UT President Peterson offers strategic plan

More students who finish their degrees, research that sparks economic development and programs that reach across the state and around the world are the targets of a strategic plan being introduced this week by University of Tennessee President John Peterson.

Peterson is outlining the plan during a statewide campus tour throughout the UT System. He was to meet with community leaders and area legislators on the UT Chattanooga campus today and will be at the Martin campus Wednesday and the Knoxville campus Thursday. Meetings will be held on the Health Science Center campus in Memphis, Aug. 14. This will be the first public discussion of the plan since the university’s board approved it in June. He described it as “an ambitious approach to positioning UT to make significant and measurable contributions toward improving the life of every Tennessean.”

“As challenging as this plan’s goals are, the prospect of their results is even more exciting,” Peterson said. “With the University of Tennessee taking the lead in increasing the number of Tennesseans with college degrees, enhancing our state’s economic competitiveness and addressing issues that affect the health and well-being of our citizens, we can improve the lives of all Tennesseans.”

“UT Martin definitely is plugged into this universitywide strategic plan,” said Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor. “We are particularly interested in increasing the percentage of college graduates in West Tennessee and also facilitating the economic development of our region. UT Martin is well positioned to make significant contributions to this existing plan.”

A year in the making, the plan is organized into three mission-oriented focus areas: student access and success; research and economic development and outreach and globalization. Benchmarks have been set for several defining elements of each focus area and yearly goals, both external and internal, are being set through 2012. Internal benchmarks and goals are intended to enable the mission targeted by external goals.

External goals are set for:

- Student Access — Enrollment of underrepresented groups, enrollment overall and student scholarship support.
- Student Success — Graduation rate of underrepresented groups, graduation rates overall and among students majoring in science, technology, engineering and math.
- Research — Annual re-search expenditures, recruitment of premier faculty, re-search prizes and faculty membership in prestigious national academies.
- Economic Development — Intellectual property disclosing...

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Peterson

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sure, patents issued and economic impact of technology transfer.

- Outreach — Patients or clients served through university units, faculty engagement in externally funded outreach, annual expenditures for outreach.
- Globalization — Students with UT-sponsored international study experience, active, formal international collaboration agreements, faculty engaged in sponsored international projects.

Internal goals address faculty salaries and size of administration budget compared to peers, staff salaries compared to market, faculty and staff diversity and awareness of strategic emphasis components.

Peterson said a strategic vision for UT has been his top priority since becoming the university’s 23rd president on July 1, 2004. UT Executive Vice President Jack Britt has overseen plan development since it began in August 2005.

“The 21st century is going to see a steadily growing demand for a more educated workforce across the nation and in Tennessee, in particular, where we also have to have the jobs, the businesses and the industries to utilize a more educated workforce,” Britt said.

“Now and in the future, we are operating globally, not nationally, and the University of Tennessee’s strategic plan is intended to help the state thrive in the 21st century.”

Britt said in addition to producing more students with college degrees, economic development through research and economic initiatives, the plan’s outreach and globalization elements are about better dealing with change and thus uniquely suited to UT’s mission.

“Historically, land-grant universities were created as agents of change, essentially with a goal of raising up the working class — creating opportunity for whole segments of society to vastly improve their situations,” Britt said. “Based on that mission and as Tennessee’s land-grant university, we ought to be most comfortable in periods of change, and there’s no time in recent history when we faced as much rapid change as we face now.”

Peterson said plan goals also enable the university to maintain its historic place as “a major contributor to the intellectual, cultural and economic development of Tennessee.”

“As all members of the UT community work together to continuously improve the institution,” Peterson added, “we also build a university that has more and more to contribute to Tennessee’s future.”
Orientation at the University of Tennessee Martin

Elizabeth Kendrick, Jackson Christian School graduate, attended Summer Orientation and Registration (S.O.A.R.) at the University of Tennessee Martin. She will attend UT Martin in the fall. With her are her parents, Libby and Jay Kendrick. Call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 881-7020 or (800) 829-UTMI.

WTWP workshop offered

“Every Child Has a Story: Rethinking Curriculum Through Art” is the theme of a workshop for teachers of all grades and subjects, Aug. 19, at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Offered from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., at Boling University Center, the workshop has been approved by 21 area school districts as an optional day of inservice, points toward recertification, professional license renewal and highly qualified status. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available. Preregistration is $45; after Aug. 11, $55. The workshop will include a continental breakfast, lunch and certificates of participation. Mail registration to the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, fax to 881-7984, or call 881-7082. Register online at www.utm.edu/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

UT Martin will hold summer commencement

Andrea Loughry, of Murfreesboro, newly elected vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees and a University of Tennessee Martin alumna, will deliver the summer commencement address at UT Martin.

Commencement will be held at 11 a.m. Aug. 12 at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

Following commencement ceremonies, a reception will be hosted at the Skyhawk Field House.

Business consultant visits to REED Center expanded

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), has expanded the times he will be available at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center (REED) in Martin. In August, he will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Aug. 10, and from 1-6 p.m., Aug. 17.

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 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 920 University St., Martin, Tenn. 38237.

For additional services offered by the REED Center, go to www.utm.edu/reed.
Student receives scholarship to attend UT Martin

A Weakley County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2006-07 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Paige Dilday, daughter of David and Christy Dilday of Dresden and Kim Thomas of Dresden, will be a freshman. She received the College Cheerleading and Training Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, at the address: 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN. 38238.

In state residents can telephone 800-829-UTM1 and out of state residents should call (731) 881-7040.

Loughry to deliver UT Martin commencement address

Andrea Loughry, of Murfreesboro, newly elected vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees and a University of Tennessee at Martin alumna, will deliver the summer commencement address at UT Martin.

Commencement will be at 11 a.m., August 12, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

Dr. John D. Petersen, president of the University of Tennessee, will attend the ceremony to congratulate the 236 summer graduates.

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer. Processional marshals will be Dr. John Schommer, faculty senate president; Dr. Elaine Harriss, faculty senate vice president; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration, and Len Solomons, vice chancellor for university advancement.

Loughry to deliver...

(Continued from page 1)

Immediately following commencement ceremonies, a reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Field House.

Loughry, a former Trenton resident and graduate of Peabody High School, graduated from UT Martin and also received a master's degree from UT Knoxville. She has been a licensed insurance agent since 1978, and previously was a secondary school teacher then a tenured assistant professor at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro.

Loughry, president emeritus of Miller & Loughry Insurance and Services, Inc., has served on the board of the American Bankers Insurance Association. She was awarded the Joe M. Rodgers Spirit of America Award by MTSU.

A community volunteer in many areas, Loughry serves on the executive committee of the UT Athletic Board, First United Methodist Church, Charity Circle, Business-Education Partnership and Chi Omega Alumni Association. She is a charter member of Leadership Rutherford and a member of its original board of directors, World Future Society, More than a Book Club, Rutherford Books from Birth, Middle Tennessee Pre-school 16 Council and American Heart Association. Loughry was the first woman chair of the Rutherford Chamber of Commerce and was elected Business Person of the Year in 1986.

Currently, she is chairing the Heart of Tennessee Council on Women as well as the Middle Tennessee Technology Corridor Council.

Andrea and Ed Loughry have a son, Cannon, and a daughter, Lady, three grandchildren and two granddaughters.
Business consultant increases availability

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), has expanded the times he will be available at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center (REED) in Martin. In August, he will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Aug. 10, and from 1-6 p.m., Aug. 17.

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Collard to take over UT Martin voice and diction classes

By ASHLEY HODGES
Special to the Press

With the unfortunate death of University of Tennessee at Martin communications professor Dorothea Norton, the department has assigned professor Teresa Collard to teach her classes.

Voice and diction is a university requirement for all communication students and has always been taught by Mrs. Norton until this fall; the class has been a part of the curriculum since the department began in 1978.

Ms. Collard has taught in the communications department at UTM for 13 years and has both a bachelor's and a master's degree from Eastern Illinois University.

She teaches a variety of courses, including Senior Seminar, Survey of Mass Communications, Interpersonal Communications, Public Speaking and now Voice and Diction. Although Ms. Collard is happy to teach the course, it is still a bittersweet transition.

"I was very sad to think that Mrs. Norton would no longer be teaching Voice and Diction," she said. "She loved the course and took great care at making certain that students improved their skills. When I was asked to teach the Voice and Diction course, I accepted the task as it is my duty to serve my students, colleagues and Mrs. Norton's memory."

The decision was made by the department chair and communications professor Dr. Robert Nanney in consultation with those who teach public speaking courses. He said with Mrs. Norton's passing, Collard now oversees the public speaking aspect of the curriculum, and that includes Voice and Diction. "Considering her years of overall experience, it was clear to me that she was the best choice. I believe Mrs. Norton would be pleased with that selection, and I'm completely comfortable with it," he said.

One student said the course will never be the same. Former Voice and Diction student of Mrs. Norton and senior communications major Kenetra Robertson said, "Professor Collard is an excellent educator and I have taken a number of her courses, but having had professor Norton for voice and diction was a real experience I will never forget. She was filled with an incomparable passion for the course."

Ms. Collard will begin teaching the course this fall and says she hopes to improve the speaking habits of her students and prepare them to be role models in communications.

She said after working with Mrs. Norton for 13 years, she learned a great deal from her. "She was a woman who gave 100 percent in the workplace, home and community. She was tireless in efforts to help her students grow; she was a person to be trusted and respected. It was a privilege to have called her colleague and friend."
Carson Moore wins at the Tennessee 4-H Roundup Contest in Martin

Carson Moore of Bethel Springs was recently recognized as a Level I (9th and 10th grade) state winner in the engineering/safety science project at the Tennessee 4-H Roundup held at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Pictured with Carson from left to right are Michael Anderson, Level I winner from Tullahoma; Johnathan Monroe, Level II winner from Collinwood; Jim Wills, UT Extension specialist and donor; and Justin Nokes, Level II winner from Smithville. Carson received a $500 college scholarship.

“Every Child Has a Story: Rethinking Curriculum Through Art” is the theme of a workshop for teachers of all grades and subjects Aug. 19 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Offered from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Boling University Center, the workshop has been approved by 21 area school districts as an optional day of inservice, points toward recertification, professional license renewal and highly-qualified status.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available.

Preregistration is $45; after Aug. 11, it will be $55. The workshop will include a continental breakfast, lunch and certificates of participation.

Mail registration to the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238; fax to (731) 881-7984; or call (731) 881-7082. Register online at www.utm.edu/acce/non_credit_registration.php.

Get Out! • Aug. 3, 2006

RICK KELLEY 'DON'T JUST SIT THERE' SHOW
7 p.m. Aug. 23 outdoor stage at UT Martin; rain site, Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center.

CITY OF MARTIN WELCOME PICNIC, 'THE SKYHAWK LUAU'
Featuring Travelin' Max. 6 p.m. Aug. 24 at UT Martin Skyhawk Arena.

ANDREA MOSBY, 'THE POWER OF PERSONAL DECISIONS'
8:30 a.m. Aug. 24 at UT Martin Skyhawk Arena.

Laura Asbridge, daughter of Lee and Patti Asbridge of Kenton, has been awarded two scholarships for the 2006-07 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Miss Asbridge, who will be a senior, received the E.C. Crafton Memorial Scholarship and the Health and Human Performance Upperclassman Scholarship.
STRATEGIC EMPHASIS — Dr. John Petersen (right), University of Tennessee president, unveiled a new university strategic plan Tuesday during a visit to the University of Tennessee at Martin. The stop was one of several throughout the UT system to explain the plan that includes long-range goals for more Tennessee students to finish their degrees and for research that supports economic development in the state. Among those talking to Petersen at the meeting were (from left) Weakley County Chamber of Commerce executive director Barbara Virgin, Union City Director of Schools Gary Houston, Union City native Dr. Ron Kirkland of Jackson and state Rep. Jimmy Eldridge of Jackson.

University of Tennessee strategic plan focuses on economic development

Tennessee is losing more than $19 billion in economic development, which is unacceptable to University of Tennessee President John Petersen.

He proposes to reverse this trend through a new university strategic plan, presented Wednesday at UT Martin. The plan includes long-range goals for more Tennessee students to finish their degrees and for research that supports economic development in the state.

Petersen is outlining the plan during a statewide campus tour throughout the UT System. He introduced the plan Tuesday at Chattanooga and was to hold similar meetings in Knoxville and at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis. These are the first public discussions of the plan since being approved by the university's board in June. An audience of business, community, education and government leaders gathered in the Boling University Center to learn about the plan and how it will impact Tennessee's future.

Referring to charts and graphs projected on two screens, the UT president made his case as he pointed to a $14,000 difference in average annual pay for a person with and without a bachelor's degree. A second graphic showed the national average for people between the ages of 25 and 65 holding bachelor's degrees at 26.5 percent vs. 21.4 percent in Tennessee, which ranks 44th among all states.

"We're 5 percent below the national average," Petersen said. "Now you take that 5 percent ... and then you multiply (the number of people) by $14,000 a year, and we're basically losing about $19 billion of economic development on the table by not educating the workforce that we need to be competitive in a national environment."

Petersen described challenges that exist for achieving a better-educated workforce. He used a state map to show the disparity in the number of Tennesseans holding bachelor's degrees in urban and rural areas, highlighting the need for more access to higher education. Still another graphic showed that, on average, only 60 students graduate of the 100 who enter Tennessee high schools. Of that 60, only 35 enter college and only 15 graduate within six years. Statewide, this means that 43 percent of entering freshmen complete a bachelor's degree within six years, a number that Gov. Phil Bredesen wants raised to 55 percent, Petersen said.

Enter the new university-wide strategic plan, which shows six areas of emphasis grouped in complementary pairs: student access and success, research and (See Page 2, Col. 5)
University...
(Continued from Page One)

economic development, and outreach and globalization.

Among plan goals being considered, Petersen discussed raising
the number of high school graduates entering college in
Tennessee from the current 35 to 60 percent. Once in college, the
graduation rate for students who enter and graduate from a single
UT campus could rise from 51 to 65 percent.

Related to these possible goals, Petersen revealed a plan to collaborate with the
Tennessee Board of Regents and other groups to improve access to
higher education and degree-completion success. Noting the
potential of this partnership, he asked the audience, “And if
those two university systems could put together a proposal to
do a hybrid education (plan) for those who have stopped out of
college, and bring them back in locally to help them finish their
degrees, what could we do in the
next 10 years?”

Moving to research and economic development, Petersen
said the plan could increase competitive funding for research
from $285 million to $400 million, placing UT among the
top public universities in the southeast for research funding.

Petersen noted that UT is currently funded by $400 million in state appropriations, while the
university’s direct economic impact on Tennessee’s economy is $600 million. He hopes to
increase the university’s economic impact to $1 billion through increased external funding.

As for outreach and globalization, the plan aims to raise patients or clients served by the
university from 5.1 to 7.5 million and the number of students with international experience
from 8 percent to a target of 25 percent.

In terms of outreach, he noted UT Martin’s growth in off-campus locations that bring higher
education to areas that need more access. “We’ve got a number of satellite campuses, and
those satellite campuses are in counties that don’t have a very high baccalaureate degree rate,”
Petersen said. He also pointed to UT Martin’s strong international student presence as one way the
university offers globalization experiences.

Besides copies of the strategic plan, the audience was given “scorecards” that will be used to
evaluate strategic-plan progress. Petersen plans a meeting later this month at which specific
strategic-plan goals and benchmarks will be decided.

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, closed the presenta-
tion by thanking those in the audience for attending. He also
challenged the group to be involved in the plan’s implementa-
tion and success.

“As Dr. Petersen said, partnerships are the key to it (the stra-
tegic plan), and as I look around this room and see people that
are involved with the university in a lot of different ways
—that’s what’s going to make this work.”

Young writers, high school students preparing to take the
ACT, and youths and adults with
a penchant for horsemanship will find non-credit courses of interest offered by the University of
Tennessee at Martin via the

Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE).
To register, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.
Young Writers’ Clubhouse, a series of writing experiences for third-through eighth-graders, is
a day full of superb stories, fantastical fairy tales and whimsical writing. The day will include
writing workshops, mini-lessons on content and editing strategies, writing response groups
and one-to-one conferences with West Tennessee Writing Project teachers.

Sessions are scheduled from
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays Sept.
30, Dec. 9, Feb. 10 and April 21.
The fee is $30 per session and includes a writing notebook and pen.

ACT Help! is planned from 9:30 a.m.-noon Saturdays Sept.
9-30 for high school juniors and seniors. Instructor is Ron Ramage and the fee is $45 plus
In this class, students will learn test-taking skills, practice the
ACT and review the mathemat-
ics section completely. Higher
scores can mean going to the
college of your choice and scholar-
ship money. The book may be purchased on the UT Martin campus at the Barnes & Noble
Bookstore and students should have it for the first class meet-
ing. The class is limited to 15
students.

Private beginning horsemanship English/Western riding less-
os are planned this fall on the
UT Martin campus. No prior
riding experience is necessary. However, riders must be at least
seven years of age. Individual
lessons will cover the fundamen-
tals of horse safety and horse-
manship to include handling, grooming, equipment, riding
Western/English and the relation-
ship of riding to physical and
mental well-being.

Instructors are Meghan
Cunningham (hunt) and Kristen
McDonald (western), UT Martin
women’s equestrian team coach.

To schedule a lesson or less-
os, contact Ms. Cunningham
at (731) 881-7273, or Ms.
McDonald at (731) 881-7261.
The fee is $35 for an hour lesson with a half hour of riding time. Participants should wear
long pants with heeled boots. Riding helmets will be required
and provided.

Martin sets summer enrollment record
MARTIN, Tenn. — The University of Tennessee at Martin set
a summer enrollment record with 2,348 students, a 9.3 percent
increase over the previous high of 2,148 in 2005.

Undergraduate student numbers were up 7.7 percent and
graduate student enrollment showed a 15.2 percent increase, according to registrars.

Early registration for the fall semester is also showing in-
creases from last year. Enrollment following the final summer orientation and registration session
totalled 5,737, compared to
5,490 for fall 2005. A record 6,484 students enrolled for fall 2005 classes.

Fall registration continues with classes set to begin Aug. 28.
Summer commencement is at 11 a.m. Aug. 12 at the Kathleen
Pre-Veterinary Student Services Expand at UT Martin

By Dr. Janet P. Bailey
Edited by Rita Mitchell, University of TN at Martin

Several changes have been made in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s animal science concentration in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to expand its longstanding pre-veterinary medicine academic program. Focusing on benefitting pre-veterinary students, as well as the veterinary profession, these changes include the addition of the Center of Excellence in Agriculture, the re-emergence of the pre-veterinary medicine club and introduction of pre-veterinary practicums.

"UT Martin and those involved in the animal science concentration strive to bring students a quality academic education in the classroom while providing actual animal experience in the field," said Dr. Janet Bailey, UT Martin professor of animal science. "With the establishment of the Center of Excellence, the activities of the pre-veterinary medicine club, and the offering of pre-veterinary practicums, the faculty and department endeavor to produce students who are capable of not only withstanding the rigors of veterinary college, but also able to excel in every aspect of the veterinary profession."

In 2004, the Center of Excellence in Agriculture at UT Martin was established with two of the center’s main goals being experiential learning for the students and outreach to the community. A 700-acre field teaching/demonstration complex, which includes a new sheep and goat facility, a feedlot facility, a teaching facility, an equine facility, and a new companion animal laboratory, is a part of the initiatives at UT Martin's edge. These complement the university's existing facilities and provide students with hands-on experience in a variety of agricultural settings.

Student services and opportunities at UT Martin have expanded significantly over the years, offering students a unique learning experience that prepares them for their future careers. The university has hosted numerous educational programs for area producers as well as hosted several continuing education seminars for veterinarians through the West Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association.

