Meagan Meketi is this year’s first maid in the Hostess Princess court. She is an 18-year-old senior at Henry County High School and plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in pre-med before attending medical school.

“I like learning … health classes are my favorite along with history and English,” she said.

“I like school and I guess it’s a good thing because I’m going to be there a while.”

She is the daughter of Lujan Meketi of Paris and the late Dale Meketi.

Her mother and grandmother, Martha Jane Simpson of Paris, are both nurses.

“My mom always told me to be a doctor,” she said. “She’s one of the smartest people I know. She’s really taught me a lot.”

She is thinking about becoming a cancer researcher since her family has been affected by the disease.

Meketi participated in the pageant because she is extremely shy.

“It was to try to overcome some of my fears,” she said.

“Plus, it was really fun.”

Her favorite part of the pageant was getting to “dress up.”

Her grandmother went shopping with her to get her pageant dress, and her friend, Kara Jones, also an HCHS senior, helped her with her stage presence.

Her least favorite thing about the pageant was having to answer a question aloud in the final round.

“I didn’t even expect to get that far at all,” she said. This was the first pageant she’s been in since she was very young.

“I have a great court to be with,” said Meketi. “My grandma was really happy of course (that I made the court).”

Her family including her brother Matt Meketi, who goes to Grove School, friends and her boyfriend Colin Paschall supported her and congratulated her after the pageant.

“I’m looking forward to the whole Fish Fry week,” she said, “especially the dances and the (grand) parade. I’ve never rode on a float before as part of a pageant court.”

She remembers always being excited to “ride the big rides” when she was a little girl at the Fish Fry carnival.

“Every year my whole family would all go together,” she said.

Meketi also received another honor this year after she was crowned HCHS basketball homecoming queen.

She has played basketball for four years and said she received the homecoming queen honor right after the Lady Patriots lost a game by one point.

She was upset about losing the game, but said being named basketball homecoming queen was a good moment.

Meketi appreciates her accolades, but said they have also caused her to be more confident in front of an audience.

“I’m really shy so I don’t really like being the center of attention,” she said.

She has also played piano for 11 years and said she mostly plays classical music, but loves to listen to all kinds of music. She’s also a big fan of Italian food and likes to watch movies — her favorites are Tiffany’s” and “Top Gun.”

“I like to be around my family and friends and I like going to the lake,” said Meketi.

She plays basketball at home just for fun and also has taken up running for exercise.

At school, she is involved in the HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) Club, National Honor Society, EFFORT (Education for Future Opportunities Realized Today) Scholar and Math Club.

Aspects of her life she is currently focused on include going to college, her family and God. She is involved in First United Methodist Church’s youth group.

She also admits she loves shopping and has some less-than-graceful moments.

“When I was on stage, I tripped on my dress,” she said.

“What advice would she have for other young girls?”

“There’s many things that play a part in being beautiful and pretty,” she said.

“Don’t change yourself to fit into the stereotype of what is beautiful. Your personality makes you beautiful.”

Sometimes just a patch of ornamental grass is all that’s needed for a Paris in the Spring photo. With a beauty like Meagan, who even notices the grass?
By HEATHER BRYANT
P-I Asst. News Editor

This year's third maid in the Hostess Princess court is a lasagna-loving, Taekwondo-kicking, water skiing college freshman with aspirations of becoming a Southern belle.

Brittany Jean McNutt is only 19 years old, but speaks with a wisdom beyond her years when talking about what is most important in her life; her family and her education.

"My mother is probably the best woman you can find. She's the one I go to when I have problems," said McNutt.

"My dad is supportive too. We've gotten a lot closer since I've been in college.

"I think a lot of (my younger brother). He's a good kid and he really looks up to my dad," she said.

"My grandparents are great role models for me. They always have great advice, especially since I'm getting to that age I have to grow up and I can't be as dependent on my family."

She is the daughter of Mike and Kim McNutt of Henry, the big sister of 15-year-old Dylan McNutt and the granddaughter of Carl "Buddy" and Bea Raines of Paris.

She's in her second semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin where she is majoring in elementary education.

McNutt stays focused on her courses because she wants to finish college "and have a successful life."

She's always dreamed of being a teacher.

"I love kids. I've always worked well with kids, and I thought I could help the community and I would be happy (as a teacher)," she said. "I can also be more family-oriented."

This will be her second reign in the court as she was third maid last year as well.

Her favorite thing about being in the court is "representing Henry County and meeting everybody."

She loved being a part of all of the World's Biggest Fish Fry activities last year, especially the country dance.

The young children attending the dance took turns dancing with the young ladies in the court.

"The kids absolutely loved it," she said.

Why did she want to try to be part of the court again?

"I just wanted to be a part of it and I thought it was a really big honor," said McNutt.

She is honored to be in the court with all of "the girls" and said she is particularly excited about Cortney Haley being this year's Hostess Princess because they are good friends.

It has been a few years since "college-aged" young women have been chosen in the court, which also makes it special, said McNutt.

"I'm looking forward to seeing everybody in Paris and I'm looking forward to representing the community (during Fish Fry week)," she said.

"All of the girls in the pageant were beautiful inside and out and deserved it just as much as I did."

The night of the pageant was difficult for her because she got the news her best friend had just been in a serious vehicle accident. "I had to pull everything together right before I went on stage," she said. "The whole night was rough."

Her friend is in the process of recovering, she said.

McNutt has grown to love UT Martin and the town itself.

"I love Martin. I'm pretty sure I'll stay there all four years and maybe even move there after college," she said.

"It reminds me a lot of Paris."

She "serves" Kappa Alpha Order, which means she helps the group with rush week activities and fundraisers. She said Kappa Alpha Order is not really like a fraternity, but instead is a group in which the guys learn how to be gentlemen.

After this semester, she'll become a "Southern belle" with the group meaning she will be a role model to the younger students who are rushing.

She also works at a grocery store in Martin, but tries to come home on the weekends when she can for visits.

"I love our campus here at UTM," Brittany says. "No matter what the season, whether it's sunny, raining or snowing, it's still beautiful."
Friend’s urging, new dress help
HC&H senior make court

By GLENN TANNER
P-I Staff Writer

A persistent friend and a desire to take a new dress out of the closet one more time landed a relative newcomer to the world of pageants squarely in the Hostess Princess Court.

Eighteen-year-old Amanda Neumair was named second maid at The World’s Biggest Fish Fry’s Hostess Princess Pageant on Jan. 26.

Born in Nashville, the daughter of Joe “Jody” and Kim Neumair, Amanda Neumair has been a Henry County resident since the first grade.

In all that time, she never entered a pageant until last year.

“The Hostess Princess pageant was my second pageant ever,” she said.

“My first pageant was at Christmas time.”

Neumair took part in the Miss Merry Christmas pageants, hosted by the Henry County High School Madrugals last November.

She said her good friend Robin Walker, the court’s fourth maid, pushed her into entering both pageants.

“Robin pretty much made me,” she smiled. “I’ve known Robin since I moved here. We’re pretty much best friends — attached at the hip. Along with our other group of four girls.”

Neumair said she also entered the pageants because she wanted to get some more use out of her prom dress.

“I paid a lot of money for my white dress, and I needed to wear it to something other than just my prom,” she said.

Walker finished as first maid in that pageant, while her friend was named second maid.

Neumair joked that her dress “pretty much only gets me second maid.”

Neumair said her mother, Kim, had never entered her in pageants as a child because she thought her daughter would be disappointed if she didn’t win.

“She didn’t want to see me disappointed,” she said.

“And she didn’t want to force me to be a pageant girl. She just wanted it to be my choice,” she said.

She said her whole family is happy with her selection to the court, including her sisters, 14-year-old twins Amy and Ashley, and her 11-year-old brother Joseph.

Her grandmother, Keith Jackson, was particularly pleased.

“My granddad said, ‘Oh, you just look so beautiful Amanda, I’m so proud of you,’ she smiled.

“The rest of my family is really, really proud.”

A senior at Henry County High School, Neumair has had a busy school career.

