Business consultant at REED Center August 9

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in August at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., August 9.

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

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

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

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

Local resident honored at UTM College of Business and Public Affairs Banquet

Andrew Holt, of Gleason, recently was recognized as a faculty scholar at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Public Affairs spring banquet. Presenting the award were, Dr. Ernest Moser, left, dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and Dr. Joy Roach, right, assistant professor, computer science and information systems.

Every Child Has a Song is WTWP workshop on August 18

West Tennessee Writing Project will sponsor a workshop, "Every Child Has a Song (and Every Teacher, Too): Music and Writing in Every Classroom," for all teachers, all grades and all subjects. Slated for 8:30-3:30 p.m., August 18, in the Fine Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin, pre-registration is $45; after August 11, $55. The cost for new teachers (less than two years) is $30.

Continuing education unit credits are available. To register or to inquire about CEUs, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, ecce@utm.edu, write ECCE, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238 or call 731-881-7082 or 1-800-482-5199. Registration may be faxed to 731-881-7984. Register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/english_registration.php.

Sponsors are WTWP, Department of English and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, in cooperation with the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, UT Martin.

WTWP is a site of the National Writing Project and one of two such sites in Tennessee. For more information, contact wtwp@utm.edu, or visit the website, www.utm.edu/ wtwp.
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 will sponsor the 29th Annual Social Studies Teachers’ Workshop. Slated to begin at 9 a.m., Sept. 8, in Room 111, Boling University Center, at UT Martin, the workshop will offer sessions on reclaiming classical heritage, cultural identity, confronting war in the classroom and how presidential elections are changing.

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 ECCE, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, or 731-881-7082, or e-mail: ecce@utm.edu. Make checks payable to UT Martin.

“Reclaiming Our Classical Heritage: Ancient Greece and Rome” will be presented by Dr. Nathan D. Howard, UT Martin assistant professor of history. In this session, participants will explore ways to use texts, ideas and words from classical Greece and/or Rome to make these cultures from the ancient world meaningful to today’s students. Much of the way that modern-day people think, act and speak derives from the Greeks and Romans. The possibilities of making ancient texts available to students online and how discussing these readings can make ancient Greece and Rome seem relevant to life in today’s world are part of the session.

“Who am I? What are you?: Cultural identity in the classroom” will be presented by Richard Saunders, UT Martin curator and archivist. This session will examine how students might study the way they create and maintain cultural identity (manifested as race, economics, language, culture and fashion) can provide footings for appreciating differences. This session focuses on ideas to identify what gives people identity and encourages students to look critically at what makes them different and similar to others.

WTWP offers credits for writing workshop

West Tennessee Writing Project will sponsor a workshop, “Every Child Has a Song (and Every Teacher, Too): Music and Writing in Every Classroom,” for all teachers, all grades and all subjects. Slated for 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Aug. 18 in the Fine Arts Building at the University of Tennessee Martin, pre-registration is $45; after Aug. 11, $55. The cost for new teachers (less than two years) is $30.

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Get Out! • Aug. 2, 2007

WEAVING CLASSES
Session III, Tuesdays, through Aug. 21 and knitting classes Session III, Thursdays, Aug. 9-23 at UT Martin. Cost $60. To register or for more information, call (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

UT MARTIN DRUMLINE TUNEUP
All day, Aug. 25 at UT Martin Fine Arts Building. Call 881-7418.

UT MARTIN MARCHING BAND CAMP
Small business consultant to offer services at UT-Martin

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JSCC President is commencement speaker; complimentary tickets needed

Dr. Bruce Blanding, Jackson State Community College president, will deliver the summer commencement address at the University of Tennessee at Martin at 11:00 a.m., August 11, in Skyhawk Fieldhouse on the UT Martin campus.

Dr. David Millhorn, University of Tennessee executive vice president and vice president for research, will attend the ceremony to congratulate the 240 summer graduates. Dr. Thomas Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Paul Sharma, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer. Processional marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harris, faculty senate president; Dr. Kathy Evans, faculty senate vice president; Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs; and Steve Vantease, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

Each graduating student will be issued seven complimentary tickets to admit his/her guests to the commencement ceremony. These tickets may be picked up beginning August 3 in the Office of Academic Records Room 103, Administration Building. Graduating seniors will have until Aug. 10 to claim their seven tickets. After 5 p.m., August 10, all unclaimed tickets will be distributed to the general public on Saturday morning prior to commencement.

Immediately following commencement ceremony, a reception will be hosted in the Fine Arts Building, across the street from the fieldhouse.

Blanding became the president of Jackson State Community College in February, 2004. Prior to this appointment, he was Tennessee Technology Center at Jackson director for four years. He also has served as director of the Tennessee Technology Center at Elizabethon, dean of the Chattanooga State Technical Community College of Business and Information Systems and as a U.S. Department of Education postsecondary educational program specialist in Washington, D.C.

Blanding served as a marine in the Vietnam War. He holds a doctorate in higher education administration from Michigan State University. He and his wife, Dr. Linda Blanding, live in Jackson. They have three children and two grandchildren.
Obion County welcomes new faces to ranks of educators for 2007-08 academic year

SALLY WHARTON
Sally Wharton of Newbern will be a guidance counselor at OCCHS. She is a graduate of Trimble High School and UTM, where she earned a degree in liberal arts in psychology and a bachelor of science degree in education. She also holds a master's degree in guidance and supervision administration.

She is married to Robert Wharton and is the mother of Casee Hart, Brandon Wagster and Michael Wharton.

She has taught English to students at Dyer County High School for 19 years and has been a guidance counselor in Madison County schools.

She is a member of Cumberland Presbyterian Church and enjoys bowling and spending time with her family.

STACY HOGAN
Stacy Hogan of Union City will be the speech/language pathologist for South Fulton schools. She has worked at HealthSouth Cane Creek Rehabilitation Hospital's outpatient unit for nine years and is a member of Union City Second Baptist Church, where she is a Mission Friends teacher, and Union City J'Cettes.

She is a graduate of Peabody High School in Trenton and UTM, where she earned a bachelor's degree. She also has a master's degree in speech pathology from Murray State University.

She is married to Pat Hogan Jr. and is the mother of Will, 6.

SHAWNA POUNDS
Shawna Pounds of Union City will teach English I and III and Freshman Studies at OCCHS. She has previously taught Reading III at UTM and English I, Spanish I and Creative Writing at Lewis County High School in Hohenwald. She is a graduate of UTM, where she earned a degree in Secondary Education, with emphasis on English, and a master's degree in teaching.

She is married to Allen Pounds and is the mother of Tucker, 8, and Ally, 3. She is a member of Exchange Street Church of Christ and enjoys reading and crocheting.

LAURA PITTS
Laura (Cloar) Pitts of Kenton will be teaching math at OCCHS. She is an alumnus of the school and earned her bachelor of science degree in education at UTM.

She has taught at Bradford High School for nine years and was named Teacher of the Year in 2007.

She is married to Matthew Pitts and is the mother of Mary, 3, and Daniel, 1. The Pitts are members of Kenton Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

MELANIE BAGGETT
Melanie Baggett of Union City has been employed as a classroom reduction teacher by the Obion County School System. She is a graduate of UCCHS and UTM, where she was awarded a bachelor's degree in K-8 education.

She is married to Russ Baggett and is the mother of Peyton, 10, and Kylie, 4. She has been an educational assistant at Lake Road Elementary School and is a member of Reelfoot Baptist Church.

CRAIG ROGERS
Craig Rogers of Martin will be the assistant principal at Obion County Central High School as the school doors open for the 2007-08 school year. Rogers is a graduate of Manchester (Mich.) High School and earned his bachelor of science degree in education at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His master's degree in educational leadership is from Trevecca Nazarene College in Nashville.

He has been a football coach at Dresden Junior High School, assistant football and head baseball coach at Westview High School in Martin and head football coach at Dresden High School, most recently. He is married to Patresa Rogers and is the father of Cole, 14; Cade, 8; and Lakyn, 7 months old.

He is a member of Dresden Church of Christ and the David Johnson Chorus and enjoys all sports and hunting.

JOSH MCKINNIS
Josh McKinney of Union City will be teaching history and science to sixth-graders at Lake Road Elementary School. He is a graduate of UCCHS and UTM, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in Human Learning K-8.

He is married to Jo McKinney and enjoys hunting, fishing and cooking.
Writing workshop slated for August at UT Martin

West Tennessee Writing Project will sponsor a workshop, "Every Child Has a Song (and Every Teacher, Too): Music and Writing in Every Classroom," for all teachers, all grades and all subjects.

The workshop is set for 8:30-3:30 p.m., Aug. 18, in the Fine Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Pre-registration is $45; after Aug. 11, it will be $55. The cost for new teachers, who've taught less than two years, is $30.

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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 Aug. 27, with fees due Aug. 21. 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, Aug. 22-26. During the week, students will learn their way around the campus, receive information about services, participate in campus activities, meet campus leaders and complete classroom experiences designed to strengthen study habits, sharpen money management and other skills.
Local resident honored at UT Martin College of Business and Public Affairs Banquet

Daniela Kluvenko, of Adamsville, recently was recognized as a faculty scholar at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Public Affairs spring banquet. Presenting the award were Dr. Ernest Moser, left, Dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and Dr. Kenneth VanVuren, right, assistant professor, accounting, economics, finance, and international business.

Cole honored

Kendra Cole of Bradford recently was recognized as a faculty scholar at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Public Affairs spring banquet. Presenting the award were Dr. Ernest Moser (left) dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and Dr. Ashley Kilburn (right) assistant professor, management, marketing, and political science.
UT president's tour makes stops in Martin, Jackson

University of Tennessee President Dr. John Petersen made the most of a Monday visit to northwest Tennessee with stops in Martin and Jackson during a weekend tour of the state that ends Friday at the Knoxville campus.

He visited with UT Martin faculty and staff in the morning and used an evening reception and dinner in Jackson to introduce new UT Martin chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes and preview things to come for the University of Tennessee.

The Jackson event, held at the West Tennessee Research and Education Center, included elected officials and community leaders from across the region. Petersen introduced Rakes to the group by saying "you're the most disadvantaged person in the world" to be an internal candidate for a university position. Rakes, who officially became UT Martin chancellor July 1, previously served the university as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

"And so for Tom Rakes to have survived the search for chancellor and come out clearly the top candidate from a very excellent pool, I think really tells you something about how we're going to continue to build our program at Martin," Petersen said.

Rakes used "capacity building" in describing his vision for UT Martin and its students, faculty, staff, alumni and stakeholders. He asked the audience, "What can we do to bring about positive change in many, many ways — from economic development, to careers for our students, to expand opportunities for our employees and make our state, our region, a better place to live?" He answered the question by outlining $70 million in capital projects under way or planned at the Martin campus, including the second-phase construction of apartment-style housing and groundbreaking for (See Page 13, Col. 5)

UT...

(Continued from Page One)

a new student recreation center, all designed to increase the university's capacity to serve students.