In 2005, the pre-veterinary medicine club at the university was reinstated. Students interested in entering the profession are encouraged to participate in the club, which provides opportunities to learn about veterinary medicine, network with professionals, and gain practical experience. The club has also hosted several mock entrance interviews given by faculty of the university and area veterinarians to prepare students for their actual veterinary college interviews.

Several veterinary hospitals have been toured and presentations given by veterinarians about different aspects of the profession. Even though the club has only been active for the past year and a half, many students have benefited from these experiences and look forward to keeping the pre-veterinary medicine club active and an asset, both to the campus and the community.

In the fall of 2006, new pre-veterinary practicums will be offered to pre-veterinary medicine students. The practicums will be taught by Dr. Bailey and involve the students working with her and campus farm managers to daily assess the health of the different species at the UT Martin Teaching Farm. Students will be involved in routine farm management practices in addition to assisting Dr. Bailey with any health issues or animal emergencies which may arise at the different farms. These practicums permit students to earn critical hours toward their degrees, become competent in handling and dealing with different agricultural and companion animal species and also gain veterinary work experience, which is vital both for acceptance in veterinary college and later, as a veterinary practitioner.

PICTURED: (top left) University of Tennessee at Martin students, Seth Krantz, Ashland City, left, and Kelly White, Tooele, learn the basics of anatomy with "Lacy" and owner, Janet Bailey, D.V.M., UT Martin professor of animal science.

(top right) Meg Gilliard, of Knoxville, left, and Kathryn Kroeker, of Bartlett, high school students attending UT Martin's recent Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences, practice bone artificial insemination with preserved specimens.

(bottom middle) Liliane Ernst, of Oak Ridge, left, and Kelly Lichter, of Englewood, complete laboratory exercises during UT Martin's recent Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences.
Well oriented

UT-MARTIN BOUND
Constance Hart (left), a graduate of Munford High, attended summer orientation and registration at the University of Tennessee at Martin with her mother, Arlene Lipscomb.

Trinity Christian Academy students register for UTM

Matt Emison and Meredith Howell, Trinity Christian Academy graduates, attended Summer Orientation and Registration at the University of Tennessee Martin. They will attend UT Martin in the fall. With them are their mothers, Cheryle Emison and Nancy Howell. Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for freshmen the week before classes).
Sometime, parents should keep their comments to themselves.

Parenting can be tricky. There is not an instruction manual that works for all children in every possible setting of life. When dealing with children and sporting events, it can be extremely challenging to know when to keep your comments to yourself. This year at a variety of sporting events - I am being vague so that none of my friends think that I am talking about them - I observed parents yelling at their children on the field. For example, when a child missed the ball the parent would stand on the sidelines and yell, 'Roger, you should have had that ball!'

Yes, it was true Roger should have had that ball. However, don't you think that Roger knows that? Do you think that you are some how 'pumping him up' to catch the next one? It might help to pretend for three seconds that you are Roger. Roger expects the coach to yell at him, but he probably will perform better if his parent is encouraging and supportive. He knows he missed it and you're yelling at him is not going to make it any better.

A dilemma can occur when you are the parent and the coach. Then what do you do? Cal Ripken and Rick Wolff have written a book titled 'Parenting Young Athletes the Ripken Way: Ensuring the Best Experience for Your Kids in Any Sport.' I thought this book was wonderful. It provides valuable information for parents of athletes as well as coaching your own child.

Ripken and Wolff suggest that it is important to treat your child like a member of the team, not like your son/daughter. Don't have your child do different drills, practice them harder, or yell at them longer and louder. If everybody else on the team gets five balls, your child should not get 20. It is important to remember you are there for your child; you should not be living your dreams through him/her.

Ripken and Wolff state that about 75 percent of youngsters that participate in organized sports will stop playing by the age of 13. Although they do not have a specific reason as to why, it is suggested that parental pressure is a major factor.

Soccer sign-up should be currently taking place in your area. Don’t be afraid to get involved with your child’s team, but remember that there is not an instruction manual for all children; and it is important to keep in mind that all children are different. Some children may respond better to yelling while it might shut down another child. When coaching athletes it is important to treat all children equal, an equal that does not always mean the same.

Dr. Laura Brown has been an assistant professor of pedagogy at the University of Tennessee at Martin for three years. She received her B.S. from UT Martin, her M.A. from Murray State University, and her doctorate from Union University. She teaches people to be physical education teachers. She's the mother of two children.
For the love of pets

Cats may live to please themselves but they’re great pets

At lunch yesterday, my coworkers and I were telling stories about cats. Last week, I went to say goodbye to a friend who was going on a trip to Rome and instead of talking about her trip, we ended up talking about her cat. Two weeks ago, another friend called to ask advice about the kitten they had just adopted for her daughter, and last Sunday, my preacher and I were talking about his family’s cats. Notice the common thread? I know most of my articles have been slanted toward dogs, but this month, I am going to write about the mystical, sometimes aloof but wonderful pet, the cat.

We domesticated the cat more than 6,000 years ago, and this agile animal has been our constant companion ever since. Whether out on the farm ferociously hunting prey or in a luxury townhouse lounging in a designer chair, the cat is at home. With our lives becoming busier and busier and society’s shift from rural to urban communities, we look for a pet that is clean, relatively easy to care for, needs little space and is somewhat independent. Cats fit all of the above. If you are thinking about bringing a cat or kitten home or a cat already lets you ‘think’ you are its owner, here are some tips about cats you may find interesting.

Cats love to be clean, and they clean themselves by grooming often. They certainly don’t like baths. Who needs a bath when you give yourself one several times a day? Ever forget to clean out the litter box, and your cat gently reminds you by leaving little ‘presents’ around the house? They didn’t do this out of spite. They did it because the litter box was not up to their standards, so they decided to go somewhere else. The potted plant in the living room, where you entertain guests, looked like the best spot.

Cats also are relatively easy to care for and need little space to be comfortable. Don’t have time to walk a dog three or four times a day? Get a cat. Live in an apartment with no yard and limited space, but still want a pet? Get a cat. Cats are wonderful pets for those who live in urban areas leading busy lifestyles. Don’t just get a cat to have a pet. I think everyone knows me better than that, but if you yearn for a pet, can be a responsible pet owner, but are limited by time and space requirements, think about a cat.

Phillip Maggitti, an American author, once said, ‘Dogs live to please their owners, cats live to please themselves.’ This does not mean that cats aren’t very affectionate and playful pets because they definitely are, but you must always remember that they are usually independent by nature. With most cats, you will not be able to teach them a lot of tricks. D they don’t really care if you are amused or not. Most will come to you when they want something, not necessarily because you called them. If they want to be petted, they will let you know. Don’t push it.

This independent nature is probably what I love most about the cat. Even though they live with us and love us, they still maintain their natural instincts and a sense of what is important to them.

Six thousand years ago, the Egyptians brought them into their homes. Today, they are the most popular pet in America based on some of the reasons I’ve mentioned and many more. There are a lot of sayings about cats. One of those is that you either love them or hate them. For those of you who don’t like cats, I think you’re missing out, but it doesn’t really matter. They’ve got nine lives, always land on their feet, get to take as many cat naps as they want, and don’t really care if you like them or not.

Dr. Janet Bailey is a veterinarian and assistant professor of animal science with a B.S. from Freed-Hardeman University and a D.V.M. from the University of Tennessee. Dr. Bailey, who is married to Jim ‘Crow’ Bailey, has three dogs, Lacy, Bedford and Kate. Lacy, the senior citizen, runs the household. Dr. Bailey was formerly in private practice at the Huntington Animal Clinic before moving to UT Martin in January 2005.
UT Martin sets record for summer enrollment

MARTIN, Tenn. – Enrollment at the University of Tennessee at Martin set a summer record with 2,348 students enrolled for classes, breaking the previous high of 2,148 set in 2005. Enrollment increased 9.3 percent compared to summer 2005. All enrollment numbers are compiled and reported by the university’s Office of Institutional Research.

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“The strong summer enrollment numbers are encouraging,” said Dr. Nick Dunagan, university chancellor. “Growth in the number of graduate students interested in our online degree, increases in the number of our returning undergraduate students and the involvement of high school students in the two Governor’s Schools in regular-credit courses demonstrates the university’s commitment to serving the diverse educational needs of the region. We continue to be pleased with the statewide interest in our academic programs.”

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Registration for fall semester continues with classes set to begin Aug. 28. Summer commencement is 11 a.m., Aug. 12, at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Information about UT Martin is available by calling 1-800-829-UTM1.

USJ graduate attends orientation, registration at UTM

Allan Farrington-Hess, a University School of Jackson graduate, attended Summer Orientation and Registration (S.O.A.R.) at the University of Tennessee Martin. He will attend UT Martin in the fall. With him are his parents, Thomas and Barbara Farrington-Hess. Students attend S.O.A.R. and First-Year Initiative, an orientation for freshmen the week before classes, to get the jump on fall semester.

There’s still time to register for fall classes

There is still time to complete the admissions process to enroll for fall classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The first day of classes is August 28, with fees due August 22. Students may contact the Office of Admissions at UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, e-mail admittance@utm.edu, or call 731-881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1 for more information.

Freshmen are encouraged to attend First-Year Initiative, August 23-27. During the week, students will learn their way around the campus, receive information about services, participate in campus activities, meet campus leaders, complete classroom experiences designed to strengthen study habits, sharpen money management and other skills.
Riding, writing and ACT help all subjects for ECCE classes

Young writers, high school students preparing to take the ACT and youths and adults with a penchant for horsemanship will find non-credit courses of interest offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin via the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE). To register, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

Young Writers’ Clubhouse, a series of writing experiences for third- through eighth-graders, is a day full of superb stories, fantastic fairy tales and whimsical writing. The day will include writing workshops, mini-lessons on content and editing strategies, writing response groups and one-to-one conferences with West Tennessee Writing Project teachers. Sessions are scheduled from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays, Sept. 30, Dec. 9, Feb. 10 and April 21. The fee is $30 per session and includes a writing notebook and pen.

ACT Help! is planned from 9:30 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, Sept. 9-30, for high school juniors and seniors. Instructor is Ron Ramage, and the fee is $45 plus the cost of the book, “The Real ACT Prep Guide.” In this class, students will learn test-taking skills, practice the ACT and review the mathematics section completely. Higher scores can mean going to the college of your choice and scholarship money. The book may be purchased on the UT Martin campus at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore, and students should have it for the first class meeting. The class is limited to 15 students.

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Participants can prepare for employment in some of today’s hottest careers with online career certificate programs. These programs are affordable and provide a great value. They are comprehensive and self-contained. That means participants can learn everything they need to know to start a new career (or advance an existing one), in the comfort of home. The support of a knowledgeable instructor is just a click or call away.

For complete course descriptions, prices and registration information, visit the Online Instruc- tor Center at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php. For more information, call ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.
New vice chair of UT Board of Trustees to deliver spring commencement address

Andrea Loughry of Murfreesboro, newly-elected vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees and a University of Tennessee at Martin alumna, will deliver the summer commencement address at UT Martin.

Commencement will be Saturday at 11 a.m. in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

Dr. John D. Petersen, president of the University of Tennessee, will attend the ceremony to congratulate the 236 summer graduates.

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer. Processional marshals will be Dr. John Schommer, faculty senate president; Dr. Elaine Harris, faculty senate vice president; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration, and Len Solomons, vice chancellor for university advancement.

Immediately following commencement ceremonies, a reception will be held in Skyhawk Field House.

Mrs. Loughry, who graduated from UT Martin, also received a master's degree from UT Knoxville. She has been a licensed insurance agent since 1978 and previously was a secondary school teacher then a tenured assistant professor at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro.

Mrs. Loughry, president emeritus of Miller & Loughry Insurance and Services Inc., has served on the board of the American Bankers Insurance Association. She was awarded the Joe M. Rodgers Spirit of America Award by MTSU. A community volunteer in many areas, Loughry serves on the executive committee of the UT Athletic Board, First United Methodist Church, Charity Circle, Business-Education Partnership and Chi Omega Alumni Association. She is a charter member of Leadership Rutherford and a member of its original board of directors, World Future Society, More than a Book Club, Rutherford Books from Birth, Middle Tennessee Pre-school-16 Council and American Heart Association.

Mrs. Loughry was the first woman chair of the Rutherford Chamber of Commerce and was elected Business Person of the Year in 1986.

Currently, she is chairing the Heart of Tennessee Council on Women, as well as the Middle Tennessee Technology Corridor Council.

Mrs. Loughry and her husband, Ed Loughry, have a son, Cannon; a daughter, Lady; and five grandchildren.

Duncan named Le Bonheur V-P

Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis recently named Trenton resident Bob Duncan vice president of Advocacy & Government Relations. He is responsible for leading Le Bonheur's strategic planning for government support and funding for charitable purposes, educational programs and community health collaborations.

Duncan joined Le Bonheur in 1995 as a regional representative in Jackson and has more than 11 years experience in children's healthcare. Most recently, he served as Le Bonheur's administrative director of Advocacy & Government Relations.

He holds a M.B.A. from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a B.A. from the University of Memphis. He is a member of the Child Advocacy Council and State Policy Council for National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI). He is also a member of the Rural Health of Tennessee Board, the United Way of West Tennessee Board and the Northwest Tennessee Community Service Agency Board. He and his wife, Sarah, have three children.

For more than 50 years, Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center has provided the best health care for all children. The legacy of our Le Bonheur Club founders lives on in our dream for the future.
Economic development is focus of UT strategic plan

Tennessee is losing more than $19 billion in economic development, which is unacceptable to University of Tennessee President John Petersen. He proposes to reverse this trend through a new university strategic plan presented at UT Martin. The plan includes long-range goals for more Tennessee students to finish their degrees and for research that supports economic development in the state.

Petersen is outlining the plan during a statewide campus tour throughout the UT System. He introduced the plan at Chattanooga and will hold similar meetings in Knoxville and at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis. These are the first public discussions of the plan since being approved by the university's board in June. An audience of business, community, education and government leaders gathered in the Boling University Center to learn about the plan and how it will impact Tennessee's future.

Referring to charts and graphs projected on two screens, the UT president made his case as he pointed to a $14,000 difference in average annual pay for a person with and without a bachelor's degree. A second graphic showed the national average for persons between the ages of 25 and 65 holding a bachelor's degree at 26.5 percent vs. 21.4 percent in Tennessee which ranks 44th among all states.

"We're five percent below the national average," Petersen said. "Now you take that five percent... and then you multiply (the number of people) by $14,000 a year, and we're basically leaving about $19 billion of economic development on the table by not educating the workforce that we need to be competitive in a national environment."

Petersen described challenges that exist for achieving a better-educated workforce. He used a state map to show the disparity in the number of Tennesseans with bachelor's degrees in urban and rural areas, highlighting the need for more access to higher education. Still another graphic showed that, on average, only 60 students graduate of the 100 who enter Tennessee high schools. Of that 60, only 35 enter college and only 15 graduate within six years. Statewide, this means that 43 percent of entering freshmen complete a bachelor's degree within six years, a number that Gov. Phil Bredesen wants raised to 55 percent, Petersen said.

Enter the new university-wide strategic plan, which shows six areas of emphasis grouped in complementary pairs: student access and success, research and economic development, and outreach and globalization.

Among plan goals being considered, Petersen discussed raising the number of high school graduates entering college in Tennessee from the current 35 to 60 percent. Once in college, the graduation rate for students who enter and graduate from a single UT campus could rise from 51 to 65 percent.

Related to these possible goals, Petersen revealed a plan to collaborate with the Tennessee Board of Regents and other groups to improve access to higher education and degree-completion success. Noting the potential of this partnership, he asked the audience, "And if those two university systems could put together a proposal to do a hybrid education (plan) for those who have stopped out of college, and bring them back in locally to help them finish their degrees, what could we do in the next 10 years?"

Moving to research and economic development, Petersen said the plan could increase competitive funding for research from $285 million to $400 million, placing UT among the top public universities in the southeast for research funding. Petersen noted that UT is currently funded by $400 million in state appropriations, while the university's direct economic impact on Tennessee's economy is $600 million. He hopes to increase the university's economic impact to $1 billion through increased external funding.

As for outreach and globalization, the plan aims to raise patients or clients served by the university from 5.1 to 7.5 million and the number of students with international experience from 8 percent to a target of 25 percent.

In terms of outreach, he noted UT Martin's growth in off-campus locations that bring higher education to areas that need more access. "We've got a number of satellite campuses, and those satellite campuses are in counties that don't have a very high baccalaureate degree rate," Petersen said. He also pointed to UT Martin's strong international student presence as one way the university offers globalization experiences.

Besides copies of the strategic plan, the audience was given "scorecards" that will be used to evaluate strategic-plan progress. Petersen plans to make a meeting later this month at which specific strategic-plan goals and benchmarks will be decided.

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, closed the presentation by thanking those in the audience for attending. He also challenged the group to be involved in the plan's implementation and success.

"As Dr. Petersen said, partnerships are the key to it (the strategic plan), and as I look around this room and I see people that are involved with the university in a lot of different ways—that's what's going to make this work."
Strategic emphasis
Dr. John Petersen, University of Tennessee president, unveiled a new university strategic plan Tuesday during a visit to the University of Tennessee at Martin. The stop was one of several throughout the UT system to explain the plan that includes long-range goals for more Tennessee students to finish their degrees and for research that supports economic development in the state. Among those talking to Petersen, left, at the meeting were Trenton City Councilman Pat Riley, and Martin Mayor Randy Brundige.

UTM sets record for summer enrollment
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UTM offers workshop for teachers Aug. 19

"Every Child Has a Story: Rethinking Curriculum Through Art" is the theme of a workshop for teachers of all grades and subjects, Aug. 19, at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Offered from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., at Boling University Center, the workshop has been approved by 21 area school districts as an optional day of inservice, points toward recertification, professional license renewal and highly qualified status. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available. Preregistration is $45; after Aug. 11, $55. The workshop will include a continental breakfast, lunch and certificates of participation.

Mail registration to the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238, fax to 731-881-7984, or call 731-881-7082. Register online at www.utm.edu/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

The workshop will feature Diane Shaw, UT Martin assistant professor of art. Shaw, a professional artist and writer, has a 14-year background in K-12 art education. By combining her interests in visual art and writing, she has produced a series of teaching methodologies which allow students at any grade level to find their own stories through art.


Longhry to deliver summer commencement address at UTM Aug. 12

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Medical Spanish class planned at UT Martin

“Medical Spanish Class for Medical Professionals” will be offered from 6-8 p.m. Mondays from Sept. 18 through Oct. 23 at the University of Tennessee at Martin by the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE).

The registration fee is $85 which includes the textbook.

The instructors for the class are Itzel Espitia Nappo, a native Mexican with experience in teaching, who also understands the challenges of learning another language; and Dr. Daniel Nappo, an assistant professor of Spanish at UT Martin.

With no prior knowledge of Spanish, this class and the accompanying textbook, “Medical Spanish,” will enable medical professionals to confidently conduct patient medi-cal history interviews, perform physical examinations and give medical instructions to Spanish-speaking patients. The textbook is constructed to elicit one-word yes or no answers.

The class includes an introduction to the Spanish language and grammar and pronunciation instruction. Participants will receive full vocabularies and formats for talking with patients about their social and family history, their past medical history, instructions for the physical examination, general treatment and follow-up.

This class will be followed by “Medical Spanish Part II,” which will cover Chapters 8-15 of the textbook.

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

It’s still not too late to register for fall courses

There is still time to complete the admissions process to enroll for fall classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The first day of classes is Aug. 28, with fees due Aug. 22. Students may contact the Office of Admissions by mail at UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238; by e-mail at admintme@utm.edu; or by telephone at (731) 881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1 for more information.