“I played softball up until this year. I’m involved in National Honor Society, I’m an Effort Scholar, I’m in the Spanish club, the Interact Club — pretty much every club possible,” she said.

The Interact Club is a high school version of its sponsor, the Rotary Club.

True to its name, club members interact with the community.

Neumair said one such activity involved collecting items for soldiers serving in Iraq.

“We collected … boxes of stuff like dry food, and sheets for their bed and books,” she said.

She also is active in Patriot Pals, the high school’s mentoring program with Rhea School.

But it isn’t just the high school’s extracurricular activities that she enjoys.

“I just like school, period,” she said. “I’m going to major in secondary education in college.”

Currently, she plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

She says she doesn’t know what subject she hopes to teach one day, but admitted, “math isn’t my favorite subject.”

With college a ways off yet, Neumair has been enjoying taking part in the activities leading up to the Fish Fry, including being photographed for this section, and being presented to the Tennessee Legislature.

When asked what she’s looking forward to most about the Fish Fry, Neumair didn’t hesitate.

“The parade,” she said. “I’ve never been in the parade, and I’ve always wanted to be.”

She also lists the country dance as event she’s greatly anticipating.

“I’m really looking forward to seeing everyone at the Fish Fry, and hope everyone comes out and enjoys all the festivities,” she said.
Q AND A

Hispanic Chamber’s chief takes inclusive approach

Ramon Cisneros has a long history in Tennessee, dating to his days as a college student.

Trained as an environmental engineer and in marketing, Cisneros first came to the state in the mid-1970s as an international student, attracted to the undergraduate programs at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Cisneros met his future wife there but returned to his native Venezuela to start a career in the oil industry. Since then, he has dabbled in retail, computers and newspaper publishing. He also has signed on as president of the reorganized Tennessee Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, a group of 65 Hispanic-owned businesses that hopes to foster understanding among cultures and spur business ownership among new immigrants.

The chamber hopes to mend fences at a time when the national debate over immigration and homeland security is at a fever pitch. Cisneros discussed his career and the chamber’s plans with Business Editor Randy McClain.

You’re a native of Venezuela who attended UT-Martin and later graduated from the University of Central Florida. Describe your American college experience.

In 1975, I came here to attend college. I was fresh out of high school. I stayed at UT-Martin for a couple of years, and then in 1977 I moved to Orlando, Florida, and graduated in environmental engineering from Central Florida.

I was in a very small town at UT-Martin. But because they had a big English as a second language program at the time, there were about 600 international students there, about 120 of them from Venezuela. At first, it was a pretty big cultural shock, because it’s a rural area there, and the people weren’t used to having foreigners around. But when we started buying in the stores, and things like that, the businesses started realizing this was an interesting group of people.

Right after graduation, or a couple of weeks later, I moved back to Venezuela and worked there for 11 years, until 1991. I started working with Exxon in the area of oil spills and environmental issues. I also attended college in Venezuela and got a master’s degree in marketing during that time.

When did you return to the United States?

I came back in 1991, and after spending some time trying to find a suitable job I started work at the headquarters of Service Merchandise in Brentwood. I was import manager in the international department. I spent six years with Service Merchandise, until they went out of business. I was one of the last ones to leave in 1999.

It personally affected me. I was used to my work, but I was also ready for a change in my life. I was always one of those guys thinking of new opportunities, and how could I start a business of my own. That was always in my mind.

What is your profession today?

I came up with the idea of starting a newspaper to serve the Hispanic community. I started La Campana del Sur (The Southern Bell). I am president and CEO. We started with the mission of serving as a communications tool to the Hispanic community here, especially to help the people new to this country.

We started trying to get advertisers from among Hispanic businesses, because at the beginning the Hispanic community was doing a lot of business just with itself. We started trying to promote Hispanic grocery stores, restaurants and things like that.
The Hispanic community is just like any other one. It has needs to buy automobiles and housing and all kinds of goods and services.

It wasn't long, though, before non-Hispanic organizations — the banks, the car dealers and furniture stores — wanted to get a little piece of the Hispanic market. In Nashville, Hispanics are easily 6 percent to 8 percent of the population, or about 80,000 people.

That's probably larger than the population of Franklin and Brentwood put together.

DIID YOUR ROLE AS NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER LEAD TO YOUR INVOLVEMENT WITH THE TENNESSEE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE?

That's basically true. Because of the newspaper, you have to be with the people and attend basically every Hispanic event and meeting. By doing this, I got a great knowledge of all the people in the Hispanic business community, the faith community and the nonprofits.

And the way we deliver the newspaper is through Hispanic businesses ... the grocery stores and restaurants and other places like that. So, I had, because of my work, the chance to meet all those business owners.

Somewhere in 2006 Hispanic business owners felt a need to come together and somehow work out something to make sure that relations between Hispanics and the non-Hispanic people in Nashville would not deteriorate.

That motivated many of us to get into the Chamber of Commerce.

HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE IN THE HISPANIC CHAMBER?

We have approximately 65 Hispanic businesses and a few more non-Hispanic businesses.

Most of our efforts to grow have been in the last eight months. I became president of the chamber last June, and we have gotten organized properly as a not-for-profit.

We also have developed new financial methods to make sure that we have control of our finances and all the members know how their money is being spent.

HOW HAVE ATTITUDES TOWARD HISPANICS CHANGED SINCE YOU RETURNED TO THE U.S. IN THE EARLY 1990S?

For many years, being Hispanic was no different than being German or being from Belgium. Always somebody had some connection to the Hispanic community, and people in Nashville are very friendly. Whenever I'd say I am from Venezuela, I had people say, "Oh yeah, I used to work there or I visited there two times." There was always a connection.

After September 2001, people became more concerned about foreigners, initially Middle Easterners, but then it started expanding to other minority groups, including the Latin Americans. And then in 2005, it started with people talking more about the immigration issue and especially the undocumented immigrants.

It started to snowball from the talk shows on radio, and as it evolved, the politicians started using that as a campaign issue. Life here is still great, but it's not as wonderful as it was a few years ago.

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR THE NEWLY REORGANIZED HISPANIC CHAMBER?

Our mission is to be the leading voice in business issues affecting the Hispanic community of Tennessee.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR INITIATIVES, THE KEY PROGRAMS?

We want to take Hispanic businesses and entrepreneurs and help them develop. At the same time, we want to help non-Hispanic businesses and provide them with a channel to serve our market.

For the Hispanic corporations, we are providing a lot of training and education in terms of how to start a business and promote it. However, we don't have the resources to have those programs done by the chamber. So, we use programs that already exist in the community.

For instance, in terms of training, we have come together with an organization called the Tennessee Small Business Development Centers. They have an entire assortment of training for small businesses.

Some of our members have language limitations. So, the chamber is providing simultaneous translation. If a Hispanic person who wants to start a restaurant goes to a small-business training class, we will provide the translation for them. The chamber pays for the service.

WHAT ABOUT REACHING OUT TO NON-HISPANIC LOCAL BUSINESSES?

We are also working with the Tennessee Minority Supplier Development Council, which is basically an organization that helps businesses register as a minority company to pursue government contracts and learn how to bid on those.

We have to make sure government contracts come down to the size that small businesses and our Hispanic businesses can do it. When you contract the entire convention center ... Hispanic companies won't have the opportunity to do that. But if you set apart the building of the parking lot or the green areas or the maintenance, well, smaller companies will have an opportunity.

WHAT ELSE IS COMING UP TO CREATE LINKS BETWEEN THE HISPANIC AND NON-HISPANIC COMMUNITIES?

The voices of the anti-immigration forces are a lot louder. We want to give an opportunity to people to understand the other side of the story.

One thing we do as a chamber is provide mixers and social gatherings that create an opportunity for networking between Hispanic and non-Hispanic businesses and owners. We'll also get involved in major events that can be sponsored by non-Hispanic companies to get face to face with the Hispanic community.

Ramon Cisneros is president of the reorganized Tennessee Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.
Consulting seminar set at UTM, May 8

MARTIN, Tenn. – Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in May at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., May 8.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 731-587-REED (7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin, Tenn. 38237.

For additional services offered by the REED Center go to www.utm.edu/reed.