Referencing UT strategic-plan goals that address student access, student success and outreach, Rakes discussed UT Online, the university's online education program coordinated by UT Martin.

"One of the hallmarks of this campus has to do with how we make postsecondary education more accessible for the citizens in this state," Rakes said, noting plans to expand UT Online degree offerings.

"We also have the largest contingent of dual-credit enrollees, high school juniors and seniors taking advance-placement courses and getting high school credit and college credit," he said, noting that the program could enroll up to 650 students from 30 high schools this fall, more than any Tennessee public university.

Rakes also reminded the audience about UT Martin centers in Jackson, Ripley, Selmer and Parsons, all established, he said, in partnership with their respective communities. Noting significant changes at all locations, he said that the Jackson Center will move to the Jackson State Community College campus by December, renovations are being completed at the Ripley Center, construction will soon begin on the Parsons Center and an expansion is planned at the UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer.

"This (the centers concept) brings college programs to where students are," Rakes said. "Some of the work they do online, much of it they do face-to-face, but it's a model that works for Tennessee, it works for our campus, and when you count the growth on the main campus, plus these other facilities, there's no end to what we can do, the capacity that we can build for our students and for these communities."

Petersen, who became UT president July 1, 2004, also referenced the university's year-old strategic plan as he recapped recent events and looked ahead. He told about the university's work with Gov. Phil Bredesen and state lawmakers to provide a 5 percent salary pool for university faculty and staff while holding a tuition increase to 6 percent. He said that this year's budget hearings with Gov. Bredesen did not involve presenting a list of UT funding needs but rather "here's what we (UT) should deliver to the state of Tennessee."

"We need to deliver workforce development, which means we need to generate educational programs at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels that serve the state and the state's industry," Petersen told the group. "We need to do economic development. ... Research is the driver and we should be the driver."

He also noted the UT Health Science Center and its role in supplying quality health care to people across the state. He said that partnerships are important for success in all of these areas and he noted the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, UT's largest partner, as an example.

"Oak Ridge National Lab is the largest basic research Department of Energy lab in the country. Secondly, it is also the most highly valued in terms of its productivity and efficiency," Petersen said. "It's not surprising that we're developing programs that are world-class, world-wide, at the lab." He highlighted neutron, material science and computation research projects as examples.

He also talked about the impact of a biofuels initiative supported by Bredesen, including $40 million in the new budget for a biofuels demonstration plant. Petersen reported that these funds and other investment in biofuels research soon would total almost a quarter of a billion dollars in assets "to drive an enterprise that I think will do as much for Tennessee in terms of (the state's) agriculture economy and economic development as tobacco did in its time."

Petersen described UT as a "consolidated university" that serves Tennessee in many ways. Once asked to name his biggest surprise since becoming UT president, he told the audience, "I came here thinking this was absolutely a superb opportunity and that we really had a chance to do some things. My biggest surprise is it's actually a bigger opportunity than I thought it was."

Besides the opening visits to Martin and Jackson, other destinations for Petersen this week include the UT Health Science Center in Memphis, the UT Space Institute in Tullahoma, UT Chattanooga and Kingsport.
TOURING UT MARTIN — University of Tennessee President Dr. John Petersen (left) opened his statewide tour of UT campuses and units with a visit Monday to UT Martin, where he talked with UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Thomas Rakes, and the West Tennessee Research and Education Center in Jackson. He met with university faculty and staff, elected officials, university trustees, educators and business leaders to discuss UT's statewide mission and outreach. Other stops on the tour include the UT Health Science Center in Memphis, the UT Space Institute in Tullahoma, UT Chattanooga, Kingsport and the Knoxville campus.

UC STUDENT HONORED — Jon Jorge (center) of Union City was recently recognized as a faculty scholar at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Public Affairs spring banquet. Presenting the award were Dr. Ernest Moser (left), dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and Dr. Phillip Young, associate professor of accounting, economics, finance and international business.
Four countians receive Belcher Scholarships

Four Henry Countians, who are either attending college or will be enrolling in college this fall, have received Peggy Perry Belcher Scholarships. The four awards total $1,600.

Receiving scholarships are Jade Stearnes, April Burton, Alisha Tharpe and Eric Henry.

Stearnes received $500. She is the daughter of Michael Stearnes, and she is attending the University of Tennessee at Martin and is majoring in cell/molecular biology.

At Henry County High School, she was a member of the National Honor Society, Math Club and was a cheerleader for four years.

Burton (not pictured) was the recipient of a $500 scholarship. She is the daughter of Anthony and Joyce Burton. She plans to attend the University of Memphis and pursue a degree in chemistry/pre-pharmacy.

Tharpe, who is the daughter of Geneva Williams Tharpe, received $300. She attends Bethel College in McKenzie where she is majoring in business administration.

She serves as director of the Paris-Henry County Basketball League cheerleaders and is church secretary at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Paris.

She also is a member of the executive committee of the Paris-Henry County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Henry, who is the son of Rosalind Allen, received a $300 award. He plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and major in marketing.

At HCHS, he was a member of Business Professionals of America, the Spanish Club and was chosen to the All Region Academic football team. He also was a member of the Patriot Basketball team, where he was given a senior award.

The scholarships are given each year in memory of Peggy Perry Belcher, who died in 2002. She was active in several Henry County clubs which promoted education and charity, including the Sister to Sister Club I, where she served as one of its presidents.

Zachary Wollam of Waverly, recently was recognized as a faculty scholar at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Public Affairs spring banquet. Presenting the award were, Dr. Ernest Moser, left, dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and Dr. Phillip Young, right, associate professor, accounting, economics, finance, and international business.
Locals engage UT leadership

University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes shares time on July 30 with Don Pennington, David Taylor and Jeff Agee at the West Tennessee Research and Education Center during University of Tennessee President Dr. John Petersen's visit to the West Tennessee Research and Education Center in Jackson.

Teenagers have two pageants during festival

The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival offers girls the opportunity to participate in upcoming Soybean Festival pageants, sponsored by the University of Tennessee Federal Credit Union. Teenagers interested in entering the pageants have until Aug. 29 to return applications.

The Junior Miss Tennessee Soybean Teen and Junior Miss Fairest of the Fair pageants, for ages 13-15, will be staged at 6 p.m. Sept. 1 in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building on the University of Tennessee Martin campus.

Following at 7 p.m. will be the Miss Tennessee Soybean Teen and Fairest of the Fair pageants, for ages 16-19. There will be no talent or bathing suit competition in these pageants. Competition includes casual and formal wear and an on-stage question for the top 10 finalists.

A $60 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. Make checks payable to the Tennessee Soybean Festival.

Mail the fee and application to: Lynn Gibson, director, Tennessee Soybean Teen Pageants, 580 Sandhill Rd., Martin, TN 38237. Send an e-mail to lynngibson@frontiernet.net or call (731) 587-2570.

Applications for pageants are available at these locations: Martin — UT Federal Credit Union, Lana's Boutique & Bridal, Sugar and Spice, UT Martin Student Life Center and Martin City Hall; Union City — Joann's; Dresden — Visible Changes; Milan — Special Occasions; and Jackson — Bonnie's Boutique.

To receive an application, go online to www.tnsoybeanfestival.org/schedule. A photographer will be available the day of pageants.

Still time to register for fall classes at UTM

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Lindsay Griffith of Cordova was presented the Outstanding Fashion Merchandising Student Award at the 19th annual College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin.
A Chat With

Jan Williams, the college nursing recruiter for West Tennessee Healthcare

West Tennessee Healthcare official discusses the nursing field

By TAJUANA CHERSTER
thschuster@jacksonsun.com

Eighteen-year-old Olivia Powers is certain that she wants to be a nurse. Powers will begin attending the University of Tennessee Martin this month and has decided to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist. She credits participating in this summer’s nurse camp hosted by West Tennessee Healthcare and Jackson State Community College for confirming her choice.

“I love how you can help people in this field,” Powers said. “It’s a real big challenge, and the technology involved fascinates me. If any kids are thinking about doing the nursing camp, it will definitely help you decide if nursing is the right fit.”

Jan Williams, the college nursing recruiter for West Tennessee Healthcare, heads up the program. She said it’s important to start attracting students to the field in high school.

“By the year 2020, there will be shortage of nurses, about 800,000,” Williams said. “So we do numerous things to introduce the field to students.”

Williams said students can apply for the nurse camp, which is offered twice in the summer. And starting in the fall, the medical explorers group will begin meeting monthly to discuss other careers in the field.

“Not everyone wants to be a nurse, but medical explorers will help students select a different health career,” Williams said.

The Jackson Sun talked with Williams about the shortage of nurses and reaching future generations.

What to know

If you are interested in participating in next year’s nurse camp or want more information about the field of nursing, contact Jan Williams at 265-1116 or at Jan.Williams@wtih.org.

Question: Why is there a shortage of nurses?
Answer: The average age of a nurse is 44 years old, and there’s just not enough people going into the field to replace people after they retire.

Q: What are some of the challenges today’s nurses will face?
A: People are living longer, which requires more care and patients are in more critical condition.

Q: How many different areas can a nurse practice?
A: There’s a registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse, a certified nursing assistant and nurse practitioner. All of them require different levels of education, and the pay ranges are from $8 up to $29 or $30 an hour.

Q: Other than high school students, what other groups are you recruiting?
A: For the adults we’re good about having something in the fall to encourage them to discover nursing.

Q: What are some of the benefits of participating in nurse camp?
A: Students are offered college scholarships after completing the program and have the opportunity to job shadow once they’re on the college level. They learn

Please see NURSE, 2B

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2007

UT Martin records second highest summer enrollment

University of Tennessee at Martin summer enrollment of 2,179 students ranks as the second highest total for the period, behind the university’s 2006 record summer headcount.

Enrollment decreased by 7.2 percent compared to summer 2006, following an all-time record number of spring graduates.

All enrollment numbers are compiled and reported by the university’s Office of Institutional Research.

Undergraduate students totaled 1,770 compared to 1,825 in summer 2006. Graduate students totaled 409 compared to 523 last summer.

*The 2007 summer enrollment numbers are not unexpected following the large graduation class we experienced in spring," said Dr. Thomas Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. "We also encourage by the early enrollment numbers for fall 2007, which continue to compare positively to the same period last year when a record fall enrollment was posted." Students enrolled for classes following the fourth and final Summer Orientation and Registration session total 5,796 compared to 5,737 for fall 2006, a 1 percent increase. A record 6,893 students enrolled for fall 2006 classes.

Registration for fall semester continues with classes set to begin Aug. 27. Summer commencement is 11 a.m., Aug. 11, at the Skyhawk Fieldhouse. Information about UT Martin is available by calling (800) 829-UTM1.

Nurse

Continued from cover

communication skills, teamwork, it gets them out of their comfort zone and they get to experience situations that are unique to nursing.

Q: How can a student benefit from job shadowing?
A: It’s all about exposure and exploring all kinds of fields. Students have to be assertive about what they’re interested in. If you don’t know what you want to do, call someone up who is doing something you’re thinking about. That’s the only way you’re going to find out.

Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.
— Tajuana Cheshier, 426-9643

“Students have to be assertive about what they’re interested in. If you don’t know what you want to do, call someone up who is doing something you’re thinking about. That’s the only way you’re going to find out.”

Jan Williams, the college nursing recruiter for West Tennessee Healthcare
UT president’s tour makes stops in Martin, Jackson

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“We also have the largest contingent of dual-credit enrollees, high school juniors and seniors taking advance-placement courses and getting high school credit and college credit,” he said, noting that the program could enroll up to 650 students from 30 high schools this fall, more than any Tennessee public university.

Rakes also reminded the audience about UT Martin centers in Jackson, Ripley, Selmer and Parsons, all established, he said, in partnership with their respective communities. Noting significant changes at all locations, he said that the Jackson Center will move to the Jackson State Community College campus by December; renovations are being completed at the Ripley Center; construction will soon begin on the Parsons Center; and an expansion is planned at the UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer.

“This (the centers concept) brings college programs to where students are,” Rakes said. “Some of the work they do online, much of it they do face-cational programs at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels that serve the state and the state’s industry.”

Petersen told the group, “We need to do economic development. Research is the driver and we should be the driver.”

He also noted the UT Health Science Center and its role in supplying quality health care to people across the state. He said that partnerships are important for success in all of these areas and he noted the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, UT’s largest partner, as an example.

“Oak Ridge National Lab is the largest basic research Department of Energy lab in the country. Secondly, it is also the most highly valued in terms of its productivity and efficiency,” Petersen said. “It’s not surprising that we’re developing programs that are world-class, world-wide, at the lab.”

He highlighted neutron, material science and computation research projects as examples.

He also talked about the impact of a biofuels initiative supported by Gov. Phil Bredesen, including $40 million in the new budget for a biofuels demonstration plant. Petersen reported that these funds and other investment in biofuels research soon would total almost a quarter of a billion dollars in assets “to drive an enterprise that I think will do as much for Tennessee in terms of (the state’s) agriculture economy and economic development as tobacco did in its time.”

Petersen described UT as a “consolidated university” that serves Tennessee in many ways. Once asked to name his biggest surprise since becoming UT president, he told the audience, “I came here thinking this was absolutely a superb opportunity and that we really had a chance to do some things. My biggest surprise is it’s actually a bigger opportunity than I thought it was.”

Besides the opening visits to Martin and Jackson, other destinations for Petersen this week include the UT Health Science Center in Memphis, the UT Space Institute in Tullahoma, UT Chattanooga and Kingsport.
2nd highest enrollment at UTM summer school

University of Tennessee at Martin summer enrollment of 2,179 students ranks as the second highest total for that period, behind the university's 2006 record summer headcount. Enrollment decreased by 7.2 percent compared to summer 2006, following an all-time record number of spring graduates. All enrollment numbers are compiled and reported by the university's Office of Institutional Research. Undergraduate students totaled 1,770 compared to 1,825 in summer 2006. Graduate students totaled 409 compared to 523 last summer.

"The 2007 summer enrollment numbers are not unexpected following the large graduation class we experienced in spring," said Dr. Thomas Rakes, university chancellor. "We also are encouraged by the early enrollment numbers for fall 2007, which continue to compare positively to the same period last year when a record fall enrollment was posted."

Students enrolled for classes following the fourth and final Summer Orientation and Registration session total 5,796 compared to 5,737 for fall 2006, a 1 percent increase. A record 6,893 students enrolled for fall 2006 classes.

Registration for fall semester continues with classes set to begin Aug. 27. Summer commencement is 11 a.m., Aug. 11, at the Skyhawk Fieldhouse. Information about UT Martin is available by calling 1-800-829-UTML.

Soybean pageants seek entries

The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival is offering girls the opportunity to participate in upcoming Soybean Festival pageants. The University of Tennessee Federal Credit Union is sponsoring the pageants.

Girls 0-12 years of age are invited to participate in the pageants, Sept. 1, during the festival. Pageants begin at 10 a.m. in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine and Performing Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Deadline to register is Aug. 24.

The pageant lineup includes the following: Baby Miss Soybean (0-1 year old), 10 a.m.; Tiny Miss Soybean (2-3 years old), 10:45 a.m.; Petite Miss Soybean (4-5 years old), 11:30 a.m.; Little Miss Soybean (6-9 years old), 1 p.m.; and Preteen Miss Soybean (10-12 years old), 1:45 p.m. All pageants will have one queen and four maids.

A $25 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. Make check payable to the Tennessee Soybean Festival. Mail fee and application to: Tennessee Soybean Pageant, 101 University St., Martin, TN 38237 or deliver to Martin City Hall.

For more information, call Kimberly Craddock at 731-587-3126 or Hollie Holt at 731-587-7333.

Applications for pageants are available at these locations:

Martin - UT Federal Credit Union, Lana's Boutique & Bridal, Sugar and Spice, UT Martin Student Life Center and Martin City Hall; Union City - Joann's; Dresden - Visible Changes; Milan - Special Occasions; Jackson - Bonnie's Boutique. To receive an application, go online to www.tnsoybeanfestival.org/soy07saturday1.html.

Two teen pageants at Soybean Festival

The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival is offering girls the opportunity to participate in upcoming Soybean Festival pageants, which will be sponsored by the University of Tennessee Federal Credit Union.

Teenagers interested in entering pageants sponsored during the 14th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival have until Aug. 29 to return applications.

The Junior Miss Tennessee Soybean Teen and Junior Miss Fairest of the Fair pageants, for ages 13-15, will be staged at 6 p.m., Sept. 1, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus. Following, at 7 p.m., will be the Miss Tennessee Soybean Teen and Fairest of the Fair pageants, for ages 16-19. There will be no talent or bathing suit competition in these pageants. Competition includes casual and formal wear and an on-stage question for the top 10 finalists.

A $60 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. Make checks payable to the Tennessee Soybean Festival. Mail the fee and application to: Lynn Gibson, director, Tennessee Soybean Teen Pageants, 580 Sandhill Rd., Martin, TN 38237. For more information, her e-mail address is lyngibson@frontiernet.net; phone number, 731-587-2570.
Countians honored at UTM banquet

Emily Fuqua of Cottage Grove and Justin Kinsland of Paris were honored recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin's college of business and public affairs banquet. Both were recognized as faculty scholars. Fuqua was honored by Ernest Moser, dean of the college of business and public affairs and Thomas Payne, Dunagan Chair of Excellence/professor of accounting, economics, finance and international business. Kinsland was honored by Christopher Baxter, assistant professor of management, marketing and political science.
Soybean pageants slated

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UTM Summer enrollment shows slight decrease; enrollment for fall up

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"The 2007 summer enrollment numbers are not unexpected following the larger graduation class we experienced in spring," said Dr. Thomas Rakes, university chancellor. "We also are encouraged by the early enrollment numbers for fall 2007, which continue to compare positively to the same period last year when a record fall enrollment was posted."

Classes in music, writing available

West Tennessee Writing Project will sponsor a workshop, "Every Child Has a Song (and Every Teacher, Too): Music and Writing in Every Classroom," for all teachers, all grades and all subjects.

It is slated for 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Aug. 18, in the Fine Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Pre-registration is $45; after Aug. 11, registration is $55. The cost for new teachers (teaching less than two years) is $30.

Continuing education unit credits are available. To register or to inquire about CEUs, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, at ecce@utm.edu, or write ECCE, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238 or call 731-881-7082 or 1-800-482-5199. Registration may be faxed to 731-881-7984. Register online at Error! Bookmark not defined.

Sponsors are WTWP, Department of English and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, in cooperation with the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, UT Martin.

WTWP is a site of the National Writing Project and one of two such sites in Tennessee. For more information, contact wtwp@utm.edu, or visit the web site, www.utm.edu/wtp.
Area bands tuning up at UT Martin

Several area high school bands will receive hands-on instruction to help prepare their fall marching percussion music at Drumline "Touring 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 for Aug. 25 in the Fine Arts Building.

High schools participating will include Union City High School; Jackson University School and Liberty Tech High School, both in Jackson; Peabody High School in Trenton; Camden High School; and Munford High School.

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

Teaching English class to be offered online

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider Education To Go to offer "An Introduction to Teaching English as a Second Language/English as a Foreign Language."

In this new online course, instructor Tom Scovel will introduce participants to innovative ways of teaching vocabulary and grammar, listening and speaking, reading and writing.

Scovel teaches ESL, grammar and psycholinguistics at the university level. He has written the books "Learning New Languages: A Guide to Second Language Acquisition" and "Psycholinguistics," in addition to many articles.

By the end of the course, participants will be able to help their students increase not only their competence, but their confidence, Scovel said.

As a bonus, people who successfully complete the course will receive a TESOL Certificate of Completion.

For more information, visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php.

TRUDI COLLINS

Trudi Collins is the UCHS Special Education teacher. She makes her home in Union City with her son, Jackson Donnell, 15.

A UCHS alumna, she earned a bachelor of science degree in Education and a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from UTM.

Ms. Collins has previously been employed by the Union City School System as a Special Education teacher at the former East Side Elementary School for fourth and fifth grades and as a pre-kindergarten and kindergarten Special Education teacher. She also taught in the Jackson-Madison County School District as a CDC instructor for grades kindergarten through sixth grade.

She is a member of Union City Second Baptist Church and enjoys making jewelry, crafting and reading.

AMY MARTINEK

Amy Martinek of Union City is the new school secretary at UCMS. A UCHS alumna, she holds a bachelor of science degree in Human Environmental Sciences from UTM.

TINA GRISSOM

Tina Grissom of Hornbeak is teaching first grade at UCES. She is a graduate of Lake County High School in Tiptonville and UTM, where she earned a bachelor of science degree in Education. She has a bachelor of science degree in Elementary Education, she has previously taught at Lake Road Elementary School, a career that was interrupted by the birth of her daughters, Claire, 5, and Olivia, 3.

She and her husband, Tim, and their daughters are members of Union City First United Methodist Church.

She is also a member of Convivium Review Club.
Penney Deal

Penney Deal, an alumna of Dyersburg High School and a former eighth-grade history and science teacher at Dyersburg Middle School, is the new assistant principal at UCES.

She makes her home in Dyersburg and is the mother of Mrs. Tim (Tara) Gibson and Anne Barret Deal, 17. She is also the grandmother of Hallie Gibson.

Ms. Deal earned her bachelor of arts degree from UTM and her master's degree in Administration and Educational Specialist Curriculum from Nova Southeastern University. She enjoys scuba diving and travel and is a member of Alpha Delta Kappa, an educator's sorority.

UC Student Recognized — Peter Newton (center) of Union City was recently recognized as a faculty scholar at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Public Affairs spring banquet. Presenting the award were Dr. Ernest Moser (left), dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and Dr. Mary Lemons, professor of management, marketing and political science.