Freshmen are urged to attend First-Year Initiative, Aug. 23-27, where they will learn their way around the campus, receive information about services, participate in campus activities, meet campus leaders, complete classroom experiences to strengthen study habits, sharpen money management and learn other skills.
Enhancing American history education the focus of social studies workshop

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of History and Philosophy in conjunction with the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) will sponsor the 28th Annual Social Studies Teachers Workshop.

The workshop — slated to begin at 9 a.m. Sept. 9 in Room 206 of Boling University Center at UT Martin — will offer sessions on history and the news media, presidential backgrounds and decisions, the Vietnam War, prehistoric settlements of the Central Mississippi River Valley and defining democracy.

Registration for the event is $20 and includes refreshments, lunch and handouts.

This workshop conforms to guidelines for continuing education units. Attendance at the entire workshop carries .5 CEU credit.

To register, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education by mail at 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238; by telephone at (731) 881-7082; or by e-mail at ece@utm.edu. Checks should be made payable to UT Martin.

Five presentations are planned. They include:

- "Our Natives' Narrative: Myths and the Mississippi," to be presented by Helmut Wenz, UT Martin professor of geography. The prehistoric settlement patterns of the Central Mississippi River Valley during the Mississippian time period (900-1650 A.D.) will be the focus of this presentation. Primary emphasis will be on the cultural and regional distribution of the technologies and resources of the region.
- "Role-Playing, Reflecting and Writing History through the News Media," to be presented by Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, UT Martin professor of history. The news media's treatment of historical themes can be used to awaken students' sense of history, to make the past come alive and to clarify identity and values. The here-and-now of the news not only is relevant to students' lives, but also works to touch the past and to model the future. The presentation examines a variety of media sources and models several assignments, including individual and group activities.
- "Presidential Backgrounds, Presidential Decisions," to be presented by Don Roe, Jackson North Side High School teacher. Roe will discuss a project he completed, a multi-media presentation considering how the backgrounds of selected presidents have affected the decision-making process in several critical events in American history.
- "Revisiting the Vietnam War," to be presented by Dr. David Barber, UT Martin assistant professor of history. The Vietnam War, too often, is taken out of its larger historical context and presented as something isolated from the United States' broader foreign policy in the post-war era. Moreover, historians present this history as something isolated from Vietnam's history. This presentation will emphasize these broader concerns in the teaching of the Vietnam War.
- "Defining Democracy under the Constitution," to be presented by Dr. Richard Chesteen, UT Martin professor of political science, and Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin professor of history. Current President Bush has based his foreign policy on promoting "democracy" which he claims to be the God-given right of every man. The topic of this presentation will be to see if President Thomas Jefferson's and President Abraham Lincoln's concepts of democracy are in line with that of President Bush's.

For more information, call the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education at (731) 881-7082 or 1-800-482-5199.
ACCEPTING ENTRIES — Tim Storey of Union City, a junior at the University of Tennessee at Martin, helped his mother, Myra Storey, take in entries at the Obion County Fair in the adult crafts department last Saturday. Additional entries will be taken this coming Saturday. In the Domestic Arts Building, potted plants and dried and artificial arrangements may be submitted in the floral and domestic horticulture department from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and antiques and horticulture fruits and garden from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Junior culinary will be accepted in the Junior Exhibits Building 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. These entries must be submitted in containers provided by the fair and which are available at the Obion County University of Tennessee Extension Service office. Junior crops and open field crops will be taken 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the Commercial Exhibits Building. Adult culinary will be accepted Monday 9 a.m. until noon in the Domestic Arts Building, while cut flowers and fresh arrangements will be entered there Aug. 17 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.
Heather Holder receives the Congressional Award

Heather Holder, daughter of Larry and Rebecca Holder of Martin, recently received the Congressional Award for successful completion of 10 months of service in AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a team-based national service program for ages 18 to 24 focused on disaster relief, education, public safety, unmet human needs and the environment.

Based at the Sacramento, Calif., campus (representing one of five regions across the United States), Holder’s team spent half of their service time providing disaster relief from Hurricane Katrina, serving in the New Orleans area in cooperation with Operation Blessing to put blue tarping on damaged rooftops, as well as gutting houses damaged by the rising waters. During that time, her team lived in a tent city. A return to the area after Christmas found the team working with Habitat for Humanity, learning the phases of construction and serving as liaisons between the construction supervisors and the volunteers who would come to work on a weekly basis. They also served in Biloxi, Miss., assisting the Catholic Office of Long-Term Recovery in providing housing assessments and putting up dry wall. In April, they spent a weekend in Waveland, Miss., taking part in a huge cleanup project involving 500 AmeriCorps NCCC members — the largest gathering in the history of the organization — planting trees, cleaning up the beach and painting.

Part of Holder’s service time was related to her college major (Holder is a 2005 graduate of UT Martin with a degree in education), as the team provided tutoring and mentoring of students in a new charter school in West Hollywood. These first and second grade students were identified as needing help in reading, math and social skills. While in West Hollywood, the team had a chance to have some fun as well, including attending a taping of the Tonight Show. Holder enjoyed the team aspect of AmeriCorps NCCC. Each team of 10 to 12 people from diverse backgrounds work, live and travel together for the entire term of service. She served a short time as interim team leader, and her team awarded her the Team Motivator Award.

According to Holder, the most rewarding part of the Gulf area relief effort was meeting and working with the homeowners.

“They were always glad to see us come, and they always had hope,” Holder said. She added that ongoing relief work for the Gulf region is projected to continue for 12 years, so the recovery efforts need a continued supply of volunteers and financial support.

Holder first learned of AmeriCorps through a friend who had previously served. Another Weakley County native, Jamie Stricklin, also served on another team of the Sacramento campus. AmeriCorps pays a small stipend, and provides an educational scholarship upon completion of the 10 months of service. Additional information is available at the Web site: www.americorps.gov/nccc.

DISASTER RELIEF — The team spent half of their time providing disaster relief from Hurricane Katrina, putting blue tarping on damaged rooftops, as well as gutting houses damaged by the rising waters.
SERVES IN AMERICORPS NCCC — Heather Holder (kneeling) serves with other 18 to 24 year olds in AmericaCorps National Civilian Community Corps Operation Blessing.

UT Martin student holds fund raiser to help build Tanzanian school

By ASHLEY HODGES
Special to the Press

Elephants, exotic sunsets, clear waters; these were just a few things seen by a group of University of Tennessee at Martin this summer. They’re things which most people couldn’t imagine.

From June 12-27, a group of students went on a trip to Tanzania. Among those who went was UT Martin senior sociology major Cortelius Holmes, who describes himself as a travel enthusiast. He is president of his fraternity Phi Beta Sigma.

The trip was sponsored by donations through the university’s travel study program, which provides money to send students to other countries to see how people of other cultures and nationalities live.

One city in particular was Arusha, Tanzania’s safari capital. The trip opened Holmes eyes.

He said the children are in desperate need of a school. Holmes and his fellow travelers decided to take action in a rural community thousands of miles away to help the kids.

To start the school will cost $9,000 so Holmes is seeking local involvement in a fund raiser scheduled for Aug. 31 where proceeds will go to Helping Hands.

The fund raiser will be held in the Watkins Auditorium at UT Martin to raise money for the school. It will have local citizens “auctioning” themselves off to the highest bidder.

See School, Page 4
UT Martin graduation to be a family affair

Once upon a time, Martin native Janie Scott took her daughter, Paige, to school hoping to make sure each and every day started out on the right foot. It stuck with her daughter so much that she decided to return the favor for her mother.

Scott had attended college from 1979 to 1983, but hadn't finished her degree, stopping to get married and have children. Over the years, the fact that their mother hadn't graduated and finished what she had started and was only lacking one credit standing in her path toward a diploma began weighing heavily on the hearts of her children.

"By not having a degree, I began to notice that I was more than qualified for jobs, but I still needed a degree," Scott said.

Upon the constant encouragement from her children and the desire to set an example by finishing what she'd started, Scott enrolled at the University of Tennessee at Martin to complete her degree in University Studies.

Her daughter, Paige Samples, a business major who will now be graduating with her mother, recalls what it initially felt like to have her mother on campus.

"I took her to her first day of school because I didn't want her to walk around campus like a chicken with its head cut off," Samples joked. "I said, 'Don't tell anyone you're my mom.'"

"I'm really proud of her," she added. "She's very smart and she didn't need a degree to tell her that. She was so close and she always pushed us to succeed and we want the same for her.

Samples had yet to realize it, but her mom had already made a name for herself around campus during her first years there and had even managed to earn the respect of a revered professor in the communications department.

"I had Dorothea Norton when I was here before and Paige got her for a class," Scott said. "Norton immediately recognized her and said, 'Yes, your mother was an excellent student and I expect nothing less from you.'"

When it comes to pride, however, Scott heaps all of the praise on her daughter.

"I'm so proud of her," she said. "This is just secondary to her graduation."

Scott planned her emphasis in communications and had to learn how to study all over again, but between working at Wal-Mart from 4-11 p.m. and setting aside time to study after her work, she earned two As and a place in the commencement ceremony this coming up Saturday.

Samples will also be a part of the ceremony and will be receiving her degree though she lacks one chemistry class that she will complete this fall at Dyersburg State Community College.

Coming off a work promotion at Reelfoot Bank, she is expected to graduate with honors.

Now standing at the finish line, Scott has become a huge advocate of finishing a college degree and most of all, making dreams become realities.

"If I can do it at my age, anyone can," Scott admitted.

"She (Paige) pushed me. It was like two little dogs after a bone. When I got my final grade, I was like, 'Yes!' My mom had always encouraged me to go back to school. When I had my three children, the only thing on my mind was raising them well. My daughter is graduating cum laude and I am graduating 'Thank you Lawdy.'"
UT Martin faculty member elected to GRC advisory board

Dr. Joan K. West, director of the Office of Research, Grants and Contracts at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has been elected to the advisory board of the Grants Resource Center (GRC) in Washington, D.C.

Serving a two-year term on the board effective July 1, Dr. West joins eight other advisory board members from U.S. colleges and universities in supporting the GRC, a component of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).

The AASCU represents more than 400 public colleges, universities and systems of higher education throughout the United States and its territories. The GRC supports the realization of institutional goals and program development initiatives. Dr. West will be one of two representatives of public, four-year institutions of higher education with a full-time enrollment between 5,000 and 10,000 students. Since her arrival at UT Martin, external funding has increased from $2.6 million per year to almost $11 million annually and indirect cost recovery has increased by 400 percent.

In her capacity as director, Dr. West also is the chief research officer and the compliance officer for the university. She is also a graduate faculty member in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at UT Martin and is a member of the Fiscal Policies Advisory Task Force and the COEUS Task Force for the UT System.

In 2004, she was awarded the Outstanding Administrative Award by the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education for her contributions to the university.

Dr. West has numerous papers, presentations and workshops to her credit and recently co-authored a manuscript published in the spring 2006 special edition of the College Student Affairs Journal.

She and a colleague were successful in securing funding for a new business venture in West Tennessee through USDA with a grant proposal that was ranked No. 1 out of 379 submitted nationally.

Dr. West serves on the advisory board for the Carl Perkins Child Advocacy Group for Weakley and Obion counties and is a member of the American Educational Research Association, the Mid-South Education Research Association and Phi Delta Kappa.

North Side grad heads to UT Martin

Kayla Wright, a graduate of North Side High School, along with her father, Kevin Wright, attended Summer Orientation and Registration at the University of Tennessee Martin. Kayla will attend UT Martin in the fall.
Student serves in Belize

Matt McCarrt of Martin recently returned from a week-long mission trip to Belize, Central America. He partnered with a group from Windsor, Colo., and another couple from Huntington Beach, Calif., in addition to Praying Pelican Missions based out of Duluth, Minn.

McCarrt, along with the others in his group, served in a small village called Crooked Tree in the north-central region of Belize. The ministries completed in the village of about 1,000 included vacation Bible school, church services, sports ministry, painting the outside of the local church, tiling the entire interior of the church, and visiting the village’s government school and a local nursing home.

McCarrt, a pre-med student at the University of Tennessee at Martin, also put some of his first aid skills to work. While working in the village, he met a young girl named Khadiga who owned no shoes and her small feet were showing the wear. With the fire ants and other various biting insects in the area, her feet and lower legs were covered with open wounds. McCarrt donned gloves one morning and went to work, bathing and cleaning her wounds, applying antibiotic ointment, bandaging her feet and giving her clean socks to keep her feet covered.

"The main thing that I took away from this trip is how much I want to use my medical talent to spread God’s word. Helping [Khadiga] was an amazing experience," McCarrt said.

McCarrt plans to attend medical school after college and to continue mission service in the future.

"My everlasting goal is to create my own medical hospital and missions teams to go to countries and mend any medical issue that the people may have," he said.

Praying Pelican Missions leads dozens of teams to Belize every year and is located at 4899 Miller Trunk Highway, Suite 216, Hermantown, Minn. Their office phone is (218) 740-4400.

PAINTS CHURCH — McCarrt (above photo) helps with painting the local church.

HELPS WITH CHILDREN — As a pre-med student, McCarrt (right photo) used his skills with the children.
Mrs. Crews to coordinate programs at Reelfoot Lake teaching center

Hornbeak resident Kim Crews has been named K-12 educational coordinator and lab manager of the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Reelfoot Lake Research and Teaching Center, a biological station located at Samburg.

Some of Mrs. Crews’ responsibilities will include recruiting participants for the center’s Teacher Corps workshop, developing marketing materials, overseeing center educational activities and equipment, identifying grant opportunities, scheduling field trips, organizing UT Martin faculty requests to utilize the lab and equipment, and helping teachers develop Reelfoot Lake-specific lesson plans.

Mrs. Crews will be the first person to hold this position on a full-time basis with the biological station. She has opted to take a leave of absence from her science teaching responsibilities at Obion County Central High School to pursue this opportunity.

“I took this position with mixed emotions. I will definitely miss not being in the classroom, but I believe that the Reelfoot center can benefit education for students in Obion County as well as for students across the state and region,” said Mrs. Crews, who has taught in the Obion County School System for the past 14 years. “We have a wonderful resource at Reelfoot Lake and I’m looking forward to helping teachers meet state-mandated Student Performance Indicators (SPIs) at grade level through hands-on science field trips at Reelfoot Lake.”

Mrs. Crews holds bachelor of science in secondary education and master’s degrees in education from UT Martin.

She became interested in the position with the Reelfoot center after attending the Reelfoot Teacher Corps Workshop in June.

“We are delighted to have Mrs. Crews accept this position and appreciate her enthusiasm and dedication to the biological station’s educational outreach to K-12 students and teachers in the region,” said Dr. David Sammons, director of the Reelfoot Lake Research and Teaching Center.

Mrs. Crews and her husband, Andy, have three children: Alyssa, 16, Drew, 12, and Zach, 10.
Gibson County students receive Scholarships to attend UT Martin

MARTIN, Tenn. – Two Gibson County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2006-2007 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Emily Arnold, daughter of Glenda and Jimmy Arnold of Humboldt, will be a senior. She received the Robert G. and Elizabeth Latimer Scholarship and the Jessie S. (Mutt) Parrish Scholarship.

Dru Sanders, son of Jeff and Lisa Sanders of Milan, will be a freshman. He received the Allie Vee Fly Blankenship Scholarship and the McWhorter Freshman 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-UTMI; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS

Loughry welcomes UTM graduates to the future

Andrea Loughry, vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees, congratulated students graduating during the University of Tennessee at Martin summer commencement Saturday and then welcomed them to the future.

"Congratulations. You have increased your annual earnings potential by $14,000," said Loughry. "Pat the back of the graduate in front of you."

Having attended a recent World Future Society meeting in Toronto, Loughry cited trends graduates could face as they begin careers, raise families and pursue leisure time.

Loughry, president emeritus of Miller and Loughry Insurance and Services Inc., of Murfreesboro, and a UT Martin alumna, noted that health sciences, education, energy, economy and environment, will remain issues in their world. She added that acronyms, such as NIMBY (Not In My Backyard), BANANA (Build Absolutely Nothing Anywhere Near Anything) and RURBAN (a combination of rural and urban), could continue to be part of their lexicon.

She pointed to specific advancements in technology and breakthroughs in other areas, and added that in finding solutions to challenges they will face, it may be more useful to know where to find the answer.

Loughry, who also received a master's degree from UT Knoxville, has been a licensed insurance agent since 1978, and previously was a secondary school teacher then a tenure assistant professor at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro.

Summer graduates represented 32 Tennessee counties and the states of Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri and Virginia. Also, there were graduates from the countries of Congo, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, presided over the exercises and conferred degrees. Also attending the commencement ceremony was former Gov. Ned McWhorter and UT President Dr. John Petersen.

"I always love coming to Martin," said Petersen, who helped confer degrees. "I want to congratulate those who are graduating and those (faculty) sitting in the front who facilitated that graduation."

"You will experience the personal benefits of a college degree," Chancellor Dunagan said in closing. "I also remind you and all citizens of Tennessee that there is a public good represented by living in a state that has a high percent of college graduates. You are joining a state population that has a college graduate rate of 21 percent. As a state, we should do better. Be an advocate for higher education. When you arrived here as freshmen, we said get involved. As you depart, my final words are, 'Get involved. Make a difference.'"
‘Tune-Up’ planned for area bands

Six area high school bands will receive hands-on instruction to help prepare their fall marching percussion music at Drumline ‘Tuneup Day’ at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Dr. Julie Hill, UT Martin assistant professor of music and director of percussion studies, and James Campbell, University of Kentucky director of percussion studies, will be the instructors for the session that is slated from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Aug. 26, in the Fine and Performing Arts Building.

High schools participating include those in Union City, Munford, South Fulton, Camden, Dyer County, and Jackson.

For more information, contact Hill at 731-881-7418 or jhill@utm.edu.

UT Martin graduates make a diverse class

MARTIN, Tenn. — The 236 summer graduates of the University of Tennessee at Martin represent 32 Tennessee counties, nine other states including Kentucky, and the countries of Congo, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

In commencement remarks Saturday, business executive Andrea Loughry cited specific advances in technology and breakthroughs in other areas, saying that in finding solutions to challenges they will face, it may be more useful to know where to find the answer.

Loughry, vice chairwoman of the UT Board of Trustees, also outlined her recent trip to the World Future Society meeting in Toronto, citing trends graduates could face but noting that a degree offers a distinct advantage. “Congratulations. You have increased your annual earnings potential by $14,000,” Loughry said. “Put the back of the graduate in front of you.”

Loughry welcomes UT Martin graduates to the future

Andrea Loughry, vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees, congratulated students graduating during the University of Tennessee at Martin summer commencement Saturday and then welcomed them to the future.

“Young people have increased your annual earnings potential by $14,000,” said Loughry. “Put the back of the graduate in front of you.”

Having attended a recent World Future Society meeting in Toronto, Loughry cited trends graduates could face as they begin careers, raise families and pursue leisure time.

Loughry, president emeritus of Miller & Loughry Insurance and Services, Inc., of Murfreesboro, and a UT Martin alumna, noted that health sciences, education, energy, economy and environment, will remain issues in their world. She added that acronyms, such as NIMBY (Not In My Backyard), BANANA (Build Absolutely Nothing Anywhere Near Anything) and RURBAN (a combination of rural and urban), could continue to be part of their lexicon.

She pointed to specific advances in technology and breakthroughs in other areas, and added that in finding solutions to challenges they will face, it may be more useful to know where to find the answer.

Loughry, who also received a master’s degree from UT Knoxville, has been a licensed insurance agent since 1978, and previously was a secondary school teacher then a tenured assistant professor at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro. Summer graduates represented 32 Tennessee counties and the states of Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri and Virginia. Also, there were graduates from the countries of Congo, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

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“He has always loved coming to Martin,” said Petersen, who helped confer degrees. “I want to congratulate those who are graduating and those (faculty) sitting in the front who facilitated that graduation.”