REED Center offers course in marketing

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin is offering a marketing dynamics course for small businesses in April.

“The Dynamics of Marketing Your Business” will be offered from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at the REED Center for a cost of $10 and additional $10 for continuing education credits.

Jamie Frakes will instruct the course.

This program focuses on distinct issues that will affect how a business is marketed. The program is informative and includes activities designed to be integrated into a marketing plan immediately. Attendees will establish a foundation for building a more comprehensive marketing plan for their businesses.

To register for a workshop, visit the Web at www.utm.edu/reed or call (731) 587-7333.

UTM Staff Member Speaks to Kiwanis Club

The month of April is Autism Awareness Month. The Kiwanis Club of McKenzie invited UTM staff member, Denise Jones, to be the speaker for their weekly meeting on April 9. Mrs. Jones is certified in behavioral management with particular emphasis and interests in autism disorders.

Her expertise has been invaluable concerning effects of the Autism Institute in McKenzie to provide helpful knowledge and instruction for children, local parents and concerned citizens in our area. Pictured are (l) Sherri Priestley, Kiwanis Club President, and Denise Jones, UTM staff member.

County students receive scholarships

Three Weakley County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

• Riley Auvenshire, daughter of Tracey Auvenshire of Dresden and Sheila Keeling of Gleason, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship.

• Kesley Gibson, daughter of Michael and Edie Gibson of Martin, will be a freshman. She received the Chancellor’s Award.

• Jill Mitchell, daughter of Karen Mitchell of Gleason and Woody Mitchell of McKenzie, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238. In-state residents telephone 800-829-UTM1; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.
The University of Tennessee last week officially launched its ambitious $1 billion fundraising campaign to enhance programs of excellence at all of the university’s campuses and institutes.

The Campaign for Tennessee -- the most ambitious effort in the university’s 214-year history -- places UT among the ranks of the nation’s largest public and private institutions that have sought this level of private support.

Accompanied by Board of Trustees Vice Chair Andrea Loughry, UT President John "Petersen announced that $704,007,696 has been raised at a gathering of campaign volunteers held at Pratt Pavilion.

"This is a historic day for the University of Tennessee and a time to celebrate the university’s successes. We extend our thanks to the many volunteers and supporters who’ve helped us achieve this unprecedented amount," said Petersen. "We also look forward to a continued momentum to further engage alumni and friends in achieving the university’s goals."

The campaign seeks support for initiatives that impact student access and success, research, economic development, outreach and goals for globalization.

Jim Haslam, along with his wife, Natalie, and Brenda Lawson of Chattanooga serve as co-chairs of the Campaign for Tennessee."}

"Along with a wonderful way to connect to the university in an exciting initiative that will have a transformational impact, this opportunity drives home the point that support comes in many forms and that every gift counts and contributes to the long-term success of the university," said Loughry.

Current, former and retired employees have contributed more than $48.7 million through the Family Campaign that was held in 2007.

The effort involved gifts and pledges from more than 11,000 people. Employee giving has increased with participation rates of between 26 percent and 54 percent at UT’s campuses and units.

UT Martin will formally launch its portion of the Campaign on May 3, with a 6 p.m. dinner. Invited guests include members of the UT Martin Campaign Steering Committee, the UT Martin Development Committee, the UT Martin Alumni Council and major donors. Featured speakers include UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, UT President John Petersen and Lady Vols Coach Pat Summit.

For more information about the Campaign for Tennessee, please visit http://development.tennessee.edu/campaign/.
Reed Center offers programs

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center is offering small-business workshops for tax issues and selling to the government.

“Tax Issues and Your Small Business” will be taught from 1-5 p.m., May 15, at the REED Center, 406 Lindell St., Martin, at no cost, except $10 for continuing education credits. Eddie Ramsey will instruct the course. Participants will learn about forms, filing regulations and record-keeping requirements for small businesses. Participants will also explore the pitfalls and tips of filing small-business tax returns.

“Need More Customers? How About Selling to the Government...” will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon, June 5, at the REED Center. Russell Toone, University of Tennessee Procurement Technical Assistance Center counselor, will instruct the course. In this workshop, experts will provide participants with the fundamentals for government contracting for small business. Participants will learn the skills needed to compete for government contracts, explore small business and minority selection standards and move a small business into competition for government contracts.

To register for a workshop, visit the Web at www.utm.edu/reed or call 587-7333.

Seitz book signing is April 24

The University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library will host a book signing from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., April 24, for Rebecca Deboard Seitz, of Fulton, Ky., a UT Martin graduate and University Scholar. The title of her book is “Sisters Inc.”

It is the first book in a series of four that centers on the popular world of scrapbooking.

Seitz will discuss and share journaling with samples of projects she has made using Ellison die cuts, similar to those that are available in the university’s Learning Resource Center. The event is free and open to the public. Faculty members are asked to encourage students to attend. Participants will receive free samples of various die cuts available from the resource center.

Contact Nan Murphey, at ext. 7078, for more information about the journaling session from noon-12:45 p.m. For additional information, contact Cindy Gaylord at ext. 7078 or cgaylord@utm.edu.
UT Martin student interns with Congressman Tanner

University of Tennessee at Martin student Josh Rainey recently received an internship with Eighth District U.S. Rep. John Tanner. The internship in Washington, D.C., will span from June-July. Rainey, a junior political science major from Huntingdon, is the son of Warren and Gina Rainey. He is a graduate of Jackson Christian High School and plans a career in law.

High school students and their families from across the state recently converged at the University of Tennessee at Martin for the Office of Admission’s Preview Day. UT Martin had 231 students in attendance and a total of 560 visitors, which almost doubles the number from last year. Those present attended an academic fair, toured the campus and observed a presentation on UT Martin Greek life and student activities. Pictured (from left) are Kristin Smith of Millington, a student at Millington Central High School, and Jerrica Hampton of Collierville, a student at Collierville High School.

Union Citian included

UT Martin faculty members honored for achievements

Five University of Tennessee at Martin faculty members—including one from Union City—were honored with awards for outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising during the recent Honors Day program.

They included:
- Dr. Michael Gibson, professor of geology, and Lane Last of Union City, associate professor of art, who received the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award. The Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award of $5,000 was established in 1993 by James R. Cunningham, who attended UT Junior College in the 1930s. It is awarded annually to faculty members who have demonstrated strength in teaching and made a contribution to the teaching profession through scholarly activities, extracurricular achievements and leadership responsibilities.
- Dr. Eric Pelten, associate professor of wildlife biology, who received the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association (UTNAA) Outstanding Teacher Award. Each year, the UTNAA presents awards of $2,000 to faculty members on each of the UT campuses who have been selected as outstanding teachers. Students, alumni and faculty nominate outstanding teachers, who then are evaluated on classroom performance, scholarship and service.
- Dr. Janet Rasmussen-Wilbert, assistant professor of health and human performance, who received the Outstanding Advisor Award. The Outstanding Advisor Award of $1,000 and a plaque are presented to the faculty member selected for demonstrating a caring attitude toward advisees, the ability to engage in developmental advising and other distinctive characteristics. The recipient also is eligible for the national award competition sponsored by the American College Testing Program and the National Academic Advising Association.
- Dr. Charles Bradshaw, assistant professor of English, who received the Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award. The Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award of $5,000 was established in 1998 by Mai and Charlie Coffey and is awarded annually to a faculty member who demonstrates strength in teaching and contributes to the teaching profession through extracurricular achievements, leadership qualities and scholarly activities.
Among faculty members honored with awards for outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising during the recent Honors Day program were, Dr. Charles Bradshaw, second from left, Dr. Janet Rasmussen-Wilbert, Dr. Eric Pelren and Dr. Michael Gibson. They are pictured with Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, left, and Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, right. Not pictured is Lane Last.

**Five Claim Annual Faculty Honors**

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Gertrude Myrick, University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Human Resources administrative specialist, who will celebrate her 45th year of employment, Sept. 1, received the non-exempt UT Martin Spring 2008 Outstanding Employee Award recently presented by Chancellor Tom Rakes. The award, which recognizes outstanding service to the university, is presented each fall and spring semester to two employees. Included as part of Myrick’s nomination were comments such as, “She is a person who holds vast knowledge of the university. When you need the historical background to know how or why something is done here at UT Martin, ask Gertrude. She is a truly dependable employee. Gertrude is always available to assist any employee at the university.”