Kelly Swafford

Kelly Swafford of Martin is teaching eighth-grade Math and Algebra I at UCMS. She is also the girls' softball coach, a new position at UCMS.

A graduate of Sequatchie County High School in Dunlap and UTM, she earned a bachelor of science degree in Education with a concentration in math. She is the daughter of Pete and Pat Swafford of Dunlap and is a member of Dunlap United Methodist Church. She enjoys sports, concerts and scrapbooking.

Tony Butler

Tony Butler is the Union City Middle School in-school suspension teacher and will also be an assistant football coach at UCHS. He is a graduate of Riverside High School in Parsons and the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in Education. He lives in Union City and is the son of Rob and Carla Butler of Parson.

He has been a defensive assistant with the UTM football team and enjoys coaching football, umpiring baseball and fishing.

Trenessa Wood

Trenessa Wood of Union City is an educational assistant for a kindergarten class at UCES. She has previously been employed as the arts and culture director for the Boys & Girls Club in Danville, Va., and as a pre-kindergarten teacher at Danville Community College.

She is a graduate of UCHS and is working on her degree in Education at UTM. She is a U.S. Navy veteran and a member of Emmanuel Church of God in Christ in Tiptonville. She is married to Scott Wood and is the mother of Trajen Wood, 7; and Trayana Wood, 4.
UT President Petersen visits northwest Tennessee campuses

UT President Dr. John Petersen made the most of a July 30 visit to Northwest Tennessee with stops in Martin, Tenn., and Jackson, Tenn., during his weeklong tour of the state that ended Aug. 3 at the Knoxville, Tenn., campus. He visited with UT Martin faculty and staff in the morning and used an evening reception and dinner in Jackson to introduce new university chancellor, Dr. Tom Rakes, and preview things to come for the University of Tennessee.

The Jackson event, held at the West Tennessee Research and Education Center, included elected officials and community leaders from across the region. Petersen introduced Rakes to the group by saying that "you're the most disadvantaged person in the world" to be an internal candidate for a university position. Rakes, who officially became UT Martin chancellor July 1, previously served the university as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Rakes used "capacity building" in describing his vision for UT Martin and its students, faculty, staff, alumni and stakeholders. He asked the audience, "What can we do to bring about positive change in many, many ways -- from economic development, to careers for our students, to expand opportunities for our employees and make our state, our region, a better place to live?" He answered the question by outlining $70 million in capital projects under way or planned at the Martin campus, including the second-phase construction of apartment-style housing and groundbreaking for a new student recreation center, all designed to increase the university's capacity to serve students.

Referencing UT strategic-plan goals that address student access, student success and outreach, Rakes discussed UT Online, the university's online education program coordinated by UT Martin. "One of the hallmarks of this campus has to do with how we make postsecondary education more accessible for the citizens in this state," Rakes said, noting plans to expand UT Online degree offerings. "We also have the largest contingent of dual-credit enrollees, high school juniors and seniors taking advance-placement courses and getting high school credit and college credit," Rakes said, noting that the program could enroll up to 650 students from 30 high schools this fall, more than any Tennessee public university.

Rakes also reminded the audience about UT Martin centers in Jackson, Ripley, Tenn., Selmer, Tenn., and Parsons, Tenn., all established, he said, in partnership with their respective communities. Noting significant changes at all locations, he said that the Jackson State Community College campus by December; renovations are being completed at the Ripley Center; construction will soon begin on the Parsons Center; and an expansion is planned at the UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer.

Petersen, who became UT president July 1, 2004, also referenced the university's year-old strategic plan as he recapped recent events and looked ahead. He told about the university's work with Gov. Phil Bredesen and state lawmakers to provide a five percent salary pool for university faculty and staff while holding a tuition increase to six percent. He said that this year's budget hearings with Gov. Bredesen did not involve presenting a list of UT funding needs but rather "here's what we (UT) should deliver to the state of Tennessee."

"We need to deliver workforce development, which means we need to generate educational programs at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels that serve the state and the state's industry," Petersen told the group. "We need to do economic development. ... Research is the driver, and we should be the driver." He also noted the UT Health Science Center and its role in supplying quality health care to people across the state. He said that partnerships are important for success in all of these areas, and he noted the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, UT's largest partner, as an example.

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Besides the opening visits to Martin and Jackson, other destinations for Petersen this week include the UT Health Science Center in Memphis, the UT Space Institute in Tullahoma, Tenn., UT Chattanooga and Kingsport, Tenn.
Tennessee Soybean Festival
Pageants scheduled for Sept. 1

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see UT MARTIN page 2B
Whirl, glide, slide, and dance for fitness

In a recent interview I saw with Emmett Smith, he said that people related him more to "Dancing with the Stars" than they do with his time spent playing in the National Football League. It is amazing what a primetime television show can do.

One of the classes that I teach is called Foundations of Sports Skills and Rhythms. The first semester I taught this class, I informed my students, 'Next time we will be square dancing... well to my surprise less than half of the class showed up for the next class!

If I had said mud wrestling, we probably would have had extra students come to observe. I learned a valuable lesson my first semester. When the students want to know what we are doing next class period and the answer is square dancing, it is best to tell them that you aren't sure yet!

This semester when it was square dancing day, my students groaned as we walked to the special room that had the square dancing CD and stereo waiting for us. The enrollment consisted of 30 students, only about 10 of them were female. When square dancing, you have eight people in a square, four male and four females. Needless to say, our 10 females only gave us 2 1/2 squares worth. Therefore we used males to stand in for females. The square that consisted of all football players were very good sports!

Every semester it is great to watch how the students groan when they find out the topic of the day. Then as they learn the do-si-do, promenade, allemande left, star and square you set, they start to appreciate the lesson. As the music starts and the students put their moves to music, it is neat to watch the student's faces. I am delighted to bring it to their attention that they are smiling and they look like they are having fun!

Square dancing, just like many other forms of dance is great fun. Dance is often part of physical and art education state curriculum frameworks. However, there is so much that the frameworks require teachers to teach that seldom is there time for in depth lessons on units.

As school is starting and parents are helping their children choose the after school and extracurricular activities that they would like to be involved in, consider dance. My daughter has been enrolled in ballet, tap and jazz for the past seven years. The benefits of dance are too numerous to list, however, according to my daughter, Georgia Brown, 'Mrs. Cornelia Link at the Martin Dance Studio has done a wonderful job teaching dance steps, coordination, and staying in beat with the music. I enjoy dance class because I get to spend time with my friends and learn something new.'

I couldn't have said it better myself.

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.

http://www.wtnparent.com/laura_brown.html
Cats want to please themselves and usually do

Sera, the stray cat that is now our cat, sits on the deck steps watching my bird feeder. Her ears are alert. Her tail is slowly swishing back and forth and, as she watches the birds hop about for the spilled seeds on the ground, I know exactly what she is thinking. She knows I am watching her, so she coyly looks up at me, plops on her back and begs for a belly rub.

It's been a long time since I've had a cat. My husband, the avid quail hunter, does not especially appreciate cats since they are, in some areas, the number one predator of wild birds. It seems that Sera is even beginning to get a back rub and chin scratch from him every so often now.

I'm sure the mouse and the two moles she has brought to our back door have helped in winning him over. I'm just not going to mention the three baby birds that went missing out of their nest in the front porch planter.

Cats are different than dogs. I realize everyone already knows that fact, but since the large majority of my articles deal with dogs or just pets in general, I thought I would let you in on some interesting facts about cats. I know I have already written an article on what great pets they can be, but I thought I would fill you in on a couple of facts about cats in general that you may not know, so here goes:

- Cats can see an estimated six times better in the dark than humans.
- Cats can locate sounds over distances four times farther than humans. They can also hear higher pitch frequencies than humans can detect.
- Cats have approximately 200 million scent receptors in their noses, humans, only five million. When they rub their head and chin on your leg, they are actually depositing their scent. We can't smell it, but they are very efficiently letting other cats know that you are their property.
- Cats usually do land on their feet. They have a very flexible spine and an innate balancing mechanism. This does not mean, however, that they can right themselves no matter the height of the fall or that a cat cannot be injured from a fall.
- Have you ever heard a cat walking up on you? Think about it. You can hear our dogs from a mile away, but I have yet to hear Sera. Most of the time, it seems that she just appears. Cats have soft rubber-like pads on their paws. This helps them to tread quietly and sneak up on their prey or their owner.
- Cats purr when they are happy, but they also purr when they are nervous or scared. Purring begins shortly after birth. If you watch a mother cat when she is nursing, she is usually purring. She is letting the kittens know that all is OK. The kittens cannot meow and nurse at the same time, but they can purr and nurse at the same time. This also lets mother cat know everything is OK.
- Cats, unlike dogs, are not pack animals. They are more independent and really do not possess an inherent desire to please anyone or anything but themselves. When training cats, one has to remember that whatever you want the cat to do has to be beneficial not only to you, but to the cat. Most of the time, cats need a reward to be trained effectively.
- Because of their athleticism, agility, speed and natural tools of defense (razor sharp claws and teeth), most veterinarians would agree that they would rather deal with a 100-pound aggressive dog than a 10-pound mad cat any day of the week.
I laugh whenever I watch our wedding video. In the video, Crow and I are standing holding each other's hands. If you look closely on this serene, formal scene, you can see a large scratch running up my forearm. That was not from a dog, horse or cow. That was from a cat, as well as the numerous scars on my fingers and hands, and remember, I'm supposed to know how to handle cats.

- I'm not one to hold a grudge, however, and as I watch Sera, one of nature's most fierce hunters, I'm glad she's found a home. With her mysterious green eyes, her tortoise-shell coat and her litle athletic frame, she makes quite an addition to the Bailey home.

Crow and Lacy haven't really warmed up to her yet, but I know they will. After all, I picked them up as strays, too...but don't tell my husband I said that.

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 Huntingdon Animal Clinic before moving to UT Martin in January 2005.

UTM student interns with U.S. senator

University of Tennessee Martin student, Katie Argo, received an internship with U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn. The internship will span from Aug. 20-Dec. 7. Argo, a senior political science major from Crockett County, is the daughter of Pat and Jerry Riley and Bubba and Tammy Argo, all of Crockett County.

The West Tennessee Writing Project held its 15th annual Invitational Summer Institute for teachers May 19 and June 4-28 on the campus of the University of Tennessee Martin. WTWP is a program of professional development for K-12 teachers that seeks to improve writing and writing instruction in schools. It is one of 197 sites of the National Writing Project, and one of two such sites in Tennessee. Visit www.utm.edu/wtwp. Participants from Madison County, pictured with David Carithers. WTWP director, are Andrea Neihoff, seated, a teacher at St. Mary's Catholic School in Jackson; Pam Sliger, standing left, Weakley County Elementary School music teacher; and Beth Halbert, Mount Juliet High School teacher. Sliger, Halbert and Neihoff served as summer institute focal team leaders.
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Soybean pageants set September 1

The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival is offering girls the opportunity to participate in upcoming Soybean Festival pageants. Girls 0-12 years of age are invited to participate in the pageants, September 1, during the festival. Pageants begin at 10 a.m. in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine and Performing Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Deadline to register is August 24.