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There is still time to register at UTM

There is still time to complete the admissions process to enroll for fall classes at the UT Martin.

The first day of classes is August 28, with fees due August 22. Students may contact the Office of Admissions at UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, e-mail admitme@utm.edu, or call 731-881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1 for more information.

Freshmen are encouraged to attend First-Year Initiative, August 23-27. During the week, students will learn their way around the campus, receive information about services, participate in campus activities, meet campus leaders, complete classroom experiences designed to strengthen study habits, sharpen money management and other skills.
UT Board of Trustees vice chair welcomes grads to the future

Andrea Loughry, vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees, congratulated students graduating during the University of Tennessee at Martin summer commencement Saturday and then welcomed them to the future.

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Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin

2 local bands to participate in UT Martin event

Six area high school bands will receive hands-on instruction to help prepare their fall marching band to participate in the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Dr. Julie Hill, UT Martin assistant professor of music and director of percussion studies, and James Campbell, professor of percussion studies, will be the instructors for the session slated for Aug. 26 from 1:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Fine and Performing Arts Building on campus.

For more information, contact Hill by telephone at (731) 881-7418 or by e-mail at jhill@utm.edu.

Spanish Class for medical professionals to start September 18

"Medical Spanish Class for Medical Professionals" will be offered from 6:00-8:00 p.m., Monday, September 18 - October 23, at the University of Tennessee at Martin by the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE). The registration fee is $85, which includes the textbook.

The instructors for the class are Itzel Espitia Nappo and Dr. Daniel Nappo. Itzel Espitia Nappo is a native Mexican with experience in teaching, who also understands the challenges of learning another language. Dr. Daniel Nappo is an assistant professor of Spanish at UT Martin.

With no prior knowledge of Spanish, this class and the accompanying textbook, "Medical Spanish," will enable medical professionals to confidently conduct patient medical history interviews, perform physical examinations and give medical instructions to Spanish-speaking patients. The textbook is constructed to elicit one-word, yes or no answers.

The class includes an introduction to the Spanish language and grammar and pronunciation instruction. Participants will receive full vocabularies and formats for talking with patients about their social and family history, their past medical history, instructions for the physical examination, general treatment and follow-up.

This class will be followed by "Medical Spanish Part II," which will cover Chapters 9-15 of the textbook.

To register, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.
Jackson State, UTM team up for ag classes

By TAJUANA CHERSHIE

tchesher@jacksonsun.com

Officials with Jackson State Community College and the University of Tennessee Martin are calling their new partnership the first of its kind — offering JSCC agriculture students the opportunity to transfer to UTM's program seamlessly.

"To maintain our edge, we have to have these kinds of programs," JSCC President Bruce Blanding said during a joint press conference Thursday.

The two-year college's agricultural program had been experiencing a decrease in students, and officials had considered phasing out the classes. But that decision would have meant no community college agricultural education would exist in West Tennessee.

To keep the program alive, officials wanted to give students the opportunity to further their studies with a four-year degree.

"Traditionally after completing their associate's degree, the students would go right to work," Andrew McMurtrie/The Jackson Sun

UT Martin Chancellor Nick Dunagan, left, speaks to a room full of representatives, including Jackson State Community College President Bruce Blanding, right, Thursday in Jackson.

Registration still open for fall semester

There is still time to complete the admissions process to enroll for fall classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The first day of classes is Aug. 28, with fees due Aug. 22. Students may contact the Office of Admissions at UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238, email admitme@utm.edu or call call 881-7020 or (800) 829-UTM1 for more information.

Freshmen are encouraged to attend First-Year Initiative, Aug. 23-27. During the week, students will learn their way around the campus, receive information about services, participate in campus activities, meet campus leaders, complete classroom experiences designed to strengthen study habits, sharpen money management and other skills.

College

Continued from cover

Blanding said, "But what we've learned is that students need a four-year degree in this field. There is a tremendous amount of skill required in agriculture."

Both institutions believe they are maximizing their resources by partnering in this manner — each hoping to bolster its enrollment. JSCC's overall enrollment is already up by 10 percent this year, according to school officials.

UT Martin Chancellor Nick Dunagan thinks more school-to-school collaboration is in the future.

"We have to mix things and make it better for the people of West Tennessee," Dunagan said. "I think this program is going to be very successful, and we're pleased to partner with Jackson State."

Sara Youngerman, who is a graduate of UT Martin, will be teaching for JSCC's agriculture program. Youngerman majored in agriculture for her undergraduate studies and received her master's degree in animal science from UT Knoxville.

"I hope to give students a broad view of the field," said Youngerman, who will begin working next week.

"I plan to take them out in the field to keep them interested."

Youngerman explained that the opportunities are endless for agriculture students.

"They could work for a veterinarian, meat inspector, clinical research, in a microbiology lab or teach," she said.

Visit jacksonsun.com to share your thoughts.
— Tajuana Cheshier, 425-9643

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2006

Get Out! • Aug. 17, 2006

CITY OF MARTIN WELCOME PICNIC,
'THE SKYHAWK LUAu'

Featuring Travelin' Max. 8 p.m. Aug.
24 at UT Martin Skyhawk Arena.

DRUMLINE TUNEUP
Aug. 25 at UT Martin Fine and
Performing Arts Building, all day.

ANDREA MOSBY, 'THE POWER OF
PERSONAL DECISIONS'
8:30 a.m. Aug. 24 at UT Martin
Skyhawk Arena.

RICK KELLEY 'DON'T
JUST SIT THERE' SHOW
7 p.m. Wednesday outdoor stage at
UT Martin, rain site, Watkins
Auditorium, Boling University Center.
Magazine ranks UT-Martin among South's top colleges

MARTIN, Tenn. — The University of Tennessee at Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master's level public universities in the South in the 2007 edition of America's Best Colleges compiled by U.S. News & World Report. The rankings are based on information gathered from various sources. UT-Martin tied for 21st among public universities in the South that grant bachelor's and master's degrees.

Colleges are ranked against their peers using information from a survey submitted by the schools and other sources. Categories used to determine the rankings include peer assessment, retention, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving.

In the 2007 rankings, UT-Martin improved its retention and graduation rates. The rankings follow six consecutive semesters of record high enrollment at UT-Martin, and early numbers for the fall semester point to a seventh consecutive record enrollment.

Local Residents Receive Degrees from UT Martin

MARTIN, Tenn. — Seven Carroll County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were: Atwood - Jordan Michael Nielson; Clarksburg - Tammie Annette Berry, Huntingdon - Cliff Abram Dillahunty; Lavinia - Misty S. West; McKenzie - Julie Ann Shell, Joe David Wilkinson.

Andrew Loughry, University of Tennessee Board of Trustees vice-chair, was the keynote speaker, and Dr. John D. Petersen, president of the University of Tennessee, attended the ceremony and congratulated the graduates. Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, presented and conferred.

Report: UT Martin continues top tier U.S. News ranking

The University of Tennessee at Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master's level public universities in the South in the 2007 edition of America's Best Colleges, compiled by U.S. News & World Report.

The rankings, released last week, rank colleges and universities using information gathered from various sources. UT Martin tied for 21st place among public universities in the South that grant bachelor's and master's degrees.

Colleges are ranked against their peers using information submitted in a survey completed by the institutions and other sources. Categories used to determine the rankings and to measure academic quality include peer assessment, retention, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and the alumni giving rate.

In the 2007 rankings, UT Martin improved its retention and graduation rates. Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, said the university's efforts to improve total quality are positioning the university to better serve students.

"The U.S. News rankings are important," Dunagan said. "However, my primary concern is improving overall quality in academic programs and services so that our students receive the best education possible."

The current U.S. News rankings follow six consecutive semesters of record student enrollment at UT Martin. A record 6,484 enrolled for fall 2005 classes, followed by record enrollments for both spring and summer 2006. Early enrollment numbers for fall semester 2006 point to a seventh consecutive record enrollment at the university.

UTM expands training for small businesses

MARTIN, Tenn. — Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center has expanded the times he will be available at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

He will offer services to local businesses and prospective entreprenuers from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 14 and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 21.

Topics include marketing, customer service, cash flow, business plans and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable of state and national resources available to businesses.

The center, at 720 University St., also offers free, confidential, one-on-one consultation by appointment any time, any day. Phone: 731-587-7333.
JSCC, UT Martin partner to benefit ag and natural resources students, ag industry

The University of Tennessee at Martin is joining with Jackson State Community College to support the agricultural industry by providing a steady stream of graduates.

Beginning this fall, the two schools will partner to provide courses for an associate degree in agriculture at Jackson State. The initiative was announced at a press conference today at Jackson State attended by JSCC, UT Martin, state and local officials. The arrangement will provide a full range of agriculture courses leading to the associate degree which will transfer seamlessly to UT Martin for the completion of a bachelor's degree.

Because of low enrollment in its agriculture classes, Jackson State was considering phasing out the major. Loss of the program would have meant no community college agricultural education would have been offered in West Tennessee.

“We recognize the importance of agriculture to our region and we didn’t want to phase out the program,” said Dr. Bruce Blanding, president of Jackson State Community College. “When UT Martin agreed to a new partnership, we realized we could continue the long-standing tradition of ag education in West Tennessee. We are excited to partner with UT Martin for the benefit of our students and the West Tennessee community.”

Through this unique partnership, the required classes for an associate degree will be taught in Jackson by faculty from both institutions. Jackson State has hired new assistant professor, Sara Younegerman, a UT Martin alumna, who will be joined by professors in agriculture and natural resources from UT Martin.

“It is always a pleasure to partner with Jackson State,” said Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor. “Both institutions win and most importantly, the students of West Tennessee win.”

“UT Martin’s agriculture and natural resource management program is recognized as one of the best in the multi-state region, and we are excited about teaming with JSCC to create more opportunities for students who want to pursue this career path,” said Dunagan.

“One of the new areas of emphasis for the University of Tennessee is creating greater access to higher education. This initiative is a step in the right direction of providing greater access.”

UT Martin will benefit in the partnership by nurturing a constant flow of JSCC students with an associate degree in agriculture, who want to complete a four-year degree in West Tennessee.

“West Tennessee represents an important farm production and agribusiness center of the state, and it holds promise for new areas of agriculture like farm-based fuels. Gov. Bredesen is a strong believer in the value of agricultural education and this is another important step as we strive to educate and train our young men and women for today’s ever-changing agricultural industry,” said Ken Givens, Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture and UT Board of Trustees and state Board of Regents member.

“We did not want to see an agriculture program in West Tennessee be curtailed or dropped,” added Dr. Jerry Gresham, UT Martin Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources chair. “It’s just the right thing to do for the potential agriculture students in this region. There will be a place in Jackson where they can go to earn an associate degree. Those who want to continue will have the first two years of a bachelor’s degree in an agricultural-related field completed when they enroll at UT Martin.”

Jackson State Community College also provides remedial and developmental services that help students be successful as they transition to college life from high school or the work force.

“The partnership is helping Jackson State and UT Martin, but also helping the agricultural industry as a whole thrive,” said Gresham.

Fall registration is continuing at both institutions with classes beginning on Aug. 28. For more information on agriculture at JSCC, telephone 731-424-3520 or UT Martin, telephone 731-881-7260.

Interactive art kicks off new season

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts kicks off the 2006-07 art exhibition season with the interactive, “nudge-and-a-wink” art of guest artist Chris Wildrick.

Wildrick is assistant professor of art foundations at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and has exhibited and performed a variety of energetic, entertaining and evocative projects throughout the United States. Wildrick teaches foundations studio and a variety of special-topics classes such as artists’ books and time-based art. He recently received from the Illinois Arts Council an Artists Fellowship Award.

He was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Easton, Pa. He graduated from Williams College in Williamstown, Mass., lived in Boston and then went on to the University of Wisconsin-Madison for his master’s degree in fine arts.

The exhibition will be available to the public beginning Aug. 28 in the Fine and Performing Arts Building Gallery on the UT Martin campus. The official opening for the exhibit will be from 5-7 p.m., Sept. 6, in the gallery and will feature a presentation by the artist.
UT Martin continues in top tier of US News rankings

The University of Tennessee at Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master's level public universities in the South in the 2007 edition of America's Best Colleges compiled by U.S. News & World Report. The rankings, released this week, rate colleges and universities using information gathered from various sources.

UT Martin tied for 21st place among public universities in the South that grant bachelor's and master's degrees.

Colleges are ranked against their peers using information submitted in a survey completed by the institutions and other sources.

Categories used to determine the rankings and to measure academic quality include peer assessment, retention, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and the alumni giving rate.

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A record 6,484 enrolled for fall 2005 classes, followed by record enrollments for both spring and summer 2006.

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Check out the Back To School Tab in this edition of The Weakley County Press.

Watkins welcomed as Golden Grad

Phillip Watkins of Martin (center) is welcomed as a University of Tennessee at Martin Golden Grad by Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, and his wife, Cathy. This year's Golden Grad reunion was held August 11-12 and honored the Class of 1956 with a series of activities hosted by the Dunagans. Each year, the university's Office of Alumni Relations invites the 50-year reunion class back to campus. Besides a reception, dinner and tour, class members receive a special 50-year pin and medallion and are special guests at summer commencement.
UT Martin Wildlife Society is national chapter of the year

The University of Tennessee at Martin Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society recently was named the national chapter of the year - the second time in recent years - from a field of 94 university student chapters in North America.

“I am proud to learn of the well-deserved selection of UT Martin’s Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society as the National Student Chapter of the Year,” said Alan Peterson, Tennessee State Chapter of The Wildlife Society president. “The enthusiasm and professionalism displayed by these young men and women has been a joy to see, and I have no doubt, the dedication they exhibit will be a benefit to the wildlife and people of Tennessee for generations to come.”

The UT Martin group applied for 2005 student chapter of the year in April 2006. The award officially will be conferred at the annual conference in September in Anchorage, Alaska, and carries with it a $1,000 stipend for students to travel to the conference. Four students are scheduled to attend the conference with Dr. Eric Pelren, UT Martin associate professor of wildlife biology and chapter adviser.

“This is just one more example of the outstanding record of the UT Martin Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society,” said Dr. Jerry Gresham, UT Martin Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources chair. “This fine group of young people and their adviser, Dr. Eric Pelren, exemplify the spirit of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources as all our faculty and students strive for excellence in their chosen fields.”

“I’m really pleased and happy for these young men and women,” added Pelren. “They have worked hard and contributed in a significant way to their profession and to our community.”

During the award year, the student chapter worked with diverse entities. It hosted workshops and coordinated with employees from several conservation organizations, including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Missouri Department of Conservation, Farm Service Agency, National Wild Turkey Federation, Quail Unlimited and Delta Waterfowl.

The chapter also interacted with various wildlife professionals and other student chapters through the annual meetings of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the National and State Wildlife Society Meetings and the Southeastern Wildlife Conclave. Also, the chapter has received publicity during the year through magazine articles submitted by members, local articles covering habitat management projects and through its volunteered assistance with conservation events and fundraisers. The UT Martin Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society was chartered in 1989.

TWS is the primary professional organization of wildlife scientists and managers, with a global membership around 10,000. It was founded in 1937, is an international non-profit scientific and educational association dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. The mission is to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, sustain productivity and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources.

UT Martin Golden Grads recognized

Martin Mayor Randy Brundige (right) presents a proclamation to Dr. Phil Watkins honoring Class of 1956 members, who were welcomed August 11-12 as UT Martin Golden Grads. Each year, the university’s Office of Alumni Relations invites the 50-year reunion class back to campus. Class members receive a special 50-year pin and medallion and participate in activities hosted by Chancellor Nick Dunagan and his wife, Cathy. Pictured for the proclamation presentation are (left to right) Dr. Nick Dunagan; Watkins, retired vice chancellor of student affairs and a member of the 1956 class; Mayor Randy Brundige; and Andrea Loughry, of Murfreesboro, newly elected vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees and a UT Martin alumna.
UT Martin faculty elected to National Advisory Board

Dr. Joan K. West, Director of the Office of Research, Grants and Contracts at the University of Tennessee at Martin, recently was elected to the advisory board of the Grants Resource Center (GRC) in Washington, D.C. Serving a two-year term on the board, effective July 1, West joins eight other advisory board members from U.S. colleges and universities in supporting the GRC, a component of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). AASCU represents more than 400 public colleges, universities and systems of higher education throughout the United States and its territories. The GRC supports the realization of institutional goals and program development initiatives through timely and detailed information on funding opportunities, personalized scouting to meet specific campus needs and promotion of networking among sponsored programs professionals.

Dr. West will be one of two representatives of public, four-year institutions of higher education with a full-time enrollment between 5,000 and 10,000 students. Since her arrival at UT Martin, external funding has increased from $2.6 million per year to almost $11 million annually and indirect cost recovery has increased by 400 percent. In her capacity as director, West also is the chief research officer and the compliance officer for the university. She also is a graduate faculty member in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at UT Martin, and is a member of the Fiscal Policies Advisory Task Force and the COEUS Task Force for the UT System.

In 2004, she was awarded the Outstanding Administrative Award by the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education for her contributions to the university. West has numerous papers, presentations and workshops to her credit and recently co-authored a manuscript published in the spring 2006 Special Edition of the College Student Affairs Journal. She and a colleague were successful in securing funding for a new business venture in West Tennessee through USDA with a grant proposal that was ranked No. 1 out of 379 submitted nationally. West serves on the advisory board for the Carl Perkins Child Advocacy Group for Weakley and Obion counties and is a member of the American Educational Research Association, the Mid-South Education Research Association and Phi Delta Kappa.

"These are exciting and challenging times in the world of grant-seeking," said West. "We do not secure external funding alone. Being a member of the GRC Advisory Board will provide me opportunities to develop a stronger collegiality with research officers and sponsored programs directors from all the AASCU member institutions. This opportunity will also allow me to mentor others who may be just starting their careers in the external funding environment."

Social studies workshop focuses on enhancing American history education

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Department of History and Philosophy in conjunction with the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) will sponsor the 28th Annual Social Studies Teachers’ Workshop. Slated to begin at 9:00 a.m., September 9, in Room 206, Boling University Center, at UT Martin, the workshop will offer sessions on history and the news media, presidential backgrounds and decisions, the Vietnam War, prehistoric settlements of the Central Mississippi River Valley and defining democracy.

Registration for the event is $20 and includes refreshments, lunch and handouts. This workshop conforms to guidelines for continuing education units. Attendance at the entire workshop carries .5 CEU credit. To register, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, 110 Goosch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, or (731) 881-7082, or e-mail: ecce@utm.edu. Make checks payable to UT Martin.

Five presentations are planned. *"Our Natives' Narrative: Myths and the Mississippi" will be presented by Helmut Wenz, UT Martin professor of geography. The prehistoric settlement patterns of the Central Mississippi River Valley during the Mississippian time period (900-1650 A.D.) will be the focus of this presentation. Primary emphasis will be on the cultural and regional distribution of the technologies and resources of the region. *

* "Role-Playing and Writing History through the News Media" is the title of the presentation by Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, UT Martin professor of history. The news media's treatment of historical themes can be used to awaken students' sense of history, to make the past come alive and to clarify identity and values. The here-and-now of the news not only is relevant to students' lives, but also helps them to touch the past and to model the future. The presentation examines a variety of media sources and models several assignments, including individual and group activities.

"Presidential Backgrounds, Presidential Decisions" will be presented by Don Roe, Jackson North Side High School teacher. Roe will discuss a project he completed, a multi-media presentation considering how the backgrounds of selected presidents have affected the decision-making process in several critical events in American history.