John Abel, University of Tennessee at Martin Boling University Center interim director, received the exempt UT Martin Spring 2008 Outstanding Employee Award recently presented by Chancellor Tom Rakes. The award, which recognizes outstanding service to the university, is presented each fall and spring semester to two employees. Included as part of Abel’s nomination were comments such as, “You can depend on him for whatever you ask. He is constantly going above and beyond his duties to make sure the university center is running smoothly and that all ‘customers’ and guests are happy. When John sees something that needs to be done, he acts on it and does whatever he can to see that it is carried through.”

Business Consultant at REED Center, May 8

Ben Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in May at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., May 8.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 731-587-REED/58733). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin, Tenn. 38237.

For additional services offered by the REED Center go to www.utm.edu/reed.
Union City woman’s photo included in UT Martin display

They range from a black-and-white closeup of an 18th Century waterwheel to an art deco advertisement from the 1950s. They span the state from Memphis to the Smokies. And they evoke past eras from King Cotton to the slave trade.

“They” are the 22 top-place finishers in “Viewing History,” the 2007 photo contest sponsored by Scenic Tennessee and the Tennessee Preservation Trust. The photos are on display in the University Museum at the University of Tennessee at Martin through May 30.

“We are delighted to be able to share these images with northwest Tennessee,” said Richard Saunders, museum director. “The images capture a broad swath of Tennessee history and culture and the talent is a nice cross-section of amateur and professional, student and adult. I’m especially pleased because one of the photos is of a Union City landmark and was taken by local photographer Emily Elliston.”

The 22 winning images were selected by a three-member jury from a field of more than 130 submissions submitted by photographers from across the state. The judges included Susan Whitaker, commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development; Patrick McIntyre, executive director of the Tennessee Historical Commission; and Joy McKenzie, chair of the photography department at Watkins College of Art & Design in Nashville, which printed the winners for the traveling exhibit.

“Viewing History” is free and open to the public during weekday business hours. The museum is accessible from the Special Collections/University Archives reading room just off the Paul Meek Library lobby. Parking is available beside the library and a free permit is available at the library circulation desk.

For other visitor information, call the museum at (731) 881-7094.

LaVelle to address graduates; complimentary tickets needed

University of Tennessee at Martin commencement will be May 10, with UT Martin alumnus and Memphis surgeon Dr. David LaVelle delivering the commencement address.

The event is set for 11 a.m. in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center and a record 768 graduates will receive diplomas.

UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Paul Sharma, UT National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer and the processional marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harris, faculty senate president; Dr. Richard Joost, faculty senate representative; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; and Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Delana Easley, UT Martin accompanist, and the UT Martin saxophone quartet will perform the processional and the quartet will perform special music. Dr. Dwight Gatwood, professor of music who is retiring after 36 years, will perform the alma mater, which he composed.

Immediately following commencement, a reception will be held in Skyhawk Fieldhouse.

LaVelle joined the medical staff of Campbell Clinic in Memphis in 1985 after graduating from the University of Tennessee at Martin and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and completing his residency at Campbell Clinic. He is board certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery.

He also is an associate professor at UT Health Science Center Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and is a Richards/Smith and Nephew professional consultant.

Each graduate will receive up to six free tickets to admit guests to the commencement program. Overflow seating with a video and audio feed of the ceremony will be provided in the fieldhouse for all guests without tickets.

Graduates can get their tickets at the Grand Finale Senior Walk on April 30 and later that afternoon following student commencement practice in the Elam Center. Tickets for graduating students will remain available in the Office of Academic Records until 5 p.m. May 9.

A limited number of additional complimentary tickets will be available to graduates (up to an additional six tickets) and to faculty and staff and the general public (up to two per person), on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last beginning May 1 in the Office of Academic Records on the first floor of the Administration Building.

Any tickets not claimed by 5 p.m. May 9 will be distributed to the general public at a designated area outside the Elam Center beginning at 9 a.m. prior to the spring commencement ceremony on May 10.
ECCE offers Excel for use in classroom

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education and online course provider Ed2Go have partnered to offer "Microsoft Excel 2007 in the Classroom."

The course — taught by Robin Sellers, a 10-year teaching veteran known for bringing technology to the classroom — has tips, shortcuts and lesson plan ideas for incorporating Excel across the curriculum in all grade levels.

Teachers will learn all the important Excel basics and some of the more advanced functions. As they’re doing that, they will also explore standards-based activities that make it easy to pass their Excel knowledge on to their students.

Students can interact with the instructor and fellow students in Web-based discussion areas where they can ask course-related questions. A response is usually promised within one business day and often arrives much sooner. Students can take “Microsoft Excel 2007 in the Classroom” from the convenience of home or office and at any time of the day or night.

“Microsoft Excel in the Classroom” meets the qualifications for professional development activities that can be used for renewal purposes.

Prior to enrolling, those interested should check with a supervisor to ensure the course can be used as a part of a professional growth plan. If approved, participants will receive 24 renewal points. UT Martin will provide a Certificate of Completion showing the name of the course, course dates and the number of continuing education credits awarded.

The registration fee is $95 and new sessions begin May 21 and June 18.

For more information about this course, contact the UT Martin Online Instruction Center at www.utm.edu/ecce/online-courses.php and select Education To Go.

SF STUDENT RECOGNIZED — Kady Elliott (right) of South Fulton received the Women in Communications Presidential Award and Women in Communications Continuing Member Award, presented by instructor of communications Teresa Collard, during the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications’ recent annual Communications Career Day. The event honored the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The day included a banquet, keynote speaker, awards presentations and a career fair. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Kent Landers, director of external communications for Delta Air Lines in Atlanta and a 1998 communications graduate of UT Martin.
University of Tennessee-Martin to launch online MBA program focused on banking

The University of Tennessee-Martin plans to launch an online Master's of Business Administration degree program that will cater primarily to the banking industry.

The new MBA will feature many of the same courses as the current 35-hour MBA that is offered on the Martin and Jackson, Tenn., campuses, but with a focus on the banking industry, says Tom Payne, UT-Martin's Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking.

Six of the 35 hours will be banking electives. Completing the MBA should take about 22 months, Payne says.

"It will be a very user-friendly type of presentation," he says, noting lectures and materials will be downloadable to PDAs and can even be podcast.

Classes will be limited to 22 students, about the median size of most graduate courses, says Kevin Hammond, professor of marketing in the College of Business and MBA program coordinator.

A traditional MBA class can range in size from 12-35 at UT-Martin, he says.

The program will cost about $375 per credit hour, about $30-$40 more than the regular MBA program, Hammond says.

In addition to standard academic requirements, Payne says applicants for the new MBA will need two years' work experience in a bank environment, but three to five years will be encouraged. Discussion of the program began more than two years ago. Payne acknowledges the timing might seem ill-conceived given the economy, but he says investment in education is more important now than ever.

"Progressive institutions will continue, and some will increase, their banking education as they look for ways to build the balance sheet and strengthen earnings," Payne says.
**Business consultant to be at the Reed Center**

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in May at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., May 8.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 587-REED(7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin.

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**Meet Betty Tanner at UTM**

The Obion County UT Alumni Chapter invites the public to meet and hear Betty Ann Tanner at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 10, in room 230 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Cost is $20 per person, and brunch will be served.

Mrs. Tanner is a self-employed interior designer and president of Betty Ann Tanner Accessories. She lives in Union City with her husband, Rep. John Tanner. She serves on numerous boards in the Washington, D.C., area including the Ford Theatre Society and Meridian International Center. They travel in Rep. Tanner’s capacity as chairman of the House of Representatives delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the legislative branch of NATO. Her mission-related travel includes work in Nairobi, Kenya and Sofia, Bulgaria.