The pageant lineup includes the following: Baby Miss Soybean (0-1 year old), 10 a.m.; Tiny Miss Soybean (2-3 years old), 10:45 a.m.; Petite Miss Soybean (4-5 years old), 11:30 a.m.; Little Miss Soybean (6-9 years old), 1 p.m.; and Preteen Miss Soybean (10-12 years old), 1:45 p.m. All pageants will have one queen and four maids.

A $25 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. Make check payable to the Tennessee Soybean Festival. Mail fee and application to: Tennessee Soybean Pageant, 101 University St., Martin, TN 38237, or deliver to Martin City Hall.

For more information, call Kimberly Craddock at 731-587-3126 or Hollie Holt at 731-587-7333.

Applications for pageants are available at these locations: Martin: UT Federal Credit Union, Lana's Boutique & Bridal, Sugar and Spice, UT Martin Student Life Center and Martin City Hall; Union City: Joann's; Dresden: Visible Changes; Milan: Special Occasions; Jackson: Bonnie's Boutique. To receive an application, go online to www.tnsoybeanfestival.org/soy07saturday1.html.

UT MARTIN DRUMLINE TUNESP
All day, Aug. 25 at UT Martin Fine Arts Building. Call 881-7418.

UT MARTIN MARCHING BAND CAMP

LAQUITA THOMSON
PHOTOGRAPHY
Exhibition Aug. 20 through Sept. 9 and opening at 5 p.m. Aug. 28 at UT Martin Fine Arts Building.

Richard C. Robinson, MA '95, Martin, TN, has been named the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" for 2007.

AlumNotes
Man carries on slain brother's military legacy

By GLENN TANNER
P-I Staff Writer

The brother of a U.S. soldier killed in Iraq is carrying on his family's military tradition, becoming a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army in a ceremony this morning.

Nathan Riley Blackwell was sworn in as a second lieutenant by Capt. Tony Lacy of the University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Military Science.

The ceremony took place at the home of Blackwell's family on Flatwoods Lane northwest of Paris.

Blackwell's second lieutenant's bars were pinned on by his wife Megan and his father Stephen Blackwell Sr.

Nathan Blackwell is slated to graduate from UTM on Saturday.

According to Lacy, the commissioning ceremony is typically held before the graduation ceremony, but was escalated to allow his family to concentrate on the funeral of his brother, Spec. Justin R. Blackwell.

Justin Blackwell was killed Sunday in Baghdad by indirect fire. Justin was also in the Army.

"We wanted to get it done so (Nathan) can concentrate just on the circumstances," Lacy said.

Nathan Blackwell is among the third generation of his family to serve in the military, going back to World War II, Lacy said.

Nathan's oldest brother Stephen Jr. served with the Navy, while another brother, Vernon, is serving in the Army, Lacy said.

Nathan Blackwell plans to enter the Army's Ordnance Corps.

Captain Tony Lacy (left) of the University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Military Science swears in Nathan R. Blackwell, and his parents Hazel and Stephen Blackwell Sr.

"He joined the National Guard out here at Paris," Lacy said. "He's been a member out there for two years, doing what we call the simultaneous membership program."

Following his commissioning today as an active duty Army officer, Blackwell will work at Martin as what is known as a "gold bar recruiter" — a reference to the gold lieutenant's bars he now wears.

After that, he will attend officer's training at Aberdeen, Md., before being stationed at Fort Hood, Texas.

Lacy said the ceremony this morning was naturally an emotional one.

"I even got a little tied up," Lacy said. "Normally, it's a real super-happy time because they've worked hard to get here."

The family's loss drives home the responsibility Nathan Blackwell has taken on, Lacy said.

"He's fixing to lead thirty to sixty soldiers, and the responsibility of that is unimaginable," Lacy said. "There's a lieutenant, captain and lieutenant colonel in Iraq right now, and in the back of their mind, they're thinking what could I have done different to save him."

Nathan Blackwell said Wednesday that there were a couple of errors in Associated Press information used in The Post-Intelligencer regarding his brother's death.

The AP story had stated Justin Blackwell and another soldier, Pvt. Jeremy S. Bohannon of Bon Aqua, had been killed as Bohannon drove a vehicle and Justin Blackwell acted as a gunner on the vehicle.

Nathan Blackwell said the

Please see Page 8A

FAMILY

Continued from Page 1A

Army has provided him information that states the two were on foot when they were hit in a mortar attack, not in a vehicle.

Nathan Blackwell also said that a quote attributed to Justin Blackwell's girlfriend in Colorado named her as Allyson Riggen, when her name is actually Allyson Gomez.
Rogers makes a 'racket' on courts at national level

By Sara Reid  
Special to the Press

Recently retired University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library director Steve Rogers used to spend his days in the quiet academic solitude of the books until most lunch breaks when he got the chance to make quite a racket — on the racquetball court, that is. The Martin native and 30-year racquetball veteran brought home the bronze medal after two weeks of competition last month in the National Senior Games Racquetball Tournament in Louisville, Ky.

As the Tennessee state senior champion in the 50-54 age bracket, Rogers traveled to the tournament as the state representative and also brought friend Joe Taylor, the state representative for the 60-64 age bracket.

"We played singles and doubles and it was very tough," Rogers admitted. "Not every state sends representatives, but over half the states sent them. We played in different round robin rotations and the winners emerged from those rotations and moved into the quarterfinals."

When Rogers made it to the semifinals and was beaten by a semi-professional player from Missouri, he all but gave up hope of continuing play, but he got the chance to play for the third place position and won it. Taylor emerged from his round robin rotation and got to the quarterfinals, but finished eighth in his tough division of nearly 30 competitors.

Rogers credits his success to his father's instilling an appreciation and dedication to sports at an early age.

"My father was raised on ping pong and started me playing at five years old and I've done the same for my son Jon who was at one time highly ranked in the state. Dad was at the heart of it all. He picked up table tennis during the war years. He had a basement dug out for a bomb shelter during the Cuban Missile Crisis and had a ping pong table put down there and that's how I grew up. It really developed my eye-racket coordination for the other sports like racquetball and tennis," he explained.

"The national tournament is not played every year, but every other year and the next one is in San Francisco in 2009. Since it was close to us this year, we decided we'd give it a shot and see how we fit in and we were definitely able to be competitive," the state champ said.

For now, Rogers seems to be content to trade in his daily lunch breaks for a little friendly competition on the racquetball court.

After all, he does have a state championship to defend.

High school bands 'tune-up' at UTM

Several area high school bands will receive hands-on instruction to help prepare their fall marching percussion music at Drumline "Tune-up 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 Aug. 25, in the Fine Arts Building.

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

REED Center offers seminars

The REED Center will be offering a series of business seminars this fall beginning with "E-Commerce and Your Business: Take Your Business Online." The class will be held from 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 21, at the Obion County Industrial Training Facility, 204 S. 2nd St., Union City. The instructor will be Steve Holt of UT Martin. The fee for the seminar is $10. All seminars are open to the public.

Continuing education units are also available for an additional $10. Register online at www.utm.edu/reed or by calling the REED Center at 587-7333 or the Obion County Chamber of Commerce at (731) 885-0211.
Richard C. Robinson, a doctoral candidate in SIUC's College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, is the University of Tennessee's National Alumni Association "Outstanding Teacher of the Year" for 2007.

Recognized for outstanding scholastic achievement and academic excellence, Robinson teaches courses in radio broadcasting and public relations at the University of Tennessee-Martin campus. In 2005, Robinson was honored as "Outstanding Graduate Student in Journalism" while completing doctoral coursework at SIUC.

The university's national association annually selects a faculty member from each of the University of Tennessee campuses for the honor, which includes a $2,000 award. Robinson earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Central Arkansas in 1975, and a master's degree in journalism from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock in 1995.

High school bands 'tune up' for marching season at UTM

Several 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 August 25, in the Fine Arts Building.

High schools participating include Jackson University School and Liberty Tech High School, both in Jackson; Peabody High School, Trenton; Camden High School, Camden; Union City High School, Union City; and Munford High School, Munford.

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

Register now for fall classes at UTM

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 27, with fees due August 21. 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 22-26. During the week, students will learn their way around the campus, receive information about services, participate in campus activities, and meet campus leaders.
Deadline for Soybean Festival teen pageants is August 29

The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival is offering girls the opportunity to participate in upcoming Soybean Festival pageants, which will be sponsored by the University of Tennessee Federal Credit Union.

Teenagers interested in entering pageants sponsored during the 14th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival have until Aug. 29 to return applications.

The Junior Miss Tennessee Soybean Teen and Junior Miss Fairest of the Fair pageants, for ages 13-15, will be staged at 6 p.m., Sept. 1, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus. Following at 7 p.m., will be the Miss Tennessee Soybean Teen and Fairest of the Fair pageants, for ages 16-19. There will be no talent or bathing suit competition in these pageants. Competition includes casual and formal wear and an on-stage question for the top 10 finalists.

A $60 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. Make checks payable to the Tennessee Soybean Festival.

Mail the fee and application to: Lynn Gibson, director, Tennessee Soybean Teen Pageants, 580 Sandhill Rd., Martin, TN 38237. For more information, her e-mail address is lynngibson@frontiernet.net; phone number, 587-2570.

Applications for pageants are available at these locations: Martin – UT Federal Credit Union, Lana’s Boutique & Bridal, Sugar and Spice, UT Martin Student Life Center and Martin City Hall; Union City – Joann’s; Dresden – Visible Changes; Milan – Special Occasions; Jackson – Bonnie’s Boutique. To receive an application, go online to www.tnsoybeanfestival.org/schedule.

A photographer will be available for the day of pageants.

Chesteen claims state honor in podcasting tournament

University of Tennessee at Martin professor of political science Dr. Richard Chesteen of Union City recently won the faculty features category of a statewide podcasting tournament.

His audio podcast was on the topic of “Baba O’ riley... defining moments.”

In the spring, UT Martin joined universities across the state in the “Tennessee Sandbox Digital Media Tournament” (State Podcasting Tournament), sponsored by PEG EX Institute, Apple, Echo Music and National Public Radio (NPR). Participating institutions included UT Knoxville, UT Martin, UT Chattanooga, Tennessee State, East Tennessee State, University of Memphis and Tennessee Tech.

Faculty and students from all campuses competed in five categories — faculty course concepts, faculty features, service learning, student course concepts and student features. UT Martin selected winners in three of the five to advance to state competition. Campus winners were Dr. Philip Smartt, associate professor of natural resources management; Jordan Tinkle, communications spring graduate; and Chesteen.

At the state level, entries were judged by personnel from NPR. Podcasts in the faculty features category were artistic in nature, storytelling and original writing and musical or dramatic performances. The merit was assessed primarily on the aesthetic experience for the listener.