* "Revisiting the Vietnam War" is the presentation planned by Dr. David Barber, UT Martin assistant professor of history. The Vietnam War is often seen as a disjointed historical context and presented as something isolated from the United States' broader foreign policy in the post-war era. Moreover, historians present this history as something isolated from Vietnam's history. This presentation will emphasize these broader concerns in the teaching of the Vietnam War.

* "Defining Democracy under the Constitution" will be presented by Dr. Richard Chesleen, UT Martin professor of political science, and Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin professor of history. Current President George Bush has based his foreign policy on promoting "democracy," which he claims to be the God-given right of every man. The topic of this presentation will be to see if President Thomas Jefferson's and President Abraham Lincoln's concepts of democracy are in alignment with that of President Bush's.

For more information, call the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education at 731-881-7082 or 1-800-482-5199.
Loughry offers advice to graduates

Andrea Loughry, vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees, congratulated students graduating during the University of Tennessee at Martin summer commencement recently and then welcomed them to the future.

"Congratulations. You have increased your annual earnings potential by $14,000," said Loughry. "Put the back of the graduate in front of you."

Having attended a recent World Future Society meeting in Toronto, Loughry cited trends graduates could face as they begin careers, raise families and pursue leisure time.

Loughry, president emeritus of Miller & Loughry Insurance and Services, Inc., of Murfreesboro, Tenn., and a UT Martin alumna, noted that health sciences, education, energy economy and environment, will remain issues in their world. She added that acronyms, such as NIMBY (Not In My Backyard), BANANA (Build Absolutely Nothing Anywhere Near Anything) and RURBAN (a combination of rural and urban), could advancements in technology and breakthroughs in other areas, and added that in finding solutions to challenges they will face, it may be more useful to know where to find the answer.

Loughry, who also received a master's degree from UT Knoxville, has been a licensed insurance agent since 1978, and previously was a secondary school teacher then a tenured assistant professor at Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro.

Summer graduates represented 32 Tennessee counties and the states of Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri and Virginia. Also, there were graduates from the countries of Congo, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, presided over the exercises and conferred degrees. Also attending the commencement ceremony was former Gov. Ned McWherter and UT President Dr. John Petersen.

"I always love coming to Martin," said Petersen, who helped confer degrees. "I want to congratulate those who are graduating and those (faculty) sitting in the front who facilitated that graduation."

"You will experience the personal benefits of a college degree," Chancellor Dunagan said in closing. "I also remind you and all citizens of Tennessee that there is a public good represented by living in a state that has a high percent of college graduates. You are joining a state population that has a college graduate rate of 21 percent. As a state, we should do better. Be an advocate for higher education. When you arrived here as freshmen, we said get involved. As you depart, my final words are, 'Get involved. Make a difference.'"

Interactive, 'nudge-and-a-wink' art kicks off new season

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts kicks off the 2006-2007 art exhibition season with the interactive, "nudge-and-a-wink" art of guest artist Chris Wildrick.

Wildrick is assistant professor of art foundations at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale and has exhibited and performed a variety of energetic, entertaining and evocative projects throughout the United States. Wildrick teaches foundations studio and a variety of special-topics classes such as artists' books and time-based art. He recently received from the Illinois Arts Council an Artists Fellowship Award.

He was born in Philadelphia and grew up in Easton, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, lived in Boston and then went on to the University of Wisconsin-Madison for his master's degree in fine arts.

The exhibition will be available to the public beginning August 28 in the Fine and Performing Arts Building Gallery on the UT Martin campus. The official opening for the exhibit will be from 5-7 p.m., September 6, in the gallery and will feature a presentation by the artist.
Accounting skills workshop slated

A workshop is planned for persons who want to improve professional accounting skills, Sept. 19-20, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Offered by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) and the UT Martin Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and International Business, the workshop will be in Room 311, Boling University Center.

Sixteen UT Martin professors will staff the workshop that will provide participants with 16 continuing professional education (CPE) credits. The first day begins at 7:30 a.m., with refreshments and a 7:50 a.m. welcome by Dr. Ernest Moser, dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and ends at 4:40 p.m. Second day sessions begin at 8 a.m. and end at 3:50 p.m.

Session topics include: auditing updates, goal setting, property appraising, technology issues, certified management accountant professional designation, retirement planning, market orientation and future changes in accounting. Others include: a tax update, information systems for accountants, the chartered financial analyst program, economic update, current issues in accounting education, financial accounting, the ethical implications of cheating, financial/managerial accounting tax and auditing and information systems.

To register or for additional information, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082. Registration prior to Sept. 12 is $160; after that date, it is $170. Checks should be made payable to UT Martin.

Schools welcome new educators and support staff for 2006-07 school year

JUSTIN CHEEK

Justin Cheek is teaching physical education to students at all grade levels at Hillcrest Elementary School in Troy and is also the school’s head football coach and assistant basketball coach for both girls and boys teams.

He is a graduate of Henry County High School in Paris and of the University of Tennessee at Martin, where his major was health and human performance.

He and his wife, Megan, live in Troy and he has been a substitute teacher in the Weakley County School System. He enjoys fishing, golf and all sports.

ALISHA HEDGE

Mrs. Hedge is a resident of South Fulton and teaches second grade there in the elementary school. She is a graduate of SFHS and UT Murray, where she claimed a bachelor of science degree in education with K-8 licensure.

She is married to Jesse Hedge and is the mother of Jacob Hedge, who is a year old.

She is worship leader at Twin Cities Assembly of God and a member of International Honor Society and Chi Lambda Theta, a professional education association.

COBY WATTS

Coby Watts teaches carpentry at the Obion County Career Technology Center.

A graduate of Union City High School, he attended UTM and has worked in construction as a carpenter and in retail sales of building materials. He is a member of Union City Second Baptist Church, where he plays drums and guitar, and has been an umpire in the local Babe Ruth League.

He and his wife, Kim, are the parents of Carter Watts, who is 2 years old. They make their home in Union City.

LORI MARTIN

Lori Martin, who lives in Union City with her husband, Jeff, and their children, Mallory, 13; Taylor, 12; and Morgan, 9, teaches physical science and biology at SFHS.

She is a graduate of the former Kenton High School and earned her degree in education from UT Martin. She is a member of Westside Baptist Church in Halls and enjoys reading, cross stitch and scrapbooks.

She has taught for 10 years at Lauderdale Middle School in Ripley and for three years at Christ Classical Academy in Dyersburg.
Shannon Lyon

Mrs. Lyon lives in Troy and teaches eighth grade literature and language arts at South Fulton Middle School.

She is a graduate of Obion County Central High School who earned her bachelor of science degree from Bethel College in McKenzie. She is enrolled in the master's program in secondary education at UT and has been board secretary for the Obion County Board of Education for four years. During that time, she was elected vice president of the Tennessee Association of Board Secretaries. She is a certified professional secretary.

Mrs. Lyon and her husband, Randy, are the parents of Anna, who is 12, and an eighth-grader at Hillcrest Elementary School, and Ashley, who is 8 years old and a third-grader.

She is on the Obion County 4-H Advisor Board and is a member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. She enjoys reading and trying new recipes and spending time with her family.

Regina Patterson

Mrs. Patterson, the wife of Danny Patterson, of Dresden, returns to the Obion County School System in the role of assistant principal at OCCHS. She previously taught at SFES and has been at schools in Weakly and Gibson counties most recently. She has been an educator for 22 years and has been a librarian at every educational level and a journalism, eighth grade English and sixth grade reading teacher.

She has also been the technology coordinator for Bradford Elementary School and has extensive experience in technology. A graduate of Gleason High School and UT, where she claimed both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree, she has completed an additional 30 hours at Cumberland University in Lebanon. She also has administrative and supervision certification from Bethel College in McKenzie.

Mrs. Patterson is a member of the Tennessee Association of School Librarians and is past president of Northwest Tennessee Association of School Librarians. She has chaired several committees and groups in the Bradford School System and has been a member and secretary of the Bradford Special School District Family Involvement Committee.

In addition, she has been president of the Bradford Education Association and was a member of the Goals 2000 Conflict Management Team.

She is a member of Dresden First United Methodist Church, where she sings in the choir, teaches an adult Sunday school class and works as a volunteer with the Meals on Wheels program. She enjoys gardening, exercising and cooking and is the mother of Cassi, who is 17 and a senior at Dresden High School, and Dusty, who is 22 and is entering the University of Tennessee veterinary science program.

Kathie Revell

Mrs. Revell lives in the Crystal community near Union City with her husband, Guy. She teaches first grade and coaches girls' basketball at Lake Road Elementary School near Union City.

She is a graduate of OCCHS and UT, where she earned a bachelor of science degree in agriculture and is enrolled in the master's program for K-6 education.

She attends Antioc Union Church and has been a substitute teacher at Lake Road. She has also had experience in coaching. Her hobbies include being outdoors, reading, attending sporting events and spending time with family.

Cheryl Reddin

Cheryl Reddin of Rives is a kindergarten teacher at Ridge Mont Elementary School near Union City. She is a graduate of OCCHS and UT, where she has a bachelor's degree in business administration and is working on her master's degree.

She is the mother of Allison, 13, and Savannah, 6, who attend classes at Ridge Mont in the eighth and first grades.

She is a member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church and has been a substitute teacher in the county school system. She enjoys cooking and spending time with her children.

Paula Boley

Paula Boley of South Fulton is a graduate of Hanover-Horton High School in Hanover, Mich., and UT, where she claimed a bachelor of science degree in human learning, K-8 education.

She is the mother of Blake, 13, and Brooke, 12, and is a member of South Fulton Baptist Church. She enjoys reading and gardening and was a student teacher in the Obion County School System.

Ms. Boley will be a class size reduction teacher at SFES.

Jennifer McBroom

Jennifer McBroom of Martin is a biology teacher at OCCHS. She is a graduate of Columbia High School and earned her bachelor of science degree in secondary education (biology) from UT.

She will be celebrating her marriage to Kevin Creech Sept. 30 and she enjoys reading and athletic events.
Networking program offered locally

The Cisco Networking Academy Program is being offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE).

The program teaches networking and information technology (IT) skills to students and workers worldwide who are interested in expanding their IT knowledge or starting a career in the high-tech industry.

Instruction is planned for Tuesdays and Thursdays, with CCNA 1 offered Sept. 12-Nov. 16; CCNA 2, Nov. 28-Feb. 22; CCNA 3, March 6-May 8; and CCNA 4, May 22-Aug. 2. Breaks are set from Dec. 18-Jan. 7 and from July 1-8.

CCNA is a comprehensive curriculum that includes four separate courses. These courses cover the learning objectives of the CCNA certification exam, which is the first step in a Cisco career certification path. The curriculum emphasizes the use of decision-making and problem-solving techniques to resolve networking issues.

Students learn how to install and configure Cisco switches and routers in local and wide-area networks using various protocols, provide Level 1 troubleshooting service and improve network performance and security. Additionally, training is provided in the proper care, maintenance and use of networking software tools and equipment.

The Cisco Networking Academy combines a variety of instructor-led lectures and hands-on lab exercises to give students a broad working knowledge of networking concepts and skills. CCNA Courses 1 through 4 of the academy program, equivalent to 280 hours of instruction, provide students with a basic foundation in networking. Students who successfully complete this portion of the program are eligible to earn Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA™) certification. The CCNA certification is globally recognized as a leading IT certification.

The CCNA certification course features the following courses: CCNA 1 — Networking basics, basics of Ethernet technologies, cabling LANs and WANs, network media, basics of TCP/IP and IP addressing, routing fundamentals; CCNA 2 — routers and routing basics, basics of configuring routers, routing protocols, access control lists, networking troubleshooting skills; CCNA 3 — switching basics and intermediate routing, VLSM, basics of OSPF and EIGRP, switch concepts and configuration, spanning-tree protocol, VLANs and VTP; and CCNA 4 — WAN technologies, ISDN and DDR, frame relay, PPP, WAN technologies, NAT, PAT and DHCP.

Andy Rivers, the instructor, is UT Martin security administrator. He has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration-Information Systems from UT Martin and presently is enrolled in the master of telecommunications systems management program at Murray (Ky.) State University. He currently holds several IT certifications, including A+, Net+, Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) and GIAC Certified Windows Security Administrator. He also created, implemented and taught the security awareness program for the UT Martin campus.

The registration fee is $750 for each course. There is a 10 percent discount available if registration, including payment, is completed for all four courses prior to Sept. 11. For more information about the course, contact Rivers by e-mail at arivers@utm.edu.

To register, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education at 1-800-482-5199 or (731) 881-7082.

UT Martin named ‘Best Southeastern College’

Some of the best measures of a university's effectiveness in carrying out its mission are found in comments made by the students.

University of Tennessee at Martin students are quick to cite what's "right" with West Tennessee's only public four-year institution outside of Memphis, and some of their comments are included in the recently-released student opinion data in The Princeton Review.

UT Martin was named a "Best Southeastern College" by The Princeton Review for 2007.

"University of Tennessee at Martin is one of 146 schools ... receiving our 'Best in the Southeast' designation," said Robert Franek, The Princeton Review publisher and editorial director. "We believe these schools uphold the standards of our 'Best Southeastern College' distinction and provide students with a wide breadth of excellent schools to consider."

With about 6,000 undergraduates and 6,500 total enrollment, UT Martin "is big enough to get the full college experience, yet small enough to get one-on-one attention from your teachers," said one student responding to the survey.

Small average class sizes mean that professors at UT Martin can "take time to explain their goals for us so that we can understand each assignment and responsibility better," another student said.

"The teaching skills are great, and our professors really show that they have knowledge of what they're saying." Still another respondent said the school "offers a lot of additional help when needed to allow its students to excel."

Citing the variety of activities available on campus, one undergraduate said, "It all depends on how involved you want to get here. Overall, students love that it's "so easy to get involved" and that there is a "general friendliness" on the campus. "Students feel like they belong here ...," another student added.

"I am pleased that The Princeton Review has chosen to recognize UT Martin in its new ranking," said Dr. Nick Dunagan, university chancellor. "Our students do the best job of telling the university's story, and these comments accurately reflect the experiences that many of them have at UT Martin."
Dunagan: Utilize memories to build future at UT Martin

The context of the last sentence from Thomas Friedman's best-seller "The World is Flat" points to the importance of having more dreams than memories.

While memories, like the experiences that make them, are vital, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor Dr. Nick Dunagan told those attending the annual opening faculty meeting that dreams about what UT Martin can be and accomplish for individuals and the region "are even more important."

Instead of dwelling on memories, Dunagan suggested that as faculty members prepare for a new academic year, they use UT Martin's memories to build the future.

Dunagan cited several memories that remain from the 2005-06 academic year, such as UT Martin being named the fastest-growing public university in the state, the university with the highest student satisfaction rating among four-year public institutions in the state and the campus with the highest faculty and staff rating in the University of Tennessee System.

"These are all good things that should make us feel a sense of pride," Dunagan said. "But, the more important question is what are we going to do tomorrow? Where are we going to be next year and the years after that. What are our dreams for UT Martin?"

The chancellor drew from the UT System strategic plan recently announced by UT President Dr. John Petersen, adding, "We will be challenged to develop into a campus that helps fulfill that dream of what Tennessee should receive from its premier higher education system. His six goals provide a perfect framework for our dreams."

To fulfill the goals of student access and student success, Dunagan said, "Let's dream of a Tennessee with 30 percent of its adult population with a college degree instead of the current 21 percent ... a UT Martin with a six-year graduation rate of 60 percent instead of 48 percent."

Promoting the goal of economic development, he added, "Let's dream how we can build this region ... assist our region to take advantage of the economic impact of I-69 ... prepare our students for advanced study or professions and jobs of the next decade."

Likewise, Dunagan asked faculty members about their aspirations to meet the goal of research. "How do we illustrate that high-quality teaching is best achieved by faculty who are continually engaged in scholarly research and professional development? As a university we must be ready to provide the resources to make this possible for our faculty," he said.

Turning to the goal of outreach, the chancellor highlighted the many ways in which various departments extend the university beyond its physical boundaries by hosting thousands of high school students on campus each year, by promoting partnerships with public and private entities and by securing grants that enhance existing resources.

Finally, turning to the sixth goal of globalization, Dunagan said, "My dream, and hopefully yours, is that each and every class taught would have a tie into how that particular subject matter is taught, perceived, or valued across the world."

"As we begin this academic year my request is simple," he said. "Let's cherish those fond memories of the past and learn from them, but, more importantly, as we welcome 41 new faculty and more than 6,600 students this year, let's all dream together about what we want to happen in the future. Whether those dreams turn into reality depends on all of us."

Spanish class for medical professionals to start

"Medical Spanish Class for Medical Professionals" will be offered from 6-8 p.m., Mondays, Sept. 18-Sept. 23, at the University of Tennessee at Martin by the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE). The registration fee is $85 which includes the textbook.

The instructors for the class are Itzel Espitia Nappo and Dr. Daniel Nappo. Itzel Espitia Nappo is a native Mexican with experience in teaching, who also understands the challenges of learning another language. Dr. Daniel Nappo is an assistant professor of Spanish at UT Martin.

With no prior knowledge of Spanish, this class and the accompanying textbook, "Medical Spanish," will enable medical professionals to confidently conduct patient medical history interviews, perform physical examinations and give medical instructions to Spanish-speaking patients. The textbook is constructed to elicit one-word, yes or no answers.

The class includes an introduction to the Spanish language and grammar and pronunciation instruction. Participants will receive full vocabularies and formats for talking with patients about their social and family history, their past medical history, instructions for the physical examination, general treatment and follow-up.

This class will be followed by "Medical Spanish Part II," which will cover Chapters 8-15 of the textbook.

To register, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.
ECCE courses tap many interests

Whether it’s improving computer skills for work or personal use or learning the art of quilting, the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) offers a slate of classes throughout the year aimed at appealing to a variety of interests. To register for any of the non-credit courses, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

“Beginning Excel” will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, Sept. 26 and 28, with Shannon Burgin, director of information technology services, as the instructor. The fee is $110. Participants in the class will learn to build useful spreadsheets using easy-to-use techniques. Also included as class topics will be: functions, managing files, moving and copying and formatting. Students will learn how to use sample worksheets, multiple worksheets, easy-to-do graphs and drawing tools for special emphasis.

“Quilt 101: A Beginner’s Class” is planned from 9-11:30 a.m., Saturdays, Sept. 30, with Rhonda King as instructor. The fee is $165. This is a basic class about quilting not recommended for anyone above a beginner level. In this class, students will explore the basics of quilting, including but not limited to, color and fabric selection, cutting and piecing techniques and basic sewing machine usage. This knowledge will be put to use to complete a “Log Cabin” quilt top. Students should take the following items to class: a sewing machine, thread and scissors. At the second class meeting, students will need a rotary cutter and mat, quilt ruler and 10 percent cotton fabric.

“Yoga – All Levels” will be taught by Ken Zimmermann, nationally certified yoga instructor, from 5:30-7 p.m., Tuesdays, Sept. 12-Oct. 10, plus Wednesday, Oct. 18. The cost is $55. Whether or not you have studied yoga before, this course is designed to fit your needs. Zimmermann will guide you through this ancient practice at a level tailored to serve each individual. Yoga can aid strength, endurance and flexibility as well as increase energy. Many people find that a yoga practice can improve their concentration and at the same time help them deal more effectively with stress. Classes are done with an empty stomach (at least two hours since a meal) and in bare feet. Clothing should allow freedom of movement (shorts or tights).

Consultant to visit REED Center

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), has expanded the times he will be available at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center (REED) in Martin. In September, he will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Sept. 14, and 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sept. 21.

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 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 920 University St., Martin, TN 38237.

UT Martin Wildlife Society is national chapter of the year

The University of Tennessee at Martin Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society recently was named the national chapter of the year—the second time in recent years—from a field of 94 university student chapters in North America.

“I am proud to learn of the well-deserved selection of UT Martin’s Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society as the National Student Chapter of the Year,” said Alan Peterson, Tennessee State Chapter of The Wildlife Society president.