For more information call Brad Thompson at (731) 225-1107 or Claudia Maness at (731) 885-1698. To make a reservation, send a check payable to the Obion County Alumni Chapter and mail to: Brad Thompson, P.O. Box 1994, Union City, TN 38281-1994.
Mrs. Tanner to speak at UTM alumni brunch

Betty Ann Tanner, wife of Congressman John Tanner, is scheduled to speak at a gathering of the Obion County University of Tennessee at Martin alumni chapter.

The brunch is set for May 10 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 230 of Boling University Center. Cost is $20 per person.

Mrs. Tanner, a self-employed interior designer and president of Betty Ann Tanner Accessories, is a 1968 graduate of the University of Tennessee. She is originally from Huntingdon and now lives in Union City with her husband. She serves on numerous boards in the Washington, D.C., area, including the Ford's Theatre Society and Meridian International Center.

The Tanners travel in his capacity as chairman of the House of Representatives delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, the legislative branch of NATO. Mrs. Tanner’s mission-related travel includes work in Nairobi, Kenya and Sophia, Bulgaria.

She will share her experiences of the places she has traveled, the people she has met and the causes she supports. She has won the hearts of politicians and dignitaries around the world with her southern charm and those attending will be intrigued by her life outside of the boundaries of rural West Tennessee, a spokesman said.

To make a reservation, send a check payable to the Obion County Alumni Chapter to Brad Thompson, P.O. Box 1994, Union City, TN 38281-1994.

For more information, call Brad Thompson at (731) 225-1107 or Claudia Maness at (731) 885-1698.

REED Center providing programs

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center is offering small business workshops for tax issues and selling to the government.

"Tax Issues and Your Small Business" will be taught from 1-5 p.m. May 15 at the REED Center, located at 406 Lindell St. in Martin, at no cost, except $10 for continuing education credits.

Eddie Ramsey will instruct the course.

Participants will learn about forms, filing regulations and record-keeping requirements for small businesses. Participants will also explore the pitfalls and tips of filing small-business tax returns.

"Need More Customers? How About Selling to the Government ..." will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon June 5 at the REED Center.

Russell Toone, University of Tennessee Procurement/Technical Assistance Center counselor, will instruct the course.

In this workshop, experts will provide participants with the fundamentals for government contracting for small business. Participants will learn the skills needed to compete for government contracts, explore small-business and minority selection standards and move a small business into competition for government contracts.

To register for a workshop, visit the Web at www.utm.edu/reed or call (731) 587-7333.

Consultant to be available at REED Center

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available 9 a.m.-4 p.m. May 8 at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin.

The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St. in Martin.
The announcement was followed by a celebration held at Thompson Boling Assembly Center and Arena involved 800 invited guests and more than 400 students, faculty and staff. Representing campuses and institutes from across the state, the student programs were spotlighted throughout the evening.

UT Martin will formally launch its portion of the Campaign on May 3, with a 6 p.m. dinner. Invited guests include members of the UT Martin Campaign Steering Committee, the UT Martin Development Committee, the UT Martin Alumni Council and major donors. Featured speakers include UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, UT President John Petersen and Lady Vols Coach Pat Summit.

Local High School Student Gets Jump on UT Martin Fall Registration

MARTIN - Bethany Aden, center, of McKenzie, recently attended Summer Orientation and Registration (S.O.A.R.) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. A McKenzie High School senior, she will attend UT Martin in the fall. With Aden is her mother, Rhonda, and her father, Dale. Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence hall; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for first-year students the week before classes). For more information about S.O.A.R., call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 731-681-7020 or 1-800-829-UTMI.
Money matters, teens learn

Parents, teachers help youth see value of saving, spending wisely

By ASHLEY ANTHONY
aanthony@jacksonsun.com

Seventeen-year-old Raven Robinson is learning to save money.
She enjoys learning about money management at school and home.
She's taking a personal finance class at Liberty Technology Magnet High School.
Her parents also have taught her to be a smart spender, she said.

Her mother encourages her to shop for deals, while her father has talked to her about investing in stock.

"I've learned that investment is a good decision, but you have to invest wisely," Robinson said.
"You can't just make quick decisions about your money.
This is Liberty's first year to offer the dual-enrollment class through the University of Tennessee Martin. Dr. June Murry, the vice principal of Liberty, said that by next year, the class will be part of the state's new standard curriculum for high school students.

With gas and food prices on the rise, this is an ideal time for parents to start teaching their child to be financially literate. April is also National Financial Literacy Month.

According to a survey from Capitol One, 49 percent of teens are eager to learn more about money management, but only 14 percent have taken a class on the topic. Thirty-five percent of teens would like to learn personal finance skills from their parents.

Marlena Jareaux, a licensed real estate investor in Maryland and the author of "26 Financial Things to Teach Your Parents," wants more parents to discuss money with their children.

Some think they'll be able to live in an expensive house and drive a luxury car straight out of college, especially if that's the life and Workforce Development.

Robinson doesn't think her peers believe money is easy to come by.
"A lot of them work hard and have jobs," she said.

She doesn't have a job, but plans to by the summer.

Deborah Kerr said her 18-year-old daughter, Ashuah, manages money better since she started working part-time two years ago.

Ashuah, a senior at North Side High School, worked at Chic-fil-A last year and now has a job at Old Hickory Mall.

When she was 16, she opened a checking account after having a successful yard sale.

"She's better about spending money on things she needs and not always what she wants," Kerr said. Kerr taught her daughter that there's always going to be a want, but that doesn't mean she has to buy it.

"What my husband and I try to get her to do is pull out the money she needs for tithes at church, gas, food, and to always save at least $25 of what she makes," Kerr said.

Jareaux said parents should get their child to think about wants versus needs to decipher what's important.

Camill Morgan, 17, thinks teens spend their money on clothes, food, gas and car accessories such as rims.
When Morgan feels tempted to eat at a fast food restaurant, she reminds herself that there is food at home, she said.

But she didn’t always try to save money.

Morgan, who had her first job at Sonic over the summer, spent every penny she made, even though her dad made her set up a checking account to manage her earnings. By the time summer was over, Morgan was broke, she said.

“I was wishing I had saved because the stuff I needed like gas, I couldn’t even buy it,” Morgan said.

Her dad was there to help her, but that experience still taught her a few important lessons in money management, she said.

Morgan learned to spend her money on necessary items and to always save for a rainy day because you never know what could happen, she said.

Morgan has a new job now, and she keeps better track of her earnings by checking her account balances online.

“And I’m saving more money than I was ever before,” she said.

In Jareaux’s book, she warns that there will always be a rainy day, which could include a car accident or breakdown, medical emergency or loss of job.

“There will be things that happen that you won’t be able to see coming or have any control over,” she writes in her book.

Saving money helps prepare you for the unexpected, Jareaux said.

Chase Brisco, 18, said learning how to save now will help him manage money as an adult when he has bills to pay.

“It’s also good to know you have money to fall back on, he said.

Brisco, who works part time at a restaurant in Jackson, would rather save than spend his money.

“It literally gives me a headache to spend a lot of money,” he said.

Brisco’s father, Craig, said his son is tight with his money.

When Brisco was 15 and opened up a checking account, Craig showed him how to make a budget, using Quicken, a personal finance software program.
Students recognized at Career Day

KASSI ABNEY - The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Career Day to honor the academic and extra-curricular accomplishments of communications students. The career day consisted of a banquet, keynote speaker, award presentation and career fair. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Kent Landers, director of external communications for Delta Air Lines, Atlanta, Ga., and a 1998 communications graduate of UT Martin. Kassi Abney, of Martin, received the Junior Communications Department Scholarship. Chara Van Horn, instructor of communications, presented the award.

CHADWICK BREWER, of Sharon, received the Freshman Communications Department Scholarship. Stacy Freed, lecturer of communications, presented the award.

MATT COOK, of Martin, received the Bryant and Julia Williams Scholarship, Dorothy and Robert Norton Scholarship and the Senior Communications Department Scholarship. Chara Van Horn, instructor of communications, presented the award.

BENITA EVANS, of Dresden, received the Duke Drumm WCMT Oldies 95.1 Scholarship. Paul Tinkle, of WCMT, presented the award.