Steve Holt, UT Martin Instructional Technology Center director, co-chaired the tournament in its first year. The Podcasting Tournament files were hosted this year by East Tennessee State University on its iTunesU site, but next year UT Martin will host on its iTunesU site.

“Toward generate more interest in participation from our students and faculty in the next tournament,” Holt said.

The Tennessee Sandbox Podcasting Tournament has been nominated for a national award at the Campus Technology Conference in Washington, D.C.
STUDENT RECOGNIZED — Kurt Wesner (center) of Union City was recently recognized as a faculty scholar at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Public Affairs spring banquet. Presenting the award were Dr. Ernest Moser (left), dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and Dr. James Clark, chair of the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems.

UC STUDENT HONORED — Nathan Woods (center) of Union City was recently recognized as a faculty scholar at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Public Affairs spring banquet. Presenting the award were Dr. Ernest Moser (left), dean of the College of Business and Public Affairs, and Dr. Bob Figgins, chair of the Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and International Business.

There’s still time to register for fall classes at UTM

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. 27, with fees due Aug. 21. Students may e-mail admitme@utm.edu, contact the Office of Admissions at UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, or call 881-7020 or (800) 829-UTM1 for more information.

Freshmen are encouraged to attend First-Year Initiative, Aug. 22-26. During the week, students will learn their way around the campus, receive information about services, participate in campus activities, meet campus leaders and complete classroom experiences designed to strengthen study habits, sharpen money management and other skills.

Fall exhibit at UT Martin will feature photography

LaQuita Thomson, Freed-Hardeman University professor of photography, will be exhibiting work from her "Fabric in Landscape" series in the Fine Arts Building gallery on the UT Martin campus. The artist will include silver gelatine prints, cibachrome prints, cyanotypes and salt prints of landscapes from around the country. The exhibit runs Aug. 22-Sept. 8, and an opening reception with the artist is planned for 5-7 p.m., Aug. 28. The public is invited to attend.
Blanding urges grads to learn, earn, return

Dr. Bruce Blanding, Jackson State Community College president, told students graduating during the University of Tennessee at Martin summer commencement Saturday that they had begun a “journey of learning that should not stop.”

Blanding shared what he called the three lessons to be learned. “You’ve had the opportunity to learn, and you will have the opportunity to earn and you will have the obligation to return.”

First, he said, “Always look for opportunities to learn new things, new ideas, new ways to look at the world.

“The second thing that you need to remember is to earn. It’s very important for you as you enter that world of work, that world of adulthood, that world beyond your college degree, that you have to earn your way.”

He added that it is important to earn a living; however, “beyond earning a living, you have to earn your place in the world. Will you be a positive influence in your community? Will you be a positive influence in your family? Will you contribute to your professional area...? It’s important for you to constantly look to earn your place.”

The third lesson, Blanding noted, “is to return.” He added, “We are blessed in the United States of America. We are blessed with opportunities that I can’t begin to explain to you.”

Having lived or traveled in many parts of the world, he said, “I’ve seen first hand the kind of opportunities we have here are truly exceptional. It’s your obligation after you’ve learned and after you’ve earned, to return — to return some of the blessings that you have received to the people around you.”

Blanding also urged graduates to return to their alma mater, adding that UT Martin... makes a difference in West Tennessee, throughout the state, the region and the world.

“Don’t forget that this is where it begins; that you have to give back. Make sure that you learn and that you earn and that you return.”

Blanding closed by quoting Dr. Albert Schweitzer, physician and humanitarian, who said, “I don’t know what your destiny will be. But one thing I do know, the only one among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve.”

Blanding added, “That’s your mission — to learn, to earn and to return and to figure out how to serve.”

Summer graduates represented 39 Tennessee counties and

UT Martin sets E-commerce classes in fall

The University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center (REED Center) will be offering a series of business seminars this fall beginning with E-Commerce. All seminars are open to the public.

E-Commerce and Your Business: Take Your Business Online Tuesday, August 21, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. at the Obion County Industrial Training Facility 204 S. 2nd St. in Union City.

Instructor will be Steve Holt from UT Martin, and the fee will be $10.

This seminar will show businesses and individuals the many different options they have to sell their products online. Examples will be shown and step-by-step instructions will be given.

‘Introduction to teaching ESL/EFL’ offered online

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider, Education To Go, to offer “An Introduction to Teaching English as a Second Language/English as a Foreign Language.”

In this new online course, Tom Scovel, instructor, will introduce participants to innovative ways of teaching vocabulary and grammar, listening and speaking, reading, and writing.

Scovel teaches ESL grammar and psycholinguistics at the university level. He has written the books, "Learning New Languages: A Guide to Second Language Acquisition" and "Psycholinguistics," in addition to many articles. He is recognized as an expert in the ESL/EFL field.

By the end of this course, Scovel said, participants will be able to help their students increase not only their competence, but also their confidence. As a bonus, people who successfully complete this course will receive a TESOL Certificate of Completion.

"An Introduction to Teaching ESL/EFL" can be completed from the convenience of home or office, and at any time of the day or night. For more information about this course — part of a growing catalog of more than 300 other instructor-facilitated online courses — visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecc/eonlinecourses.php.
Chesteen claims statewide award at first podcasting tournament

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“I hope to generate more interest in participation from our students and faculty in the next tournament,” said Holt.

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Blanding: learn, earn, return, serve

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“The second thing that you need to remember is to earn. It’s very important for you as you enter that world of work, that world of adulthood, that world beyond your degree, that you have to earn your way.”

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The third lesson, Blanding noted, “is to return.” He added, “We are blessed in the United States of America. We are blessed with opportunities that I can’t begin to explain to you.” Having lived or traveled in many parts of the world, he said, “I’ve seen first hand the kind of opportunities we have here are truly exceptional. It’s your obligation after you’ve earned and after you’ve earned, to return – to return some of the blessings that you have received to the people around you.”

Blanding also urged graduates to return to their alma mater, adding that UT Martin... makes a difference in West Tennessee, throughout the state, the region and the world. “Don’t forget that this is where it begins; that you have to give back. Make sure that you learn and that you earn and that you return.”

Blanding closed by quoting Dr. Albert Schweitzer, physician and humanitarian, who said, “I don’t know what your destiny will be. But one thing I do know, the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve.” Blanding added, “That’s your mission – to learn, to earn and to return and to figure out how to serve.”

Summer graduates represented 39 Tennessee counties and the states of Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina and Oklahoma. Also, there were graduates from the countries of Japan, Senegal, South Korea, Taiwan and Turkey.

Dr. Thomas A. Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, presided over the exercises and conferred degrees. Also attending the commencement ceremony was Dr. David Millhorn, UT executive vice president and vice president for research, who congratulated the graduates.

“Congratulations to the graduates,” Rakes said in closing. “You are joining over 34,000 graduates of UT Martin located throughout the world.”

UTM registration deadline nears

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 27, with fees due August 21. Students may contact the Office of Admissions at UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, email admittance@utm.edu, or call 731-881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1 for more information.

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MARTIN - Pageants, a talent show, parade, street fair, pet show and sports activities, all scheduled with children and youth in mind, are planned during the 14th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, September 1-9, in Martin.

Pageants for girls and teens, ages 6 months to 19 years of age, will be staged Sept. 1. Doors open at 9 a.m., and the pageants will begin at 10 a.m. Call Kimberly Craddock, at 731-587-3126, for information on pageant applications. Deadline to enter is Aug. 24. Pageants are sponsored by UT Federal Credit Union.

The third annual Soybean Festival Talent Contest, with categories for contestants ages 6 and younger, 7-12, 13-21 and 22 and over, will begin September 3, on the downtown stage. The junior competition will be at 6 p.m. The contest serves as a Mid-South Fair Preliminary Contest for participants 13-21, who will compete at 7 p.m., along with those 22 and older. The contest is sponsored by the Westview Key Club and WCMT. Call Linda Ramsey, at 731-587-5549, for more information.

The Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade will begin at 6:30 p.m., September 4, in the parking lot of Graham Stadium at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The parade, with entry fee required and prizes awarded, is sponsored by First State Bank. Call Jeff Capps or Regina Vickers, 731-587-9661, for more information.

Also popular with children and youth is the street fair with food, entertainment and craft vendors, beginning at 4 p.m., September 6, downtown. It continues at 9 a.m., September 7, and 10 a.m., September 8.

On September 6, the UT Martin Skyhawk football team will play its home opener against Missouri State at 6 p.m., at Graham Stadium. Pre-game tailgating will take place in the stadium parking lot. For more information, call UT Martin Office of Intercollegiate Athletics at 731-881-7660.

The School Children's Street Fair will be sponsored by Union City Coca-Cola Bottling Company and Volunteer Community Hospital will sponsor a lunch. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., September 9, downtown Martin. Immediately following the street fair will be the Friends of the Library Used Book Sale. Dippin' Dots ice cream will be available for purchase. Roberta Peacock can be reached at 731-587-3148 for more information.

Children and youth can participate in "The Singing Bee" live game show program, sponsored by Thunderbolt Broadcasting Co., at 6 p.m., September 7, at Weldon Park.

The annual Youth Soccer Jamboree will begin at the Martin Recreation Complex at 10 a.m., September 8, Contact Randall Ricketts, at 731-588-1495, for more information.

Rounding out festival events and activities that will attract children include Saturday's lineup of the Soybean Festival 5K Road Race/Mile Fun Walk, sponsored by Martin Kiwanis Club, Ken-Tenn Sports, and The Sideline Physical Therapy and Fitness Center, at 7:30 a.m., the Martin Recreation Complex (softball parking lot) and a pet show sponsored by Weakley County Animal Clinic, with registration at 3:30 p.m. and the show at 4:30 p.m., at Weldon Park.

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A bicycle rodeo is planned Sunday, September 9, with registration at 1:30 p.m. and events at 2 p.m. at the recreation center. Sponsors are the Martin Optimist Club and the Martin Pilot Club. Call Keith Kennedy, at 731-587-6788, or Lynn Gibson, 731-588-2570, for more information.

A host of other activities for all ages are featured at this year's festival. Visit www.tnsoybeanfestival.org or call 731-588-2507 for more information.

**Blanding Urges Graduates to 'Learn, Earn, Return and Figure Out How to Serve'**

MARTIN - Dr. Bruce Blanding, Jackson State Community College president, told students graduating during the University of Tennessee at Martin summer commencement that they had begun a "journey of learning that should not stop." Blanding shared what he called the three lessons to be learned.

"You've had the opportunity to learn, and you will have the opportunity to earn, and you will have the obligation to return."

First, he said, "Always look for opportunities to learn new things, new ideas, new ways to look at the world."

"The second thing that you need to remember is to earn. It's very important for you as you enter that world of work, that world of adulthood, that world beyond your degree, that you have to earn your way." He added that it is important to earn a living; however, "beyond earning a living, you have to earn your place in the world. Will you be a positive influence in your community? Will you be a positive influence in your family? Will you contribute to your professional area ... ? It's important for you to constantly look to earn your place."