“This is an exceptional example of the outstanding record of the UT Martin Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society,” said Dr. Jerry Gresham, UT Martin Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources chair. “This fine group of young people and their adviser, Dr. Eric Pelren, exemplify the spirit of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources as all our faculty and students strive for excellence in their chosen fields.”

“They have worked hard and contributed in a significant way to their profession and to our community.”

During the award year, the student chapter worked with diverse entities.

It hosted workshops and coordinated with employees from several conservation organizations, including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Missouri Department of Conservation, Farm Service Agency, National Wild Turkey Federation, Quail Unlimited and Delta Waterfowl.

The chapter also interacted with various wildlife professionals and other student chapters through the annual meetings of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the National and State Wildlife Society Meetings and the Southeastern Wildlife Conclave. Also, the chapter has received publicity during the year through magazine articles submitted by members, local articles covering habitat management projects and through its volunteered assistance with conservation events and fund raisers.

The UT Martin Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society was chartered in 1989.

TWS is the primary professional organization of wildlife scientists and managers, with a global membership around 10,000. It was founded in 1937, is an international not-for-profit scientific and educational association dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. The mission is to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, sustain productivity and ensure responsible use of wildlife resources.
Faculty elected to national advisory board

Dr. Joan K. West, director of the Office of Research, Grants and Contracts at the University of Tennessee at Martin, recently was elected to the advisory board of the Grants Resource Center (GRC) in Washington, D.C. Serving a two-year term on the board, effective July 1, West joins eight other advisory board members from U.S. colleges and universities in supporting the GRC, a component of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). AASCU represents more than 400 public colleges, universities and systems of higher education throughout the United States and its territories. The GRC supports the realization of institutional goals and program development initiatives through timely and detailed information on funding opportunities, personalized support to meet specific campus needs and promotion of networking among sponsored programs professionals.

Dr. West will be one of two representatives of public, four-year institutions of higher education with a full-time enrollment between 5,000 and 10,000 students. Since her arrival at UT Martin, external funding has increased from $2.6 million per year to almost $11 million annually and indirect cost recovery has increased by 400 percent. In her capacity as director, West also is the chief research officer and the compliance officer for the university. She also is a graduate faculty member in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at UT Martin, and is a member of the Fiscal Policies Advisory Task Force and the COEUS Task Force for the UT System.

In 2004, she was awarded the Outstanding Administrative Award by the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education for her contributions to the university. West has numerous papers, presentations and workshops to her credit and recently co-authored a manuscript published in the spring 2006 Special Edition of the College Student Affairs Journal. She and a colleague were successful in securing funding for a new business venture in West Tennessee through USDA with a grant proposal that was ranked No. 1 out of 379 submitted nationally. West serves on the advisory board for the Carl Perkins Child Advocacy Group for Weakley and Obion counties and is a member of the American Educational Research Association, the Mid-South Education Research Association and Phi Delta Kappa.

"These are exciting and challenging times in the world of grant-seeking," said West. "We do not secure external funding alone. Being a member of the GRC Advisory Board will provide me opportunities to develop a stronger collegiality with research officers and sponsored programs directors from all the AASCU member institutions."

This opportunity will also allow me to mentor others who may be just starting their careers in the external funding environment."

UTM CLASS OF 1956 HONORED — Martin Mayor Randy Brundige (right) presents a proclamation to Dr. Phil Watkins honoring Class of 1956 members, who were welcomed Aug. 11-12 as UT Martin Golden Grads. Each year, the university’s Office of Alumni Relations invites the 50-year reunion class back to campus. Class members receive a special 50-year pin and medallion and participate in activities hosted by Chancellor Nick Dunagan and his wife, Cathy. Pictured for the proclamation presentation are (from left) Dr. Nick Dunagan; Watkins, retired vice chancellor of student affairs and a member of the 1956 class; Mayor Randy Brundige; and Andrea Loughry, of Murfreesboro, newly elected vice chair of the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees and a UT Martin alumna.

UT MARTIN GOLDEN GRADS — Phillip Watkins of Martin (center) is welcomed as a University of Tennessee at Martin Golden Grad by Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, and his wife, Cathy. This year’s Golden Grad reunion was held Aug. 11-12 and honored the Class of 1956 with a series of activities hosted by the Dunagans. Each year, the university’s Office of Alumni Relations invites the 50-year reunion class back to campus. Besides a reception, dinner and tour, class members receive a special 50-year pin and medallion and are special guests at summer commencement.
Martin's university named 'Best Southeastern College' by The Princeton Review

Some of the best measures of a university's effectiveness in carrying out its mission are found in comments made by the students.

University of Tennessee at Martin students are quick to cite what's "right" with West Tennessee's only public, four-year institution outside of Memphis, and some of their comments are included in the recently released student opinion data in The Princeton Review.

UT Martin was named a "Best Southeastern College" by The Princeton Review for 2007.

"University of Tennessee at Martin is one of 146 schools ... receiving our "Best in the Southeast" designation, said Robert Franck, The Princeton Review publisher and editorial director.

"We believe these schools uphold the standards of our 'Best Southeastern College' distinction and provide students with a wide breadth of excellent schools to consider," he added.

With approximately 6,000 undergraduates (6,500 total enrollment), UT Martin "is big enough to get the full college experience, yet small enough to get one-on-one attention from your teachers," said one student responding to the survey.

Small average class sizes mean professors here can "take time to explain their goals for us so that we can understand each assignment and responsibility better," said another. "The teaching skills are great, and our professors really show that they have knowledge of what they're saying." Still another respondent said the school "offers a lot of additional help when needed to allow its students to excel."

Citing the variety of activities available on campus, one undergraduate said, "It all depends on how involved you want to get here." Overall, students love that it's "so easy to get involved" and that there is a "general friendliness" on the campus. "Students feel like they belong here ..." added another student.

"I am pleased that The Princeton Review has chosen to recognize UT Martin in its new ranking," said Dr. Nick Dunagan, university chancellor. "Our students do the best job of telling the university's story, and these comments accurately reflect the experiences that many of them have at UT Martin."

STUDENT RECEIVES LEADERSHIP AWARD FROM UT MARTIN - The Paul and Martha Meek Award was presented at the recent University of Tennessee at Martin commencement exercises to Emre Serbest. Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for student affairs, presented the award, which is the only one announced during commencement exercises. It is a cash award given to graduating seniors who demonstrate outstanding qualities of leadership while at UT Martin. The award is made possible by the children of Paul and Martha Meek. Serbest received a bachelor of science degree in business administration. A native of Turkey, Serbest served as president of the International Student Association for two consecutive terms and as a senator from the College of Business and Public Affairs in the Student Government Association. He received the 2006 International Friendship Award.
Social studies workshop focuses on enhancing American history education

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of History and Philosophy in conjunction with the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) will sponsor the 28th annual Social Studies Teachers' Workshop. Slated to begin at 9 a.m., Sept. 9, in Room 206, Boling University Center, at UT Martin, the workshop will offer sessions on history and the news media, presidential backgrounds and decisions, the Vietnam War, prehistoric settlements of the Central Mississippi River Valley and defining democracy.

Registration for the event is $20 and includes refreshments, lunch and handouts. This workshop conforms to guidelines for continuing education units. Attendance at the entire workshop carries 5 CEU credit. To register, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, or 881-7082, or e-mail: ecce@utm.edu. Make checks payable to UT Martin.

Five presentations are planned.

* "Our Natives' Narrative: Myths and the Mississippi" will be presented by Helmut Wenz, UT Martin professor of geography.

The prehistoric settlement patterns of the Central Mississippi River Valley during the Mississippian time period (900-1650 A.D.) will be the focus of this presentation. Primary emphasis will be on the cultural and regional distribution of the technologies and resources of the region.

* "Role-Playing, Reflecting and Writing History through the News Media" is the title of the presentation by Dr. Alice-Catherine Carl, UT Martin professor of history. The news media's treatment of historical themes can be used to awaken students' sense of history, to make the past come alive and to clarify identity and values. The here-and-now of the news not only is relevant to students' lives, but also helps them to touch the past and to model the future. The presentation examines a variety of media sources and models several assignments, including individual and group activities.

* "Presidential Backgrounds, Presidential Decisions" will be presented by Don Roe, Jackson North Side High School teacher. Roe will discuss a project he completed, a multi-media presentation considering how the backgrounds of selected presidents have affected the decision-making process in several critical events in American history.

* "Revisiting the Vietnam War" is the presentation planned by Dr. David Barber, UT Martin assistant professor of history. The Vietnam War, too often, is taken out of its larger historical context and presented as something isolated from the United States' broader foreign policy in the post-war era. Moreover, historians present this history as something isolated from Vietnam's history. This presentation will emphasize these broader concerns in the teaching of the Vietnam War.

* "Defining Democracy under the Constitution" will be presented by Dr. Richard Chesette, UT Martin professor of political science, and Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin professor of history. Current President George Bush has based his foreign policy on promoting "democracy" which he claims to be the God-given right of every man. The topic of this presentation will be to see if President Thomas Jefferson's and President Abraham Lincoln's concepts of democracy are in alignment with that of President Bush's.

For more information, call the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education at 881-7082 or (800) 482-5199.

The University of Tennessee, Martin has announced the undergraduate students from the Millington and Tipton County area who have been named to the Dean's List: Anna R. Beaver of Brighton, Rachel W. Bibb of Munford, Sara E. Douglas of Millington, Jenna L. Howard of Brighton, Ashley R. Greggs of Burlison, Rosalyn M. Lake of Millington, John B. Mosley of Covington and William R. Seay of Mason.

Six Tipton County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were: Jenna Lee Howard from Brighton; Amanda Rena Channell, Josh G. Huffman, John Bryce Mosely, Bradley Wayne Sartain from Covington and Jessica Marie Cleaves from Munford.
Professional accounting skills workshop slated for Sept. 19-20

A workshop is planned for persons who want to improve professional accounting skills, Sept. 19-20, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Offered by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) and the UT Martin Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and International Business, the workshop will be in Room 111, Boling University Center.

Sixteen UT Martin professors will staff the workshop that will provide participants with 16 continuing professional education (CPE) credits. The first day begins at 7:30 a.m., with refreshments and a 7:50 a.m. welcome by Dr. Ernest Moser, dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and ends at 4:40 p.m. Second-day sessions begin at 8 a.m. and end at 3:50 p.m.

Session topics include: auditing updates, goal setting, property appraising, technology issues, certified management accountant professional designation, retirement planning, market orientation and future changes in accounting. Others include: a tax update, information systems for accountants, the chartered financial analyst program, economic update, current issues in accounting education, financial accounting, the ethical implications of cheating, financial/managerial accounting tax and auditing and information systems.

To register or for additional information, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082. Registration prior to Sept. 12 is $160; after that date, it is $170. Checks should be made payable to UT Martin.

Instructors include the following:
Shannon Burgin is UT Martin Information Technology Services director and chief information officer. She has a bachelor’s degree in computer science and systems programming from Purdue University and a master’s degree in business administration from UT Martin.
Jim Green, certified public accountant (C.P.A.), certified management accountant (C.M.A.), is an instructor at UT Martin. He has a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Arkansas and 30 years of experience with Fortune 500 companies. He teaches various accounting and economics courses.
Dr. Richard Griffin, C.M.A., is a professor of accounting. He earned his doctorate from the University of Mississippi and teaches managerial and advanced accounting.
Dr. Mahmoud Haddad is a professor of finance. Having earned his doctorate from the University of Alabama, Haddad teaches in the area of corporate finance and investments.
Dr. Bob Hearin is an associate professor of business law. He earned his doctorate of jurisprudence from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
Steve Holt is assistant director of Information Technology Services and UT Martin webmaster. He has a master’s degree in business administration from UT Martin, and is an instructor of computer science and information systems.
Dr. Angie MacKewn is assistant professor of psychology. Her doctorate is from York University in Toronto, Canada, and she teaches experimental psychology, learning and cognition and health psychology.
Dr. Paula Moore is an assistant professor of accounting and business law. She earned her doctorate of jurisprudence from the University of Memphis, and she teaches financial accounting, business law and taxation.
Dr. Tom Payne is a professor of finance and holds the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking at UT Martin. His doctorate is from the University of Arkansas, and he teaches banking and finance.
Dr. Bob Putman, C.P.A., is a professor of accounting. He earned his doctorate from the University of Memphis and teaches financial/managerial accounting.
Andy Rivers is UT Martin IT Services Security Administrator. He has a bachelor’s degree in business administration – management information systems from UT Martin and presently is enrolled in the master of telecommunications systems management program at Murray State University.
Darrell Simmons is a UT Martin Department of Public Safety lieutenant and detective. He has a master’s degree in public administration from Murray State University and is an instructor of political science at UT Martin.
Dr. Dan Tracy is an assistant professor of management. He earned his doctorate from Washington State University, and his teaching expertise is in the area of operations and production planning and control.
Dr. Ken VanVuren, C.P.A., C.M.A., is an assistant professor of accounting. His doctorate is from the University of Mississippi, and he teaches managerial and auditing courses.
Dr. Richard Williams, C.P.A., is an associate professor of accounting. He earned his doctorate from the University of Arkansas and teaches undergraduate and graduate financial accounting.
Dr. Phil Young is a professor of finance and holds the Hendrix Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise at UT Martin. He received his doctorate from the University of Arkansas and teaches corporate finance, investments, money and banking and economics.
Thursday's News Summary is ready for viewing at:
http://knxln.ips.utk.edu/prnews.nsf

User name - webnews
Password - utnews

Today's Headlines
WBIR: UT freshmen enroll as best academically
WBIR: Dispute puts $23 million renovation project on hold
Smoky Mountain Herald: UT to receive educational opportunity center funding
Chattanoogan.com: Bettered By Our Neighbors
Memphis Commercial Appeal: August 24, 2006, UT program mentioned
JacksonSun: JSCC-UTM partnership is good for everyone
WAFFNews: Bush names Haslam to Kennedy Center board, UT trustee mentioned
MetroPulse: Peripheral Arts, UT professor quoted
Your Health Daily: Easier Tuneups for Defibrillators, UT professor quoted
The Tennessean: Pleasant View couple endows a cow, UT donation

If you have comments or forget your password or user name, call the University of Tennessee Public Relations Office at 865-974-2225, or e-mail us at utnews@tennessee.edu.

If you know someone who would like to receive the daily UT news summary, they can subscribe by sending an e-mail to: "listserv@listserv.utk.edu" with this message in the subject line and body of the text: subscribe newssumm

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West Tenn. colleges ranked among best

Union University, Freed-Hardeman University are among schools listed

By TAJUANA CHERIER	
tchesnier@jacksonsun.com

Several West Tennessee colleges have been ranked among top Southern schools in two annual reports.

Union University for the 10th consecutive year was named one of the South's top-tier universities in the U.S. News & World Report America's Best Colleges 2007, according to a press release. Union ranked 25th in the Southern Universities — Master's category.

"We are very excited about the 2007 U.S. News & World Report rankings," Union President David S. Dockery said in the release. "To be listed as a top-tier institution in the appropriate category for 10 straight years in an amazing tribute to the quality of Union University's educational programs."

In the same category, Freed-Hardeman University ranked 50th, and the University of Tennessee Martin was 56th.

On the Net


In the Comprehensive College category, Lambuth University ranked 27th.

Lane College was ranked in tier four of the liberal arts college category nationwide.

Bethel College did not complete U.S. News and World Report's survey, according to the U.S. News Web site. UT Martin, Freed-Hardeman and Lane also were named among 146 "Best Southeastern Colleges" by the Princeton Review for 2007. The Princeton Review lists are based on students' comments about various aspects of their schools.

"I am pleased that The Princeton Review has chosen to recognize UT Martin in its new ranking," UT Martin Chancellor Nick Dunagan said in a press release. "Our students do the best job of telling the university's story, and these comments accurately reflect the experiences that many of them have at UT Martin."

"We believe these schools uphold the standards of our 'Best Southeastern College' distinction and provide students with a wide breadth of excellent schools to consider," said Robert Franek, The Princeton Review publisher and editorial director.

Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.

— Tajuana Cheshire, 425-9643

Winchester attends meeting on UT strategic plan

Dr. John Petersen, University of Tennessee president, unveiled a new university strategic plan Aug. 8 during a visit to the University of Tennessee at Martin. The stop was one of several throughout the UT system to explain the plan that includes long-range goals for more Tennessee students to finish their degrees and for research that supports economic development in the state. Among those talking to Petersen, left, at the meeting were Katie Winchester, former member of the UT Development Council; and Don Pennington, UT Martin 21st Century Capital Campaign.
Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center, has expanded the times he will be available at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center in Martin. In September, he will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Sept. 14, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sept. 21.

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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 920 University St. in Martin.

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

ENDOWMENT HONORS PROFESSORS — Drs. Wintfred Smith and Andy Sliger, University of Tennessee at Martin professors emeriti of biological sciences, and the late Dr. Wes Henson, professor of biological sciences, recently were honored by Drs. John and Lily Van Dyck, of Paris, with the establishment of an endowment for undergraduate research at Reelfoot Lake. Present for the announcement were, from left, Sliger, Smith, Van Dyck and Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor.

AIREE IS PRESENTER AT CHEMICAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE IN KOREA — Dr. S.K. Airee, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of chemistry, has been recognized as a Fellow of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). He participated in the 19th International Conference on Chemical Education (ICCE) in Seoul, Korea, from Aug. 10-18. He was a presenter at the Green Chemistry symposium at ICCE. Thirty-six countries were represented at the conference that was sponsored by IUPAC. Also, Airee was recipient of an award, sponsored by the National Science Foundation Research Site for Educators in Chemistry (RSEC), to conduct research during the summer at UT Knoxville, to fund submission of a grant application and to provide $2,000 for a UT Martin student to continue the research.

GOLDEN GRAD — Bob Parkins of Milan (center) is welcomed as a University of Tennessee at Martin Golden Grad by Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, and his wife, Cathy. This year’s Golden Grad reunion was held Aug. 11-12 and honored the Class of 1956 with a series of activities hosted by the Dunagans. Each year, the university’s Office of Alumni Relations invites the 50-year reunion class back to campus. Besides a reception, dinner and tour, class members receive a special 50-year pin and medallion and are special guests at summer commencement.
Memories are important but dreams are vital to growth of university

The context of the last sentence from Thomas Friedman’s best-seller, “The World is Flat,” points to the importance of having more dreams than memories. While memories, like the experiences that make them, are vital, Dr. Nick Dunagan, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, told those attending the annual opening faculty meeting that dreams about what UT Martin can be and accomplish for individuals and the region “are even more important.”

Instead of dwelling on memories, Dunagan suggested that as faculty members prepare for a new academic year, they use UT Martin’s memories to build the future.

Dunagan cited several memories that remain from the 2005-06 academic year, such as UT Martin being named the fastest-growing public university in the state, the university with the highest student satisfaction rating among four-year public institutions in the state and the campus with the highest faculty and staff rating in the University of Tennessee System.

“These are all good things that should make us feel a sense of pride,” said Dunagan. “But, the more important question is what are we going to do tomorrow? Where are we going to be next year and the years after that. What are our dreams for UT Martin?”

The chancellor drew from the UT System strategic plan recently announced by UT President Dr. John Petersen, adding, “We will be challenged to develop into a campus that helps fulfill that dream of what Tennessee should receive from its premier higher education system. His six goals provide a perfect framework for our dreams.”

To fulfill the goals of student access and student success, Dunagan said, “Let’s dream of a Tennessee with 30 percent of its adult population with a college degree instead of the current 21 percent and a UT Martin with a six-year graduation rate of 60 percent instead of 48 percent.”