CHARLIE MCINTOSH, of Martin, received the Wayne Tansil Scholarship. Tomi Parrish, instructor of communications, presented the award.

JENNIFER DEYESO, of Martin, received the Dorothy Norton Scholarship, Sophomore Communications Department Scholarship and the Women in Communications New Member Award. Tracy Rutledge, instructor of communications, presented the award.

WILL YORK, of Martin, received the Society of Professional Journalists Award. Tomi Parrish, instructor of communications, presented the award.

JANA OGG, of Martin, received the Communications Department Senior Ambassador Award. Dr. Robert Nanney, chair of the Department of Communications, presented the award.

BARRY DEERE, of Martin, received the WLJТ Scholarship. Dave Hinman, WLJТ general manager, presented the award.

JOEY ANDERSON, of Martin, received the WLJТ Scholarship. Dave Hinman, WLJТ general manager, presented the award.
FACULTY AWARDS PRESENTED – Among faculty members honored with awards for outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising during the recent Honors Day program were, Dr. Charles Bradshaw, second from left, Dr. Janet Rasmussen-Wilbert, Dr. Eric Pelren and Dr. Michael Gibson. They are pictured with Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, left, and Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, right. Not pictured is Lane Last.

Five claim annual faculty honors

Five University of Tennessee at Martin faculty members were honored with awards for outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising during the recent Honors Day program.

• Dr. Michael Gibson, professor of geology, and Lane Last, associate professor of art, received the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award. The Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award of $5,000 was established in 1993 by James R. Cunningham, who attended UT Junior College in the 1930s. It is awarded annually to faculty members who have demonstrated strength in teaching and made a contribution to the teaching profession through scholarly activities, extracurricular achievements and leadership responsibilities.

• Dr. Eric Pelren, associate professor of wildlife biology, received the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association (UTNAA) Outstanding Teacher Award. Each year, the UTNAA presents awards of $2,000 to faculty members on each of the UT campuses who have been selected as outstanding teachers. Students, alumni and faculty nominate outstanding teachers, who then are evaluated on classroom performance, scholarship and service.

• Dr. Janet Rasmussen-Wilbert, assistant professor of health and human performance, received the Outstanding Advisor Award. The Outstanding Advisor Award of $1,000 and a plaque are presented to the faculty member selected for demonstrating a caring attitude toward advisees, the ability to engage in developmental advising and other distinctive characteristics. The recipient also is eligible for the national award competition sponsored by the American College Testing Program and the National Academic Advising Association.

• Dr. Charles Bradshaw, assistant professor of English, received the Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award. The Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award of $5,000 was established in 1998 by Mai and Charlie Coffey and is awarded annually to a faculty member who demonstrates strength in teaching and contributes to the teaching profession through extracurricular achievements, leadership qualities and scholarly activities.
Student and staff member honored

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission honored a University of Tennessee at Martin student and a staff member for outstanding community service work, April 24, in Nashville. Terrill Orton, a junior marketing major of Centerville, and Steve Lemond, Information Technology Services senior systems analyst of Martin, each received a Love Community Service Award after being selected from a group of Tennessee college and university nominees.

"Terrill's personal faith and dedication to helping children are evident," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, citing a recent mission trip to Nicaragua and her continued support of a 4-year-old orphaned boy, Ramon. "She is just one example of how UT Martin students make a difference through community service, not to seek recognition, but to make our world a better place."

"Steve Lemond's dedication to community service is evident through his ongoing volunteer efforts to make our community and region better places to live and work," said Rakes. "There is no doubt that Steve's dedication to scouting and to the Kiwanis Club makes a difference in the lives of countless young people."

Ten individuals, five faculty/staff members and five students, received the awards during a reception and program at the THEC office. Awards go to individuals who excel in volunteer work and community service activities. The Tennessee General Assembly created the recognition programs for faculty, staff and students at public and private two- and four-year postsecondary institutions in 1991. In 1993, the General Assembly funded the program by presenting $1,000 cash awards to future recipients. In 1996, the commission adopted a recommendation by its awards task force to rename the awards for the late Tennessee Rep. Harold Love, who sponsored legislation to create the program.

Following the trip to Nicaragua, the first overseas mission trip undertaken by Catalyst Missions, which was started last year by a UT Martin professor, Orton is already planning a return trip in October. She also is involved in many community service activities associated with the UT Martin campus. She is a member of Chi Omega sorority, which raises money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Through her efforts, and those of her sorority sisters, the chapter has granted four wishes in the past two years. She has also participated in canned food and Christmas stocking drives for the past two years to benefit We Care Ministries, a local agency that provides assistance for those in need.

"I volunteer because I feel like I have been called to do it. The physical effort required to volunteer is so insignificant in comparison to the lasting emotional rewards that I feel when knowing that someone's life has just been changed," said Orton. "There is no greater feeling than to see someone, especially a child, smile because they just realized that someone cares. The Love Community Service Award is such an honor because it is proof that others notice and appreciate the good that is being done in the world. I think that Margaret Mead stated it best when she said, 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has,'" added Orton.

Lemond's longtime membership in the Martin Kiwanis Club has allowed him to help the community in many ways. He currently serves as Cub Scout Pack 37 cubmaster and has served in other capacities with the Boy Scouts of America. He is a member of the Martin Police Department Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, having completed the academy in 2001. Through the alumni group, he and others have created the Volunteers in Community Service to assist the police department in a variety of ways, including security patrols at local events and assisting with disaster preparedness.

"I am honored to be selected as a recipient of this award. I believe volunteering in community service benefits the Martin area," said Lemond. "My work in scouting, the Martin Kiwanis Club and the Citizens Police Academy allows me to work with different groups of people to make Martin a better place." He added, "It is rewarding to see the benefits of our work to other people."

The recent recognitions bring the total to 24 UT Martin students, faculty and staff members recognized by the THEC Love Community Service Awards programs.
BEAUTIFYING THE CITY

To recognize Earth Day, several clients from Community Development Services participated in picking up trash, planting trees, and recycling garbage. Clients picked up trash in lots beside Sav-A-Lot in Martin and Dollar General. They planted Cypress Trees deemed “Noah” beside the CDS Center on Hannings Lane. Later on in the day, the clients met in front of the University of Tennessee at Martin’s University Center to partner up with UTM students and recycle garbage as part of the college’s observance of Earth Week 2008 last week. CDS client Neil Scott tosses a bottle into a recycling bin while other volunteers help bag trash.

LOCAL STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT UT MARTIN COMMUNICATIONS CAREER DAY

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Career Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The career day consisted of a banquet, keynote speaker, award presentation and career fair. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Kent Landers, director of external communications for Delta Air Lines, Atlanta, Ga., and a 1998 Communications graduate of UT Martin. Julie Russ, of Martin; Jana Ogg, of Martin; Loretta McDonald, of Franklin; Matt Cook, of Martin; Eric White, of Middleton; Will York, of Martin; David Hampton, of Huntington; Monica Collins, of Dresden; and Sarah McIntosh, of Martin; received the Communications Academic Excellence Award.
UT Martin schedules commencement plans

The University of Tennessee at Martin commencement will be May 10 with Dr. David LaVelle, UT Martin alumnus and Memphis surgeon, delivering the commencement address. Set for 11 a.m. in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, a record 768 graduates are slated to receive diplomas.

UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Paul Sharma, UT National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the processional marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harriss, faculty senate president; Dr. Richard Joost, faculty senate representative; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; and Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Delana Easley, UT Martin accompanist, and the UT Martin saxophone quartet will perform the processional, and the quartet will perform special music. Dr. Dwight Gatwood, professor of music who is retiring after 36 years, will perform the alma mater, which he composed. Immediately following commencement, a reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse.

LaVelle joined the medical staff of Campbell Clinic in Memphis in 1985 after graduating from the University of Tennessee Martin, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and completing his residency at Campbell Clinic. He is board certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery and is on the medical staffs of Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, East Memphis Surgery Center and Regional Medical Center at Memphis. He also is an associate professor at UT Health Science Center Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and is a Richards/Smith and Nephew professional consultant. He has an extensive list of books and publications, research projects, national and international visiting professorships and invited lectures. He serves as chair of the Campbell Clinic Implant Research and Development Committee.