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"Congratulations to the graduates," Rakes said in closing. "You are joining over 34,000 graduates of UT Martin located throughout the world."
Enhancing American history education highlighted in 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, will sponsor the 29th Annual Social Studies Teachers' Workshop.

The event is set for Sept. 8 beginning at 9 a.m. in Room 111 of Boling University Center at UT Martin.

The workshop will offer sessions on reclaiming classical heritage, cultural identity, confronting war in the classroom and how presidential elections are changing.

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 ECCE, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238; call (731) 881-7082; or e-mail ecce@utm.edu. Checks should be made payable to UT Martin.

"Reclaiming Our Classical Heritage: Ancient Greece and Rome" will be presented by Dr. Nathan D. Howard, UT Martin assistant professor of history. In this session, participants will explore ways to use texts, ideas and words from classical Greece and/or Rome to make these cultures from the ancient world meaningful to today's students. Much of the way that modern-day people think, act and speak derives from the Greeks and Romans. The possibilities of making ancient texts available to students online and how discussing these readings can make ancient Greece and Rome seem relevant to life in today's world are part of the session.

"Who am I? What are you?: Cultural identity in the classroom" will be presented by Richard Saunders, UT Martin curator and archivist. This session will examine how students might study the way they create and maintain cultural identity. Identity (manifested as race, economics, language, culture and fashion) can provide footings for appreciating differences. This session focuses on ideas to identify what gives people identity and encourages students to look critically at what makes them different and similar to others.

"Confronting War in the Classroom" will be the topic of Dr. David Coffey, UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy chair and College of Fine Arts and Humanities co-dean. Coffey notes that it is perhaps more important than ever to deal frankly and openly with controversial issues in the classroom. Wars touch everyone in some way, but it may not always be clear just how. Too often, questions are not asked or discussion not fostered for fear of negative reaction, which can render abstract the deadly conflicts, such as the current struggles in Iraq and Afghanistan, he added.

In his presentation, Coffey will examine how past classroom history lessons tended to promote patriotism without examining cause and effect. Coffey, military historian, will share his thoughts on how to approach the subject of war in the classroom, which must begin, he said, with an honest appraisal of America's involvement in war and how U.S. policy decisions have created generations of enemies across the globe.

"How presidential elections are changing" will be presented by Dr. Richard Chesteen, UT Martin professor of political science. This session will focus on three changing trends in presidential elections: viable female and minority race candidates, time scheduling of primaries, financing of presidential campaigns.

For more information about the workshop, call the Office of ECCE at (731) 881-7082 or 1-800-482-5199.

Basic Photography course planned in Selmer

Budding photographers in the Selmer area will have the opportunity to take "Basic Photography" offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education.

Basic photography is suited for the novice photographer. The course is designed to focus on basic camera operations, lighting and composition. Each student will learn how to create better photographs and compose a portfolio. Participants will need to have one roll of film or a digital still camera with proper memory card each week.

The instructor will be Melissa Maness. Times and dates for the course are: 6-8 p.m., Aug. 23 and 30, Sept. 6, 13, 20 and 27, at Visual Expressions Photography Studio, 124 West Court Ave., Selmer. A field trip is planned at 6 a.m., Sept. 22. Registration fee is $65.

To register, call the UT Martin Office of ECCE, at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.

UTM classes begin Aug. 27

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. 27, with fees due Aug. 21. 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, Aug. 22-26. During the week, freshmen will learn their way around the campus, receive information about services, participate in campus activities, meet campus leaders and complete classroom experiences designed to strengthen study habits, sharpen money management and other skills.
Children, youth will find fun at 14th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival

Pageants, a talent show, parade, street fair, pet show and sports activities, all scheduled with children and youth in mind, are planned during the 14th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, September 1-9, in Martin.

Pageants for girls and teens, ages 0 months to 19 years of age, will be staged September 1. Doors open at 9:00 a.m., and the pageants will begin at 10:00 a.m. Call Kimberly Craddock, at 731-587-3126, for information on pageant applications. Deadline to enter is August 24. Pageants are sponsored by UT Federal Credit Union.

The annual Soybean Festival Talent Contest, with categories for contestents ages 8 and younger, 9-12, 13-21, and 22 and older, will begin September 3, on the downtown stage. The junior competition will be at 6:00 p.m. The competition serves as Madison-Scott Fair Preliminary Contest for participants ages 13-21, who will compete at 7:00 p.m., along with those 22 and older. The contest is sponsored by the Westview Key Club and WCMT. Call Linda Ramsey, at 731-587-5549, for more information.

On September 6, the UT Martin Skyhawk football team will play its home opener against Missouri State at 6:00 p.m., at Graham Stadium. Pregame tailgating will take place in the stadium parking lot. For more information, call UT Martin Office of Intercolligate Athletics at 731-881-7660.

The School Children's Street Fair will be sponsored by Union City Coca-Cola Bottling Company, and Volunteer Community Hospital will sponsor a lunch. The event will take place from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., September 7, in downtown Martin. Immediately following the street fair will be the Friends of the Library Used Book Sale. Dippin' Dots ice cream will be available for purchase. Roberta Peacock can be reached at 731-587-3148 for more information.

Children and youth can participate in "The Singing Bee" live game show program, sponsored by Thunderbolt Broadcasting Co., at 6:00 p.m., September 7, at Weldon Park.

The annual Youth Soccer Jamboree will be at the Martin Recreation Complex at 10:00 a.m., September 8. Contact Randy Ricketts, at 731-588-1495, for more information.

Seminar is about mold, toxins, contamination

Dr. Andrew Campbell, a Houston immunotoxicologist, will present "Indoor Contamination, Mold and Toxins" in a three-hour seminar at the University of Tennessee Martin. Campbell, who practices medicine at the Medical Center for Immune and Toxic Disorders, is certified by three national boards and has specialized in immunotoxicology, the study of how toxins affect the human body and its immune system, for more than 20 years. Currently, he is treating patients for mold exposure throughout the country and the world, including Martin.

Two seminars cover e-commerce, home-based businesses

E-commerce and home-based businesses are topics of two seminars planned by the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center in August and September at the Obion County Industrial Training Facility, 204 S. 2nd Street, Union City.

"E-Commerce and Your Business: Take Your Business Online" is planned from 9-11 a.m., August 21. Instructor will be Steve Holt, University of Tennessee at Martin Instructional Technology Center director and webmaster, and the fee will be $10. This seminar will show businesses and individuals the different options they have to sell their products online. Examples will be shown, and step-by-step instructions will be given.

"Starting a Home-Based Business" will be offered from 9-11 a.m., September 25 with Ron Acree, director of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center in Jackson, as the instructor. There is no fee. Operating a business from home has its advantages and challenges. This session is designed to share information with people who are interested in developing a small, home-based business.

Register online at www.utm.edu/eeded, by calling the REED Center at 731-587-5333, or by calling the Obion County Chamber of Commerce at 731-885-0211.

The event is slated for 7 p.m. Aug. 26 at Watkins Auditorium in the Boling University Center. There will be a question-and-answer period. The conference is sponsored by the UT Martin Pre-Vet Club and Mu Epsilon Delta, the pre-professional allied health fraternity.

Call Richard Joost, UT Martin professor of plant and soil science, at (731) 881-7196, or the Center for Immune and Toxic Disorders at (281) 681-8989.
UTM student teachers have ‘Meet and Greet’

University of Tennessee Martin student teachers who are placed in the Jackson-Madison County School System will have the opportunity to get acquainted with their principals, JMCCSS board members, supervisors and cooperating teachers at a “Meet and Greet” event. UT Martin is hosting the event from 5 to 7 p.m. Aug. 30 at the JMCCSS Board of Education office, 310 North Parkway, in Jackson. UT Martin supervisors also will attend.

“University of Tennessee at Martin has historically not placed many student teachers in the Jackson-Madison County School System,” said Mary Lee Hall, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean. “However, due to the UT Martin Jackson and Parsons centers offering coursework that leads to teacher licensure, the university will begin to place more student teachers in the future.”

She added, “As we face teacher shortages throughout Northwest Tennessee, we know that it is important that we work closely with school systems in our service area to assist with providing trained teachers.”

Find fun at 14th annual Soybean Festival

Pageants, a talent show, parade, street fair, pet show and sports activities, all scheduled with children and youth in mind, are planned during the 14th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, Sept. 1-9, in Martin.

Pageants for girls and teens, newborn to 19 years of age, will be staged Sept. 1. Doors open at 9 a.m., and the pageants will begin at 10 a.m. Call Kimberly Craddock at (731) 587-3126, for information on pageant applications. Deadline to enter is Aug. 24. Pageants are sponsored by UT Federal Credit Union.

The third annual Soybean Festival Talent Contest, with categories for contestants ages 8 and younger, 9-12, 13-21 and 22 and older, will begin Sept. 3, on the downtown stage. The junior competition will be at 6 p.m. The competition serves as a Mid-South Fair Preliminary Contest for participants ages 13-21, who will compete at 7 p.m., along with those 22 and older. The contest is sponsored by the Westview Key Club and WCMT. Call Linda Ramsey at (731) 587-5549.

Visit the Web site at www.tnsoybeanfestival.org or call (731) 588-2507 for more information on other events that are planned.

Schools can take pride in national rankings

Congratulations to several West Tennessee colleges that were ranked in the latest edition of U.S. News and World Report’s annual survey, America’s Best Colleges 2008. Our region has always been a hotbed for quality higher education, and this report is just further proof of that. Each of these schools has plenty to be proud of.

Leading the way for the 11th consecutive year is Union University, which jumped five spots and entered the top 20 for the first time in the “Southern Universities-Master’s: Top Schools” category. Joining Union in the top tier this year were Freed-Hardeman University, ranked 32nd and the University of Tennessee-Martin, ranked 50th. Lambuth and Lane are listed in the national liberal arts category, and are ranked in the fourth tier.

Having so many of this region’s schools ranked by a publication as prestigious as U.S. News and World Report is a testament to the hard work of the faculty and staff who work at these institutions of higher learning. It also is a testament to the vision and passion of these schools’ leaders: Dr. David Dockery at Union; Dr. Milton Sewell at Freed-Hardeman; Dr. Tom Rakes at UT-Martin; Dr. Fred Zucker at Lambuth; and Dr. Wesley Cornelius McClure at Lane.

This year’s rankings represent a great recruiting tool for each school. For West Tennessee parents, it is a way to assure themselves that their children can get a quality education at an affordable price, and at a school that’s not too far from home. On the national stage, it is a way to spread each school’s name to points far and wide. And it is a way to emphasize the vital role that each school plays in its community.

And make no mistake. Each of these schools is vitally important to its community. These schools help create an educated, competitive workforce that is necessary for West Tennessee’s future economic health. And the schools help improve their communities’ quality of life through low-cost or free music concerts, plays, art exhibits, lectures, etc. that are offered throughout the year.