Promoting the goal of economic development, he added, “Let’s dream how we can build this region, assist our region to take advantage of the economic impact of I-69 and prepare our students for advanced study or professions and jobs of the next decade.”

Likewise, Dunagan asked faculty members about their aspirations to meet the goal of research. “How do we illustrate that high-quality teaching is best achieved by faculty who are continually engaged in scholarly research and professional development? As a university we must be ready to provide the resources to make this possible for our faculty.”

Turning to the goal of outreach, the chancellor highlighted the many ways in which various departments extend the university beyond its physical boundaries by hosting thousands of high school students on campus each year, by promoting partnerships with public and private entities and by securing grants that enhance existing resources.

Finally, turning to the sixth goal of globalization, Dunagan said, “My dream, and hopefully yours, is that each and every class taught would have a tie into how that particular subject matter is taught, perceived, or valued across the world.

“As we begin this academic year my request is simple,” Dunagan said. “Let’s cherish those fond memories of the past and learn from them, but, more importantly, as we welcome 41 new faculty and more than 6,600 students this year, let’s all dream together about what we want to happen in the future. Whether those dreams turn into reality depends on all of us.”
Coordinator to assist students in pre-professional health science

Karen Martin, who has extensive experience in advising and supporting students interested in pre-professional programs, has been named coordinator for Pre-professional Health Science Programs, college marketing and student internships in the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

As part of the position, Martin will work with the UT Health Science Center and other health science institutions to better prepare UT Martin students for admission to professional schools. Her responsibilities include recruiting students, coordinating student/family campus visits, managing a pre-professional database, monitoring student progress, coordinating major/health science curricula, counseling and advising and coordinating professional school interviews for students.

"Following the rigors of a national search, I am delighted that Karen Martin has joined the team in our college," said Dr. Doug Sterrett, UT Martin College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean. "Her role in this new position strengthens our pre-professional health science programs and many other aspects of this college. Based on her excellent credentials and experience, I am confident that the success rate of our students will improve over the next few years," Sterrett added.

"I am honored and excited to be at UT Martin," said Martin. "I hope to build on the very excellent work already done with the Pre-professional Health Science Program and make it the 'place to come in Tennessee' if you want to be a health care professional."

Martin, a Georgia native, is a graduate of Medical College of Georgia, with a bachelor of science degree in nursing. She received a master's degree in developmental education from Appalachian State University, Nashville State Tech Community College and Fisk University. Martin has worked as director of a science learning center and an adviser for science majors, single parents and at-risk students. Recently, she worked at Southeastern Career College (an affiliate of Kaplan Higher Education) teaching medical assistants.

She is a charter member and former board member of the Tennessee Center for Nursing, former member of the Governor's Council on Diabetes and a Barnes ONE Scholarship Committee member, mentoring at-risk college students. She is a volunteer and programs committee member of the Mid South Lupus Foundation. She was a presenter on non-traditional college students at the University of South Carolina, earned a Developmental Education Certificate from Appalachian State University and has tutored nursing students who are in online degree programs. Martin has presented faculty development workshops on learning styles, cognitive science and how students take tests. She has served as a presenter on test taking for the College of Engineering, Tennessee State University, and taught test taking for pre-professional students at Fisk University. Also, she has served as coordinator of the Tennessee SEARCH Program, which places graduate health professions students in underserved areas for service learning opportunities. Her post master's degree work has been in biology, specifically, how neurobiology informs and affects learning.

UT Martin Names Local Students to Spring Semester Dean's List

MARTIN, Tenn. - The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2006 Dean’s List for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for dean's list recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the dean's list with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Drew R. Cunningham, Atwood, Highest Honors; Jordan M. Nielsen, Atwood, High Honors; Brandy R. Morrow, Hollow Rock, High Honors; Mary V. Bybee, Huntington, Highest Honors; Lisa R. Powell, Huntington, High Honors; Robyn N. Eubanks, Lavinia, Honors; Joe D. Wilkinson, McKenzie, High Honors;
UT Martin freshmen experience life away from home

AT THE ROUNDTABLE — Pep leaders (from left) Drew Landerman of Atoka, Meagan Drye of Jackson and Karien Swarthout of Franklin get to know businesses in Martin during the Welcome Freshmen Back to School bash held by the city last Thursday in the Tom and Kathleen Elam Center on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

FREEBIES — UTM freshmen filter into the Elam Center last Thursday to get acquainted with local businesses and see just what Martin has to offer for the students looking for a home away from home. Businesses set up tents for the students with information about the business, complimentary items and food. Students spent the evening visiting, eating and enjoying entertainment.
New faculty introduced at fall meeting

Forty-one lecturers, instructors, assistant professors and associate professors have been appointed to the faculty at the University of Tennessee at Martin for the fall semester. In addition to those who are joining the faculty, there are a number of others who have assumed new responsibilities.

Speaking at the annual fall faculty meeting, Aug. 22, Dr. Thomas A. Rakes, UT Martin provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, cited quality programs and higher standards as hallmarks of the UT Martin campus. "It just keeps getting better," said Rakes, who encouraged those in attendance to expect a continued "focus on quality instruction with consideration for the perspectives of others" as the new year begins.

Rakes noted the importance of a connection between the university and its students. "But, we also have to be connected to parents, the community and other stakeholders." Providing "value-added service" is what makes this campus different," he added. "This will be an exciting year."

Among faculty members recognized at the meeting were:

Dr. Mira Ahn, assistant professor of interior design; Dr. Pamela S. Anderson, assistant professor of health and human performance; Diane L. Austin, assistant professor of nursing; Dr. Ervin Briones, assistant professor of psychology; John P. Bush, lecturer of mathematics; Dr. David Cartithers, assistant professor of English; Dr. Eugene D. Carstea, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Christopher K. Coffman, assistant professor of English; Bradley G. Cook, instructor of music; Jennifer Hill Cook, lecturer of education; Dr. Becky J. Cox, assistant professor of education; Dr. Betty A. Cox, assistant professor of education administration and supervision; and Charyl A. Craddock, lecturer of mathematics.

Others include: Dr. Richard Dodgson, assistant professor of history; Brian W. Donavan, assistant professor of criminal justice; Dr. Stan P. Dunagan, assistant professor of geology; Gordon E. Elliott, lecturer of social work; Dr. C. Bryan Foltz, assistant professor of information systems; Dr. Jennifer L. Greenwood, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Charles Hammond, assistant professor of German; A. Melanie Hollis, lecturer of theatre; Dr. Nathan D. Howard, assistant professor of history; Dr. Arthur W. Hunt III, assistant professor of communications; Dr. Nola S. Jones, assistant professor of music and director of bands; Dr. Michael J. Kemp, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Ashley J. Kilburn, assistant professor of marketing; Dr. Linghong Li, assistant professor of physics; Linda W. Luther, faculty associate, department of nursing; and Dr. Elizabeth A. McClellan, assistant professor of geology.

Rounding out the list are: Dr. Sandra S. Murray, assistant professor of education administration and supervision; R. Shawn Nanney, lecturer of political science; Sandy G. Orr, assistant professor of library science; Dr. Elizabeth A. Powell, assistant professor of English; Dr. Jeffery M. Ray, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Timothy A. Russell, assistant professor of political science; L. Jeffrey Seaton, instructor of management; Michael W. Spaulding, lecturer of instructional technology; Jason T. Stout, assistant professor of art; Dr. Kathleen M. Vandenberg, assistant professor of English; Dr. Brian C. Wagner, assistant professor of mathematics; and Dr. David M. Williams, lecturer of English.

UTM names local students to dean's list

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the summer 2006 dean's lists for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.

Deuk Hwan, Campus Mail, Honors; Chi-Yun Huang, Campus Mail, High Honors; Won-Ki Lee, Campus Mail, Honorable Mention; Amanda N. Young of Dresden, Honors; Janie O. Dillard of Gleason, Highest Honors; Carrie C. Joyner of Gleason, Highest Honors; Christopher M. Barker of Martin, High Honors; Melinda E. Bray of Martin, Honorable Mention; Scott O. Chadwick of Martin, High Honors; Jason C. Davis of Martin, Highest Honors; Nicholas D. Dilda of Martin, Highest Honors; Sherree E. Finney of Martin, High Honors; Cristina M. Grimm of Martin, Honors; Walter R. Harris of Martin, Highest Honors; Stacie E. Hawks of Martin, High Honors; Courtne L. Higgs of Martin, Honors; Wen Hui Huang of Martin, Honorable Mention; Lindy M. Johnson of Martin, Highest Honors; Lorie K. Mallari of Martin, Highest Honors; Sara M. McIntosh of Martin, Highest Honors; Heather M. Peterson of Martin, Honors; Candace J. Pittman of Martin, Honors; Ayeshas M. Smith of Martin, Honorable Mention; Julie L. Vantress of Martin, Highest Honors; Jonathan C. Wilbanks of Martin, Highest Honors; Yong Sik Youn of Martin, High Honors; Krystle M. Smith of Palmersville, Highest Honors; Daniel W. Bartley of Sharon, Highest Honors; and Cassie M. Hickey of Sharon, Honors.
CCNA program offered by ECCE

The Cisco Networking Academy Program is being offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE). The program teaches networking and IT skills to students and workers worldwide who are interested in expanding their IT knowledge or starting a career in the high-tech industry.

Instruction is planned Tuesdays and Thursdays, with CCNA 1 offered Sept. 12-Nov. 16; CCNA 2, Nov. 28-Feb. 22; CCNA 3, March 6-May 8; and CCNA 4, May 22-Aug. 2. Breaks are set for Dec. 18-Jan. 7 and from July 1-8.

CCNA is a comprehensive curriculum that includes four separate courses. These courses cover the learning objectives of the CCNA certification exam, which is the first step in a Cisco career certification path. The curriculum emphasizes the use of decision-making and problem-solving techniques to resolve networking issues.

Students learn how to install and configure Cisco switches and routers in local and wide-area networks using various protocols, provide Level 1 troubleshooting service and improve network performance and security. Additionally, training is provided in the proper care, maintenance and use of networking software tools and equipment.

The Cisco Networking Academy combines a variety of instructor-led lectures and hands-on lab exercises to give students a broad working knowledge of networking concepts and skills. CCNA Courses 1 through 4 of the academy program, equivalent to 280 hours of instruction, provide students with a basic foundation in networking. Students who successfully complete this portion of the program are eligible to earn Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA™) certification. The CCNA™ certification is globally recognized as a leading IT certification.

The CCNA certification course features the following courses:

- CCNA 1 – Networking basics, basics of ethernet technologies, cabling LANs and WANs, network media, basics of TCP/IP and IP addressing, routing fundamentals; CCNA 2 – routers and routing basics, basics of configuring routers, routing protocols, access control lists, networking troubleshooting skills; CCNA 3 – switching basics and intermediate routing, VLSM, basics of OSPF and EIGRP, switch concepts and configuration, spanning-tree protocol, VLANs and VTP; and CCNA 4 – WAN technologies, ISDN and DDR, frame relay, PPP, WAN technologies, NAT, PAT and DHCP.

Andy Rivers, instructor, is UT Martin security administrator. He has a bachelor's degree in business administration – management information systems from UT Martin and presently is enrolled in the master of telecommunications systems management program at Murray State University. He currently holds several IT certifications including A+, Net+, Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA), and GIAC Certified Windows Security Administrator. He also created, implemented and taught the security awareness program for the UT Martin campus.

Registration fee is $750 for each course. There is a 10 percent discount available if registration, including payment, is completed for all four courses prior to Sept. 11. For more information about this course, contact Rivers at arrivers@utm.edu. To register, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Wednesday, August 30, 2006

A number of Obion County area students have been named to the Dean’s List for the summer semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The honorees include Brandi A. Barrigher of Union City, high honors; Dinah JoBeth "D.J." Caudle of Union City, highest honors; Frankie LeAnn Cheatham of Union City, highest honors; Lisa L. Glass of Union City, high honors; Jon L. Jorge of Union City, highest honors; Amy N. Kendall of Union City, honors; Mary B. McManus of Union City, highest honors; Ronald B. Poole of Kenton, highest honors; and Christopher J. Underwood of Union City, honors.

To be eligible for Dean’s List recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Dean’s List with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

FOOD, FUN, FELLOWSHIP — Martin Mayor Randy Brundige (left) and Dr. Thomas Rakes, University of Tennessee at Martin first provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, enjoy food and fellowship during the city of Martin’s Back to School event at the Elam Center on Thursday evening. The event helps welcome freshmen to Martin and allow them to see what services are available to them within the city of Martin.
UTM acknowledges local students

The University of Tennessee at Martin has announced a list of Henry Countians who either have received scholarships, graduated after the summer semester or are listed on the summer dean's list.

Receiving McWhorter Freshman scholarships are Lindsey James, Summer Merrell, Mina Bates and Justin Crouch.

Miss James is the daughter of Joey and Tammy James of Springville.

Miss Merrell is the daughter of Doreta Watkins of Paris and Michael Merrell of Puryear.

Miss Bates is the daughter of Richard and Valerie Bates of Springville.

Crouch is the son of Terry and Diana Crouch of Paris.

Three Henry Countians received degrees during the recent summer commencement at UTM.

Earning undergraduate degrees were Judy Bain and Lawrence Wiles, both of Paris.

Lydia Marie Cox of Puryear received a graduate degree.

Andrea Loughry, vice chairman of the UT board of trustees, was the keynote speaker.

Three other countians are listed on the university's summer 2006 semester dean's list.

Nicki J. Parris of Paris was listed with highest honors. Emily E. Fuqua of Cottage Grove was listed with high honors. Steven S. Savage was listed with honors.

Those listed with highest honors earned a grade-point average from 3.8-4.0; with high honors, 3.5-3.79; and with honors, 3.2-3.49.

To make the list, students must take at least 12 credit hours with no pass-fail courses.

UTM HONORS GOLDEN GRADS: The University of Tennessee at Martin honored the Class of 1956 with a Golden Grad reunion. The event was held Aug. 11-12. The event was comprised of a series of activities hosted by UT Martin chancellor Dr. Nick Dunagan and his wife Cathy. Each year, the university's Office of Alumni Relations invites the 50-year reunion class back to campus. Besides a reception, dinner and tour, class members receive a special 50-year pin and medallion and are special guests at summer commencement. Area attendees, pictured with the Dunagans, were Henry Farrar Jr. (left) of Newbern and Billy Stafford of Dyersburg.
Local residents receive degrees from UTM

Nine Dyer County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UTM campus.

UTM Board of Trustees vice chair Andrea Loughry was the keynote speaker. UTM president Dr. John D. Petersen attended the ceremony and congratulated the graduates. UTM chancellor Dr. Nick Dunagan presided and conferred degrees.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

Dyersburg - Leslie Carol Frazier, Tiffany Nicole Glenn, Mary Beth Norris, Jane Allson Walker and Jessica Lee Wilson.

Newbern - Vida Susanna Boyd, Sherritta C. Fitzhugh and Cynthia Louise McDonald.

Elizabeth Jordan Moore of Dyersburg received a graduate degree.

ECCE courses tap various interests

Whether it's improving computer skills for work or personal use or learning the art of quilting, the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) offers a slate of classes throughout the year aimed at appealing to a variety of interests. To register for any of the non-credit courses, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.

*Beginning Excel* will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, September 26 and 28, with Shannon Burgin, director of information technology services, as the instructor. Tuition is $110. Participants in the class will learn to use Excel to build useful spreadsheets using easy-to-use techniques. Also included as class topics will be: functions, managing files, moving and copying and formatting.

Students will learn how to use sample worksheets, multiple worksheets, easy-to-do graphs and drawing tools for special emphasis.

*Quilt 101: A Beginner's Class* is planned from 9-11:30 a.m., Saturdays, September 9-30, with Rhonda King as instructor. The fee is $165. This is a basic class about quilting not recommended for anyone above a beginner level. In this class, students will explore the basics of quilting, including but not limited to, color and fabric selection, cutting and piecing techniques and basic sewing machine usage. This knowledge will be put to use to complete a "Log Cabin" quilt top. Students should take the following items to class: a sewing machine, thread and scissors. At the second class meeting, students will need a rotary cutter and mat, quilt ruler and 100 percent cotton fabric.

*Yoga-All Levels* will be taught by Ken Zimmerman, nationally certified yoga instructor, from 5:30-7 p.m., Tuesdays, September 12-October 10, plus Wednesday, October 18. The cost is $55. Whether or not you have studied yoga before, this course is designed to fit your needs. Zimmerman will guide you through this ancient practice at a level tailored to serve each individual. Yoga can aid strength, endurance and flexibility as well as increase energy. Many people find that a yoga practice can improve their concentration and at the same time help them deal more effectively with stress. Classes are done with an empty stomach (at least two hours since a meal) and in bare feet. Clothing should allow freedom of movement (shorts or tights).

UTM Dean's List is announced

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To be eligible for dean's list recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the dean's list with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

*Trenton*:
- Geoffrey A. Fuetes, high honors, and Jerry D. Robertson, high honors;
- Bradford: Shanna R. McCartney, honorable mention, and Bradley L. Tanner, high honors;
- Dyer: Ashley B. Johnson, high honors;
- Kenton: Ronald B. Poole, highest honors;
- Rutherford: Elizabeth P. Sample, high honors.

Local students earn degrees from UTM

Six Gibson County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

- Trenton: Tatoria Lakyui Dunlap;
- Bradford: Bradley L. Tanner;
- Dyer: Mary Jane Robinson Scott;
- Humboldt: Shelly Marie Walters;
- Milan: Lindy M. Johnson.

Among students receiving graduate degrees was:

- Dyer: Donald Eugene Sims.

Andrea Loughry, University of Tennessee Board of Trustees vice chair, was the keynote speaker, and Dr. John D. Petersen, president of the University of Tennessee, attended the ceremony and congratulated the graduates. Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, presided and conferred degrees.
UT Martin names local students to spring semester Dean’s List

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2006 Dean’s Lists for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for dean’s list recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the dean’s list with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79), or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Weakley County students making the Dean’s List include:
- Dresden - Amanda N. Young with honors
- Gleason - Janie O. Dillard with highest honors, Carrie C. Joyner with highest honors
- Martin - Christopher M. Baker with high honors, Melinda E. Bray honorable mention, Scott O. Chadwick with high honors, Jason C. Davis with highest honors, Nicholas D. Dilda with highest honors, Sheree E. Finney with high honors, Cristina M. Grimm with honors, Walter R. Harris with highest honors, Stacie E. Hawks with high honors, Courtney L. Higgs with honors, Wen Hui Huang with highest honors, Lindy M. Johnson with highest honors, Lorie K. Mallari with highest honors, Sara M. McIntosh with highest honors, Heather M. Peterson with honors, Candace J. Pittman with honors, Ayeshia M. Smith honorable mention, Julie L. Vantrease with highest honors, Jonathan C. Wilbanks with highest honors, Yong Sik Youn with high honors
- Pawsersville - Krystle M. Smith with high honors
- Sharon - Daniel W. Bartley with highest honors, and Cassie M. Hickey with honors.

University Trio, Yeung begin new Faculty Recital Series fall evening concerts at new start time

The University Trio and Dr. Amy Yeung will open a Faculty Recital Series with performances in September in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine and Performing Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

All evening concerts scheduled by the Department of Music have been changed to a 7:30 p.m. start. Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

The 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., September 12.

The trio’s program includes Libby Larsen’s “Barn Dances,” a contemporary treatment of hoedowns, honky-tonk music and cowboy dance steps; “The Complete Works of Shakespeare” by Adam Silverman, a minimalist piece with unusual piano timbres; and Jean Francaix’s witty and rollicking “Double Concerto,” which utilizes several additional members of the flute and clarinet family such as piccolo, alto flute, soprano and bass clarinet.