Each graduate will receive up to six free tickets to admit his or her guests. Overflow seating on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last, beginning May 1, in the Office of Academic Records on the first floor of the Administration Building. Any tickets not claimed by 5 p.m., May 9, will be distributed to the general public at a designated area outside the Elam Center beginning at 9 a.m. prior to the spring commencement ceremony, May 10.

See UTM, Page 4

ECCE offers convenient employee training

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has a new program that makes it easy for businesses to provide high-quality training for their employees, no matter how many employees they have or where they’re located. UT Martin has partnered with Ed2Go to offer hundreds of online, instructor-facilitated employee training courses.

Through lessons, online instruction and interaction with fellow students, employees gain knowledge they can immediately apply on the job. They’ll have the flexibility to study at their own pace combined with enough structure and support to complete the course. And they’ll be able to access the classroom 24/7 from anywhere with an Internet connection.

New sessions of each course begin each month. They last six weeks, with two new lessons released weekly. The courses are entirely Web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes and assignments. A professional instructor facilitates every course pacing learners, answering questions, giving feedback and facilitating discussions.

These courses are market tested with more than a million learners having taken one. UT Martin offers this catalog of courses, which provides the most convenient, affordable and accessible employee training available anywhere.

To learn more, visit the Web at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php.
CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD — Five students chosen by the Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society took the National Chemistry Olympiad Examination, which included a 90-minute multiple choice and 105-minute essay test and a 90-minute laboratory practical at the University of Tennessee at Martin on April 19. This test will determine if these students qualify to become members of the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad team that will compete in the 40th International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) in Budapest, Hungary, on July 12. Attendee included (from left) Kentucky Lake Section’s Chemistry Olympiad Coordinator Dr. S. K. Ailee of UT Martin, Robert R. Davis of Westview High School in Martin, Hisman J. Percival of the University School of Jackson, Sarah C. Clayton of Madison Academic School in Jackson, Ian A. Charles of University School of Jackson, Roman Oundiranko of Marshall County High School in Benton, Ky., and UT Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society assistants, Christy R. Lowe and Robert H. Mitchell.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED — The Jodi Woods Memorial Award was recently established at the University of Tennessee at Martin in memory of Jodi Woods, a special education major who died June 24, 2006. The award is given each semester to one graduating special education major who excels in student teaching by including and building self-esteem in students with special needs. The award was established to typify the warm and caring demeanor Ms. Woods exemplified. Ascenith Luker (left) of South Fulton was the spring semester recipient of the Jodi Woods Memorial Award. The funds from the award are given to assist the graduating teacher in stocking his or her new classroom. With Ms. Luker is Debbie Carden, cooperating teacher from Westview High School in Martin.
The Tennessee Higher Education Commission honored a University of Tennessee at Martin student and a staff member for outstanding community service work, April 24, in Nashville. Terrill Orton, a junior marketing major of Centerville, and Steve Lemond, Information Technology Services senior systems analyst of Martin, each received a Love Community Service Award after being selected from a group of Tennessee college and university nominees.

"Terrill's personal faith and dedication to helping children are evident," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, citing a recent mission trip to Nicaragua and her continued support of a four-year-old orphaned boy, Ramon. "She is just one example of how UT Martin students make a difference through community service, not to seek recognition, but to make our world a better place."

"Steve Lemond's dedication to community service is evident through his ongoing volunteer efforts to make our community and region better places to live and work," said Rakes. "There is no doubt that Steve's dedication to scouting and to the Kiwanis Club makes a difference in the lives of countless young people."

Ten individuals, five faculty/staff members and five students, received the awards during a reception and program at the THEC office. Awards go to individuals who excel in volunteer work and community service activities. The Tennessee General Assembly created the recognition programs for faculty, staff and students at public and private two- and four-year post-secondary institutions in 1991. In 1993, the General Assembly funded the program by presenting $1,000 cash awards to future recipients.

Following the trip to Nicaragua, the first overseas mission trip undertaken by Catalyst Missions, which was started last year by a UT Martin professor, Orton is already planning a return trip in October. She also is involved in many community service activities associated with the UT Martin campus. She is a member of Chi Omega sorority, which raises money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Through her efforts, and those of her sorority sisters, the chapter has granted four wishes in the past two years. She also has participated in canned food and Christmas stocking drives for the past two years to benefit We Care Ministries, a local agency that provides assistance for those in need.

"I volunteer because I feel like I have been called to do it. The physical effort required to volunteer is so insignificant in comparison to the lasting emotional rewards that I feel when knowing that someone's life has just been changed," said Orton.

"I am honored to be selected as a recipient of this award. I believe volunteering in community service benefits the Martin area," said Lemond. "My work in scouting, the Martin Kiwanis Club and the Citizens Police Academy allows me to work with different groups of people to make Martin a better place." He added, "It is rewarding to see the benefits of our work to other people."

The recent recognitions bring the total to 24 UT Martin students, faculty and staff members recognized by the THEC Love Community Service Awards program.

Jodi Woods Memorial Award established, recipient selected

The Jodi Woods Memorial Award recently was established at the University of Tennessee in memory of the late Jodi Woods, a special education major, who died June 24, 2006. The award is given each semester to one graduating special education major who excels in student teaching by including and building self-esteem in students with special needs. The award was established to typify the warm and caring demeanor that Woods exemplified.

Ascenith Luker of South Fulton is the spring semester recipient of the Jodi Woods Memorial Award. The funds from the award are given to assist the graduating teacher in stocking his/her new classroom. Pictured are, from left to right, Ascenith Luker, Jodi Woods Memorial Award recipient, and Debbie Carden, cooperating teacher from Westview High School.
Dr. David LaVelle

LaVelle to address graduates

The University of Tennessee at Martin commencement will be May 10 with Dr. David LaVelle, UT Martin alumnus and Memphis surgeon, delivering the commencement address. Set for 11:00 a.m. in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, a record 706 graduates are slated to receive diplomas.

UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Paul Sharma, UT National Alumni Association Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the processional marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harris, faculty senate president; Dr. Richard Joost, faculty senate representative; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; and Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Delane Easley, UT Martin accompanist, and the UT Martin saxophone quartet will perform the processional, and the quartet will perform special music. Dr. Dwight Gatewood, professor of music who is retiring after 36 years, will perform the alma mater, which he composed. Immediately following commencement, a reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse.

LaVelle joined the medical staff of Campbell Clinic in Memphis in 1983 after graduating from the University of Tennessee Martin, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and completing his residency at Campbell Clinic. He is board certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery and is on the medical staff of Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, East Memphis Surgery Center and Regional Medical Center at Memphis. He also is an associate professor at UT Health Science Center Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and is a Richards/Smith and Nephew professional consultant. He has an extensive list of books and publications, research projects, national and international visiting professorships and invited lectures. He serves as chair of the Campbell Clinic Implant Research and Development Committee.

Each graduate will receive up to six free tickets to admit him or her guests. Overflow seating, with a video and audio feed of the ceremony will be provided in the fieldhouse for all guests without tickets. Graduates can get their tickets at the Grand Finale Senior Walk on April 30 and later that afternoon immediately following student commencement practices in the Elam Center. Tickets for graduating students will remain available in the Office of Academic Records until 5:00 p.m., May 9.

A limited number of additional complimentary tickets will be available to graduates (up to an additional six tickets) and to faculty and staff, and the general public (up to two per person), on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last, beginning May 1, in the Office of Academic Records on the first floor of the Innovation Building. Any tickets not claimed by 5:00 p.m., May 9, will be distributed to the general public at a designated area outside the Elam Center beginning at 9:00 a.m. prior to the spring commencement ceremony, May 10.