Harriss, UT Martin 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, UT Martin 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 recently released a solo CD featuring the music of Russell Ripee. Easley, UT Martin staff accompanist, is active as a soloist and collaborative pianist in the area.

An evening of love songs will be presented by Yeung. UT Martin assistant professor of music, at 7:30 p.m., September 25.

The program will begin with a Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s aria, "L’amore, sara costante" (I will love you) from "Il re pastore," followed by groups of love songs composed by several famous Italian, French, German, English and Spanish composers of the Romantic period and the early 20th century, including Gioacchino Rossini, Vincenzo Bellini, Georges Bizet, Richard Strauss, Roger Quilter, Fernando Obradors and many more. Yeung will be accompanied by Harriss on piano.

Yeung received her doctorate from Michigan State University and has performed extensively in concerts throughout Asian countries, including Taiwan, Malaysia, Korea and Hong Kong, as well as in the United States, Bulgaria and Germany. She is active as a soloist in this area, and teaches studio voice and directs a lyric opera theatre once every year at UT Martin.

Young Writers Conference hosted for students in grades 9-12

The University of Tennessee at Martin will host a Young Writers Conference, October 20. This one-day conference, designed for students in grades 9-12, offers a series of writing workshops taught by UT Martin faculty and visiting poet, Allison Joseph. Students can attend hands-on workshops in writing poetry, fiction and personal essays.

Other events during the 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. workshop at Bolling University Center include a luncheon, a featured reading by Joseph and an open mic reading for students who wish to share their own work. Throughout the day, students will have the opportunity to create pieces of writing, to connect with other young writers from the region and to learn from outstanding writers and teachers of writing.

Visiting poet Allison Joseph lives, writes and teaches in Carbondale, Illinois, where she is on the faculty of Southern Illinois University. She serves as editor of "Cabar Orchard Review," a national journal of creative works, and director of the Young Writers Workshop, a creative writing conference for high school-aged writers. Her books include "In Every Seam," "Imitation of Life" and "Worldly Pleasures."

Conference registration, including the luncheon is free and open to outstanding students recommended by their teachers on the basis of academic achievement and artistic promise. Teachers are encouraged, but are not required, to attend with their students. A brochure and registration forms are available online by visiting http://www.utm.edu/ywc or by contacting the UT Martin Department of English at 731-881-7300. Participants should register by October 1.

Students present art exhibit at UT Martin

University of Tennessee at Martin students, Kristy Marker, of Franklin, and Dana Bell, of Holladay, will be featured in a two-week art exhibit beginning with the official opening from 5:00-7:00 p.m., September 19, in the Fine Arts Gallery of the Fine and Performing Arts Building on campus. The exhibition may be viewed at any time. Marker is a graphic design major. Bell is an art education major. Both are seniors.
Schools welcome new educators and support staff for 2006-07 school year

**THEL TAYLOR**
Thel Taylor of Union City, a graduate of Union City High School who recently completed his master's degree in elementary education at UTM, is a second-grade teacher at UCES this year. He also earned his undergraduate degree in business administration from UTM. He is married to UCES preschool teacher Kim Taylor and attends Union City First United Methodist Church. The Taylors are the parents of Ginny, who is 10, and Will, who is 7.

The new elementary teacher is also a lifetime member of Union City Jaycees, a member of First Friends Preschool board of directors and is a girls' softball coach and member of the league board.

He has 10 years' experience in the multi-family housing industry, two years as a SO4 and ADA inspector and auditor and has also owned a local business. He has been a Kids' College teacher at UTM and has also taught fourth grade in Lauderdale County.

**JUDY WILSON**
Judy Wilson of Cayce, Ky., brings experience teaching at Fulton County (Ky.) High School and working as a University of Kentucky Extension Service agent for home economics in Fulton County to her new role at UCHS, where she is the Family and Consumer Science teacher and the Family, Careers and Community Leaders of America advisor.

Mrs. Wilson is married to Paul Wilson and is the mother of Jessie M. Rudy of Dyer and Nathan L. Wilson. She is a graduate of Walton-Verona High School in Walton, Ky., and the University of Kentucky in Lexington, where she earned her bachelor's degree in home economics.

She is a member of Mount Zion United Methodist Church near Union City and Women Involved in Rural Electrification. She has been honored as a "Kentucky Colonel" and has had training in culinary foods through Sullivan University in Louisville, Ky.

Her hobbies include reading and hunting.

**MICHELLE ARANT**
Michelle Arant of Martin is the new special education supervisor, preschool director and federal projects director for the Union City School System. She holds a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in teaching. She also holds a doctorate in education and instruction and curriculum, with emphasis in special education, from the University of Memphis.

Mrs. Arant is the wife of Jason Arant and the mother of Mason, who is 7 years old.

She has been an assistant professor and director of the special education program at UTM for the past 10 years and has taught middle school special education and sixth-grade language arts.

**LEAH JACKSON**
Leah Jackson, a resident of Union City, is teaching third grade at Union City Elementary School this year. She has been a substitute teacher in the Union City School System for three years and assumed the role of teacher in a third-grade class last spring when the regular teacher was on sick leave. She has been active as a parent in every aspect of her children's education in Union City schools.

Mrs. Jackson is a graduate of Bolivar Central High School and holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in education from the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is married to Lane Jackson and they are the parents of Union City Middle School eighth grader Hannah Jackson and UCMS sixth grader Claire Jackson. They are members of Union City Second Baptist Church.

Mrs. Jackson enjoys reading, camping, boating and attending activities in which her children are involved.

**DEBBIE WILSON**
Debbie Wilson, who makes her home in Martin and is a graduate of Dresden High School and UTM, where she earned both a bachelor's and master's degree, teaches fourth- and fifth-grade technology and will be the LEAP teacher at UCES.

She is married to Steve Wilson and is the parent of Rosie Washburn, Katie Hopper and Justin Wilson. She is an adjunct professor at UTM and has taught in the Weakley County School System for 16 years. She enjoys reading, gardening and crafting and is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma and Martin First Baptist Church.

**RHONDA GRIFFIN**
Rhonda Griffin of Rives is teaching fourth grade at UCES this year. A graduate of Obion County Central High School in Troy, she earned her bachelor's degree in education from UTM.

She is married to Kevin Griffin and the mother of 13-year-old Brandon Griffin. Mrs. Griffin has previously been employed at Edward Jones investment office.
MICHAEL HART

Michael Hart of Yorkville is the new UCHS physical education teacher. He is also coaching the UCHS freshmen boys basketball team and is the assistant UCHS boys basketball coach. He is a graduate of Lebanon (Mo.) High School and UTM, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in sociology.

He has been playing pro-basketball around the world for the past 10 years.

He is a member of Yorkville Church of Christ and is the husband of Christy Hart and the father of Madison, who is 2 1/2 years old, and Micah Hart, who is 9 months old. He enjoys hunting, fishing, sports and “anything outdoors.”

STACY WILSON

Stacy E. Wilson of Union City is an educational assistant in a UCES kindergarten class this year. She is a graduate of Fulton County High School in Hickman, Ky., and attended Murray State University in Kentucky and UTM. She has been an EA in the Fulton County school district for two years and has also been employed as a Wal-Mart Pharmacy certified technician for 10 years.

Mrs. Wilson is married to Charlie Wilson and is the mother of Hayden, 5, and Nolan, 4. She is a member of Bishop Street Church of Christ and the Union City J’Cettes and is a volunteer for Make-A-Wish Foundation.

JASON DEEM

Jason Deem of Trenton brings his experience in school music programs to UCHS and Union City Middle School from a previous position at Gibson County High School in Dyer. He is a graduate of GCHS and of UTM, where he earned a bachelor of music degree in music education and a master of science degree in education. He is working with band students beginning at the sixth-grade level and continuing through high school. He is married to Megan Deem and is the father of Makinlee, 2, and Kadence, 10 months old. He enjoys golf and fishing.

AMANDA HAYNES

Amanda Haynes of Union City, a graduate of OCCHS and UTM, where she earned both a bachelor of science degree in K-8 education and a master’s degree in library science, will be a second-grade teacher at UCES this year. She is the daughter of Mike and Emily Haynes of Union City and enjoys reading, swimming and riding horses.

BEN GLASGOW

Ben Glasgow of Union City, a graduate of UCHS and UTM, where he claimed a bachelor of science degree in education, with emphasis on history and government, is teaching U.S. History at UCHS and will be a member of the football coaching staff.

He is married to Julie Glasgow, who is a UCMS teacher, and is a member of Stanley’s Chapel United Methodist Church. He enjoys hunting, working out and music.

Local residents receive degrees from UT Martin

Seven McNairy County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Bethel Springs – Paula DeNae Durbin;
- Ramer – Erin Denise Brown;
- Selmor – Jeana Ballard Anderson, Sarah Nicole Bodiford;
- Stantonville – Kacey Michelle Broadway.

Among students receiving graduate degrees were:
- Ramer – Samantha Lynn Hall;
- Stantonville – Amber Leonard.

Andrea Loughry, University of Tennessee Board of Trustees vice chair, was the keynote speaker, and Dr. John D. Peterson, president of the University of Tennessee, attended the ceremony and congratulated the graduates. Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, presided and conferred degrees.

UT Martin names local students to spring semester Dean’s List

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2006 Dean’s Lists for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

Erin D. Brown, Ramer- Highest Honors
Patricia A. Derryberry, Ramer- Highest Honors
Amber L. Wharton, Selmor- Highest Honors
Ag courses offered by partnership

The University of Tennessee at Martin is joining with Jackson State Community College to support the agricultural industry by providing a steady stream of graduates. Beginning this fall, the two schools will partner to provide courses for an associate degree in agriculture at Jackson State. The initiative was announced at a press conference recently at Jackson State attended by JSCC, UT Martin, state and local officials. The arrangement will provide a full range of agriculture courses leading to the associate degree which will transfer seamlessly to UT Martin for the completion of a bachelor’s degree.

Because of low enrollment in its agriculture classes, Jackson State was considering phasing out the major. Loss of the program would have meant no community college agricultural education would have been offered in West Tennessee.

Through this unique partnership, the required classes for an associate degree will be taught in Jackson by faculty from both institutions. Jackson State has hired new assistant professor, Sara Youngherman, a UT Martin alumna, who will be joined by professors in agriculture and natural resources from UT Martin.

UT Martin will benefit in the partnership by nurturing a constant flow of JSCC students with an associate degree in agriculture, who want to complete a four-year degree in West Tennessee.

Jackson State Community College also provides remedial and developmental services that help students be successful as they transition to college life from high school or the workforce.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is offering “Pottery on the Wheel” 6-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays from Sept. 19-28.

The instructor will be Clint Riley and the fee is $55, plus an estimated $20 supply fee. The supply fee is paid to the instructor.

This is an opportunity to begin to learn how to make bowls, cups, pitchers and other items on the potter’s wheel. No experience is necessary.

To register, call the ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or (731) 881-7082. Space is limited.

Dr. S.K. Airee, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of chemistry, has been recognized as a Fellow of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). He participated in the 19th International Conference on Chemical Education (ICCE) in Seoul, Korea earlier this month and was a presenter at the Green Chemistry symposium there. Thirty-six countries were represented at the conference, sponsored by IUPAC.

In addition, Airee was recipient of an award sponsored by the National Science Foundation Research Site for Educators in Chemistry (RSEC) to conduct research during the summer at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, to fund submission of a grant application and to provide $2,000 for a UT Martin student to continue the research.

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM HOSTS BACK TO SCHOOL STAFF MEETING — The Child and Family Services Grant Program has been awarded five grants to promote the highest standards for quality of life to children, family and community by offering education, training and support. The program is housed at the University of Tennessee at Martin and comprised of the Child Care Resource and Referral Center, Project REEL, Healthy Start Program, Infant Stimulation Program and Tennessee’s Early Intervention System. UT Martin staff and students involved in the program recently held their “back to school” joint staff meeting. Pictured are (front, from left) Judy Davis, Julie Black, Amelia Coleman, Vickie Pruett, Sharon Wenz, Lalania Adkins, Renee Smith, Serena Blanton, Bonnette Palmer; (second row, from left) Sherree Sinclair, Jena Johnson, Kay Gallimore, Wanda Hall, Diana Luther, Anita Milbrath, Beverly Bryant, Wendy Freeman; (third row, from left) Debbie Walden, Vicki Olds, Dana Moyer, Jerri Donaldson, Jennifer Crouch; (back, from left) Sharye Hendrix, Carrie Crouse, Chrissie Campbell, Jessica Pryor, Lisa Scarbrough, Sarah Sullivan, Lori Wilson, Sarah Harrison, Brian Jimenez, Rene Bard and Heather Westphall.
Coordinator to assist students in Pre-Professional Health Science Programs

Karen Martin

Karen Martin, who has extensive experience in advising and supporting students interested in pre-professional programs, has been named coordinator for Pre-Professional Health Science Programs, college marketing and student internships in the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

As part of the position, Martin will work with the UT Health Science Center and other health science institutions to better prepare UT Martin students for admission to professional schools. Her responsibilities include recruiting students, coordinating student/family campus visits, managing a pre-professional database, monitoring student progress, coordinating major/health science curricula, counseling and advising and coordinating professional school interviews for students.

"Following the rigors of a national search, I am delighted that Karen Martin has joined the team in our college," said Dr. Doug Sterrett, UT Martin College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean. "Her role in this new position strengthens our pre-professional health science programs and many other aspects of the college. Based on her excellent credentials and experience, I am confident that the success rate of our students will improve over the next few years," Sterrett added.

"I am honored and excited to be at UT Martin," said Martin. "I hope to build on the very excellent work already done with the Pre-Professional Health Science Program and make it the "place to come in Tennessee" if you want to be a health care professional."

Martin, a Georgia native, is a graduate of Medical College of Georgia, with a bachelor of science degree in nursing. She received a master's degree in developmental education from Appalachian State University and worked at Tennessee State University, Nashville State Tech Community College and Fisk University. Martin has worked as director of a science learning center and an adviser for science majors, single parents and at-risk students. Recently, she worked at Southeastern Career College (an affiliate of Kaplan Higher Education) teaching medical assistants.

She is a charter member and former board member of the Tennessee Center for Nursing, former member of the Governor's Council on Diabetes and is a Barnes ONE Scholarship Committee member, mentoring at-risk college students. She is a volunteer and programs committee member of the Mid South Lupus Foundation. She was a presenter on non-traditional college students at the University of South Carolina, earned a Developmental Education Certificate from Appalachian State University and has tutored nursing students who are in online degree programs. Martin has presented faculty development workshops on learning styles, cognitive science and how students take tests. She has served as a presenter on test taking for the College of Engineering, Tennessee State University, and taught test taking for pre-professional students at Fisk University. Also, she has served as coordinator of the Tennessee SEARCH Program, which places graduate health professions students in underserved areas for service learning opportunities. Her post master's degree work has been in biology, specifically, how neurobiology informs and affects learning.
Faculty Recital Series opens in the Harriet Fulton Theatre

The University Trio and Dr. Amy Yeung will open a Faculty Recital Series with performances in September in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine and Performing Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

All evening concerts scheduled by the Department of Music have been changed to a 7:30 p.m. start. Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

The 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., Sept. 12.

The trio's program includes Libby Larsen's "Barn Dances," a contemporary treatment of hoedowns, honkytonk music and cowboy dance steps; "The Complete Works of Shakespeare" by Adam Silverman, a minimalist piece with unusual piano timbres; and Jean Francaix's witty and tonal "Double Concerto," which utilizes several additional members of the flute and clarinet family such as piccolo, alto flute, soprano and bass clarinet.

Harriss, UT Martin 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, UT Martin 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 recently 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.

An evening of love songs will be presented by Yeung, UT Martin assistant professor of music, at 7:30 p.m., Sept. 25.

The program will begin with a Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's aria, "L'amer, saro costante" (I will love you) from "Il re pastore," followed by groups of love songs composed by several famous Italian, French, German, English and Spanish composers of the Romantic period and the early 20th century, including Gioacchino Rossini, Vincenzo Bellini, Georges Bizet, Richard Strauss, Roger Quilter, Fernando Obradors and many more. Yeung will be accompanied by Harriss on piano.

Yeung received her doctorate from Michigan State University and has performed extensively in concerts throughout Asian countries, including Taiwan, Malaysia, Korea and Hong Kong, as well as in the United States, Bulgaria and Germany. She is active as a soloist in this area, and teaches studio voice and directs lyric opera theater once every year at UT Martin.

SASSAFRAS BOWLS – Dr. Bill Ahlschwede, University of Tennessee at Martin instructor of English, explains the grain pattern in a sassafras bowl to Tom Johnson, international programs instructor. The bowl is one of a group Ahlschwede turned from parts of the UT Martin historic campus sassafras tree damaged by hurricane Katrina a year ago. The tree was removed. Above is one of a group of bowls turned by Ahlschwede from remnants of the sassafras tree. Observers saw the shape of the tree in the grain pattern shown.
Students present art exhibit at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin students, Kristy Marker, of Franklin, and Dana Bell, of Holliday, will be featured in a two-week art exhibition beginning with the official opening on Sept. 19 in the Fine Arts Gallery of the Fine and Performing Arts Building on campus. The exhibition may be viewed at any time. Marker is a graphic design major. Bell is an art education major. Both are seniors.

Throw pots class offered at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is offering “Pottery on the Wheel,” 6-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 19-28.

Instructor will be Clint Riley, and the fee is $55, plus a $20 (estimated) supply fee. The supply fee is paid to the instructor.

This is an opportunity to begin to learn how to make bowls, cups, pitchers and other items on the potter’s wheel. No experience is necessary. To register, call ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082. Space is limited.

Area marching bands register for UTM Invitational

Area high school bands are continuing to register to participate in the first annual University of Tennessee at Martin Marching Band Invitational, Sept. 9. Deadline is Sept. 1.

The competition will begin at 4 p.m. and conclude with an exhibition performance by the UT Martin Marching Band and an awards ceremony at 9 p.m.

Each year, this event draws more than 750 high school students along with more than 500 spectators to Graham Stadium to enjoy the best of West Tennessee marching bands. Judges for this year’s competition are all seasoned judges on the Drum Corp International circuit. Tickets are $8 per person and may be purchased at the gate.

Participating schools include the following: Brighton High School, Halls High School, Southaven High School (Miss.), Union City High School, Peabody High School (Trenton), Dyersburg High School, Evangelical Christian School (Memphis), Covington High School, Gibson County High School, Riverside High School (Decaturville), Dickson County High School, McNairy Central High School, Crockett County High School, Camden High School and Huntingdon High School.

Young writers conference set

The first workshop in the Saturday Young Writers’ Clubhouse series for third through eighth grade students, offered by the West Tennessee Writing Project (WTWP) at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will be Sept. 30. The clubhouse meets from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Gooch Hall on the UT Martin campus.

Each Saturday will engage students in creative writing activities and reading events. Young writers will be grouped by grade, and each age group will have its own room.

Some of the morning activities include writing to music, writing about space and art and writing plays. Brittan Sutherland, Deborah Doss, Blair Chadwick, Nancy Crider, Annette Ferguson and Andi Neihoff are the WTWP teacher consultants leading the sessions.

The afternoon session invites students to write creatively about whatever topics they choose. Students also will share some of their writing during Read Aloud.

Each student should bring a sack lunch and drink. Pizza will be available for $1 per slice. Drink machines are located in the lobby of Gooch Hall. Children may bring snacks for their morning break.

Registration deadlines for the workshop series are as follows: Sept. 30 session - Sept. 27, Dec. 9 session - Dec. 2, Feb. 10 session - Feb. 3, April 21 session - April 14. Each session is $30, which includes a writing notebook and pen.

For more information about the Young Writers Clubhouse or WTWP, visit www.utm.edu/wwtp or e-mail Brittan Sutherland, clubhouse program director, sutherlandb@k12tn.net.