Local students recognized at UT Martin Communications Career Day

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Career Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The career day consisted of a banquet, keynote speaker, award presentations and career fair. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Kent Landers, director of external communications for Delta Air Lines, Atlanta, Georgia, and a 1998 communications graduate of UT Martin. Julie Ross, of Martin; Jana Ogg, of Martin; Loretta McDonald, of Franklin; Matt Cook, of Martin; Eric White, of Middleton; Will York, of Martin; David Hampton, of Huntingdon; Monica Collins, of Dresden; and Sarah McIntosh, of Martin, received the Communications Academic Excellence Award.
Winners of historic preservation photo contest on display at UT Martin

They range from a black-and-white closeup of an 18th-century waterwheel to an Art Deco advertisement from the 1950s. They span the state from Memphis to the Smokies. And, they evoke past eras from King Cotton to the slave trade.

"They" are the 22 top-place finishers in "Viewing History," the 2007 photo contest sponsored by Scenic Tennessee and the Tennessee Preservation Trust. The photos are on display in the University Museum at the University of Tennessee at Martin through May 30.

"We are delighted to be able to share these images with Northwest Tennessee," said Richard Saunders, museum director. "The images capture a broad swath of Tennessee history and culture, and the talent is a nice cross-section of amateur and professional, student and adult. I'm especially pleased because one of the photos is of a Union City landmark and was taken by local photographer, Emily Eliston."

The 22 winning images were selected by a three-member jury from a field of more than 130 submissions submitted by photographers from across the state. The judges included Susan Whitaker, commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development; Patrick McIntyre, executive director of the Tennessee Historical Commission; and Joy McKenzie, chair of the photography department at Watkins College of Art & Design in Nashville, which printed the winners for the traveling exhibit.

"Viewing History" is free and open to the public during weekday business hours. The museum is accessible from the Special Collections/University Archives reading room, just off the Paul Meek Library lobby. Parking is available beside the library. A free permit is available for visitors at the library circulation desk. For other visitor information, call the museum at 731-881-7094.

Evans recognized at UTM Communications Career Day

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Career Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The career day consisted of a banquet, keynote speaker, award presentations and career fair. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Kent Landers, director of external communications for Delta Air Lines, Atlanta, Georgia, and a 1998 communications graduate of UT Martin. Benita Evans, of Dresden, received the Duke Drumm WCMT Oldies 95.1 Scholarship. Paul Tinkle, of WCMT, presented the award.

Deere recognized

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Career Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The career day consisted of a banquet, keynote speaker, award presentations and career fair. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Kent Landers, director of external communications for Delta Air Lines, Atlanta, Georgia, and a 1998 communications graduate of UT Martin. Barry Deere, of Martin, received the WLJT Scholarship. Dave Hinman, WLJT general manager, presented the award.
UT Martin student and staff member honored for community service

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission honored a University of Tennessee at Martin student and a staff member for outstanding community service work, April 24, in Nashville. Terrill Orton, a junior marketing major of Centerville, and Steve Lemond, Information Technology Services senior systems analyst of Martin, each received a Love Community Service Award after being selected from a group of Tennessee college and university nominees.

"Terrill's personal faith and dedication to helping children are evident," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, citing a recent mission trip to Nicaragua and her continued support of a four-year-old orphaned boy, Ramon. "She is just one example of how UT Martin students make a difference through community service, not to seek recognition, but to make our world a better place."

"Steve Lemond's dedication to community service is evident through his ongoing volunteer efforts to make our community and region better places to live and work," said Rakes. "There is no doubt that Steve's dedication to scouting and to the Kiwanis Club makes a difference in the lives of countless young people."

Ten individuals, five faculty/staff members and five students, received the awards during a reception and program at the THEC office. Awards go to individuals who excel in volunteer work and community service activities. The Tennessee General Assembly created the recognition programs for faculty, staff, and students at public and private two- and four-year post-secondary institutions in 1991. In 1993, the General Assembly funded the program by presenting $1,000 cash awards to future recipients. In 1996, the commission adopted a recommendation by its awards task force to rename the awards for the late Tennessee Rep. Harold Love, who sponsored legislation to create the program.

Following the trip to Nicaragua, the first overseas mission trip undertaken by Catalyst Missions, which was started last year by a UT Martin professor, Orton is already planning a return trip in October. She also is involved in many community service activities associated with the UT Martin campus. She is a member of Chi Omega sorority, which raises money for the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Through her efforts, and those of her sorority sisters, the chapter has granted four wishes in the past two years. She has also participated in canned food and Christmas stocking drives for the past two years to benefit We Care Ministries, a local agency that provides assistance for those in need.

"I volunteer because I feel like I have been called to do it. The physical effort required to volunteer is so insignificant in comparison to the lasting emotional rewards that I feel when knowing that someone's life has just been changed," said Orton. "There is no greater feeling than to see someone, especially a child, smile because they just realized that someone cares. The Love Community Service Award is such an honor because it is proof that others notice and appreciate the good that is being done in the world. I think that Margaret Mead stated it best when she said, 'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has,'" added Orton.

Lemond's long-time membership in the Martin Kiwanis Club has allowed him to help the community in many ways. He currently serves as Cub Scout Pack 37 cubmaster and has served in other capacities with the Boy Scouts of America. He is a member of the Martin Police Department Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, having completed the academy in 2001. Through the alumni group, he and others have created the Volunteers in Community Service to assist the police department in a variety of ways, including security patrols at local events and assisting with disaster preparedness.

"I am honored to be selected as a recipient of this award. I believe volunteering in community service benefits the Martin area," said Lemond. "My work in scouting, the Martin Kiwanis Club and the Citizens Police Academy allows me to work with different groups of people to make Martin a better place." He added, "It is rewarding to see the benefits of our work to other people."

The recent recognitions bring the total to 24 UT Martin students, faculty and staff members recognized by the THEC Love Community Service Awards program.
Library exhibits contemporary art

The University of Tennessee Martin Paul Meek Library and Department of Visual and Theatre Arts are collaborating to bring contemporary art exhibitions and events to the library. Lane Last is the UT Martin associate professor of art. The effort began with the hanging of a work, 'Of Vibrations and Time,' by Last in the library. Future exhibitions will include faculty members, students, traveling exhibitions and possibly regional artists. Sam Richardson is the circulation/instruction librarian, Mary Carpenter is the library director. Call Carpenter at 881-7070 or Last at 881-7489. Last, left, and Richardson, are pictured with 'Of Vibrations and Time.'

Microsoft Excel classes begin May 21

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education provider, Ed2Go, have partnered to offer “Microsoft Excel 2007 in the Classroom.”

Taught by Robin Sellers, a 10-year teaching veteran known for bringing technology to the classroom, the course has tips, shortcuts and lesson plan ideas for incorporating Excel across the curriculum in all grade levels. Teachers will learn all the important Excel basics and some of the more advanced functions. As they’re doing that, they will also explore standards-based activities that make it easy to pass their Excel knowledge on to their students.

Students can interact with the instructor and fellow students in Web-based discussion areas where they can ask course-related questions. A response is usually promised within one business day, and often arrives much sooner. Students can take “Microsoft Excel 2007 in the Classroom” from the convenience of home or office, and at any time of the day or night.

“Microsoft Excel in the Classroom” meets the qualifications for professional development activities that can be used for renewal purposes. Prior to enrolling, those interested should check with a supervisor to ensure the course can be used as a part of a professional growth plan. If approved, participants will receive 24 renewal points.

UT Martin will provide a Certificate of Completion showing the name of the course, course dates and the number of continuing education credits awarded.

The registration fee is $95, and new sessions begin May 21 and June 18. For more information about this course, contact the UT Martin Online Instruction Center at www.utm.edu/ecce/onlinecourses.php, and select Education To Go.
The Jodi Woods Memorial Award recently was established at the University of Tennessee at Martin in memory of the late Jodi Woods, a special education major, who died June 24, 2006. The award is given each semester to one graduating special education major who excels in student teaching by including and building self-esteem in students with special needs. The award was established to typify the warm and caring demeanor that Woods exemplified. Ascenith Luker of South Fulton is the spring semester recipient of the Jodi Woods Memorial Award. The funds from the award are given to assist the graduating teacher in stocking his/her new classroom. Pictured are, from left to right, Ascenith Luker, Jodi Woods Memorial Award recipient, and Debbie Carden, cooperating teacher from Westview High School.

WILSON RECOGNIZED AT UTM CAREER DAY:
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