We have long known that West Tennessee is a great place to pursue a quality, affordable education. Now, according to these rankings, the rest of the country is starting to know it, too.

Seminars cover e-commerce, home business

E-commerce and home-based businesses are topics of two seminars planned by the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center in August and September at the Obion County Industrial Training Facility, located at 204 South Second St. in Union City.

“E-Commerce and Your Business: Take Your Business Online” is planned for Tuesday from 9-11 a.m. The instructor will be Steve Holt, University of Tennessee at Martin Instructional Technology Center director and Web master, and the fee will be $10. This seminar will show businesses and individuals the different options they have to sell their products online. Examples will be shown and step-by-step instructions will be given.

“Starting a Home-Based Business” will be offered Sept. 25 from 9-11 a.m., with Ron Acree, director of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center in Jackson, as the instructor. There is no fee. Operating a business from home has its advantages and challenges. This session is designed to share information with people who are interested in developing a small, home-based business.

Anyone interested may register online at www.tnreec.edu/reed; by calling the REED Center at (731) 587-7333; or by calling the Obion County of Commerce at 885-0211.
Monday's News Summary is ready for viewing at:
http://knxln.ips.utk.edu/prnews.nsf

User name - webnews
Password - utnews

Today's Headlines
Commercial Appeal: This grass could alter our driving habits while boosting Tennessee's economy, UT President quoted

Knoxnews: UT launches programs, open houses in hopes of retaining incoming class

Knoxnews: Forbes gives high marks to UT MBA; U.S. News rankings out, too

Knoxnews: UT’s sorority village to give sisters place to hang their letters

WBIR: UPDATE: Deceased UT graduate student identified

WATE: Water main break halts business and traffic on Cumberland Ave.

Inside Higher Ed: The Middlemen of Study Abroad, UT official quoted

Athens Banner-Herald: UGA crisis plan unfinished, but alerts set for testing, UT mentioned

Jackson Sun: Schools can take pride in national rankings, UTM mentioned

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@utk.edu.

If you know someone who would like to receive the daily UT news summary, they can join the list at http://listserv.utk.edu/archives/newssumm.html.
Lambuth, UTM proud of making best college list

The Jackson Sun

The University of Tennessee Martin and Lambuth University take pride in their rankings announced last week in the U.S. News and World Report annual Best Colleges edition. The two colleges recently released statements about their rankings. The Best Colleges list also recognized Union University, Freed-Hardeman University, Lane College and Bethel College.

According to Lambuth’s press release, this year U.S. News & World Report revised the methodology by which it conducts colleges, and placed Lambuth in the National Liberal Arts category. There were no regional rankings for Liberal Arts colleges as in past years.

Out of the more than 2,000 liberal arts colleges in the United States, Lambuth ranked in the Top 250, the release says.

“Lambuth University can take great pride in being ranked in the top 250 liberal arts universities nationwide,” Lambuth President R. Fred Zuker said. “This places us on par with some of the most prestigious universities this country has to offer, and is a testament to the high quality of education available to our students.”

Additional elements of this year’s ranking for Lambuth show the continued small class size that Lambuth has to offer, that instruction in all classes is provided by professors as opposed to graduate students, and that Lambuth continues to enjoy one of the highest participation rates in giving by its alumni, the release says.

Fall semester classes begin Wednesday at Lambuth.

Meanwhile, UT Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master’s level public universities. UT Martin tied for 20th place among public universities in the South that grant bachelor’s and master’s degrees — improved from a 21st-place tie in the 2007 rankings, according to a press release from UT Martin.

“We take pride in the accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students and alumni who enable us to be rated highly by U.S. News and other publications,” Chancellor Thomas Rakes said.

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

In the 2008 rankings, UT Martin improved its graduation rates and opportunities for faculty and students to interact.

Early numbers for fall semester 2007 point to a continued enrollment increase at the university, the release says. Classes begin Aug. 27.

“This places us on par with some of the most prestigious universities this country has to offer, and is a testament to the high quality of education available to our students.”

R. Fred Zuker, Lambuth University president

Basics for entrepreneurs focus of three seminars

Business basics, effective management and simplified bookkeeping are topics for three seminars planned at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in August and September.

The center is located at 406 Lindell St. in Martin.

“The Basics of Starting a Business and Writing the Business Plan” will be offered from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday. The instructor will be Jamie Frakes, director of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center in Dyersburg, and the fee will be $10. Participants will learn the basics of starting a business, proper legal structures, financing and other components to help them be successful.

“The Good, the Bad and the Ugly” is planned from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 11, with Frakes as the instructor and a $10 fee to be charged. Those attending will learn the principles of effective leadership and management by gaining insight about personalities. Each participant will get an understanding of his or her personality, take a 70-question personality assessment and learn the proper power language to use on and off the job.

Finally, “Small Business Simplified Bookkeeping” is slated for Sept. 20 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The instructor will be Eddie Ramsey, CPA. There is no fee to attend. Participants will learn the small business basics of simplified bookkeeping. Discussion will include “single-entry” bookkeeping, as well as suggested accounting software programs. Participants may register online at www.utm.edu/reed or by calling the REED Center at (731) 587-7333.

Local Residents Receive Degrees from UT Martin

MARTIN - Two Carroll County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement held in Skyhawk Fieldhouse on the UT Martin campus.

Local resident receiving undergraduate degree was Ryan Allen Drewry of McKenzie.

Receiving a graduate degree was Cheryl Hope Price of Atwood.
UT holds summer orientation

Nathan Bell, of Jackson, attended Summer Orientation and Registration at the University of Tennessee Martin. A University School of Jackson graduate, he will attend UT Martin in the fall. With Nathan is his mother, Cindy. 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).

Three seminars cover basics for entrepreneurs

Business basics, effective management and simplified bookkeeping are topics for three seminars planned at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center in August and September. The center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin.

"The Basics of Starting a Business and Writing the Business Plan" will be offered from 5:30-7:30 p.m., Aug. 28. Instructor will be Jamie Frakes, director of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center in Dyersburg, and the fee will be $10. Participants will learn the basics of starting a business, proper legal structures, financing and other components to help them be successful.

"The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," is planned from 5:30-7:30 p.m., Sept. 11, with Frakes as the instructor and a $10 fee will be charged. Those attending will learn the principles of effective leadership and management by gaining insight about personalities. Each participant will get an understanding of his or her personality, take a 70-question personality assessment and learn the proper power language to use on and off the job.

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Register online at www.utm.edu/reed, or by calling the REED Center at 587-7333.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2007

UTM dean helps kick off Soybean Festival

Jim Byford, University of Tennessee Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean, will be the featured speaker during the 14th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival Mayor's Kickoff Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Sept. 4 in Boling University Center at UT Martin.

The masters of ceremony for this year's luncheon will be Paul Tinkle and Chris Brinkley of WCMT's "Good Times in the Morning" radio show. The luncheon is sponsored by Leland Powell and Regions Bank.

Luncheon tickets are $12 each, and may be purchased by Aug. 29 at Martin City Hall, (731) 587-3126; or at C.E. Weldon Public Library in Martin, (731) 587-3148. For festival information, call (731) 588-2507.

Byford, a wildlife biologist, has a bachelor's degree from UT Martin and a doctorate in wildlife from Auburn University. He has spent a career teaching landowners, outdoor users and children how to manage and enjoy the land. Over the last 25 years, he has given 66 invited presentations in 28 different states, Ecuador and Japan. He gives 35 to 40 presentations off campus each year, most in west and middle Tennessee.

Byford has received numerous local, state and national awards related to agriculture, wildlife, youth education, conservation and communications. Byford writes a monthly outdoor column in the Southeast Farm Press (since 1984), and he's appeared in six commercial videos, recorded five songs and appeared for two years on the TNN cable network in the "Southern Outdoors" series. His first commercial book, "Close To The Land," was released by the UT Press in February 1999.

Another highlight of this year's Mayor's Luncheon will be the announcement of the "Big Bean," Community Service award recipients and Martin Beautiful awards.

Martin Mayor Randy Brundige noted, "Planning for the festival begins in February and goes through August. This takes time and effort of the many volunteers. The sponsors are a huge part of the festival. Without them we could not put on the great event we have planned."

More information and a schedule are posted on the Web at www.tnsoybeanfestival.org.
InDesign, Beginning Excel
Among ECCE Professional Development Courses

MARTIN - The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering professional development courses in InDesign, Beginning Excel, general civil mediation training, workplace violence and others beginning in September.

“InDesign for Publications Production” is planned from 6-8 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 4-October 11. Kara Hooper, UT Martin coordinator of publications, will be the instructor, and the fee will be $150.

Focused primarily on those who are working in printing, publications, or related fields, this course will help those who already know some basics about publication production, design and the Adobe InDesign program, but who need or want additional instruction, exposure, tips and collaboration to make their work more effective and successful. Participants will work on projects relevant to the class, and the course will be designed around the needs of those attending.

“Beginning Excel” will be taught by Shannon Burgin, UT-Martin assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs and chief information officer. It is slated from 9 a.m.-noon, September 25 and 27 and has a fee of $110.

Participants will learn to build spreadsheets using easy-to-use techniques. Other topics include: functions, sample worksheets, multiple worksheets, easy graphs, drawing tools for special emphasis, managing files, moving, copying and formatting, along with other hints, tips and backups.

“General Civil Mediation Training Course for Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 31” (40 hours) is approved by the Tennessee Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission (ADR) and will be offered from 6:30-9:30 p.m., September 16 and 18, October 6 and 8, November 12 and 14 and December 10 and 12. The $1,275 fee includes training materials. Instructor will be Raymond L. Stevenson, general civil case mediator, consultant and Mediation Association member.

Each year, workplace violence results in 1.7 million workers injured. A total of 16 percent of all violent crime is committed in the workplace. And, those statistics do not include the bullying, intimidation and threatening behavior among co-workers and their supervisors. This seminar, designed for supervisors, managers and human resource personnel, provides the participants with real-world information about the causes, the predictors, preventive measures, intervention techniques and how to respond to an incident.

The presentation will include:

- How supervisors attitudes and styles can reduce the potential or increase the possibility.
- Which employees are at greatest risk.
- The characteristics of a potentially violent worker.
- The warning signs and triggering events.
- Setting up a security committee and evaluations.
- Dealing with irate people.
- How to defuse a confrontation.
- Investigating threats.
- Investigating violent incidents.
- Interview techniques and recognizing deception.
- Techniques for preventing violence in the workplace.
- Legal liability for failure to act.
- Employee screening.

While the course will necessarily deal to some extend with interpersonal/conflict resolution in its skills training segments, its focus will be on the resolution of conflict between individuals vs. companies or agencies, interdependent groups or units, either intra- or inter-organizational. Specifically emphasized will be the skills required - communication, creative problem solving, facilitation - and the basic processes used - negotiation, conciliation, mediation - in conflict resolution.

The participants will examine the current theory in conflict resolution - legal, ethical and emotional issues that are common in disputes - and the format by which employment disputes are resolved.

“Workplace Violence” is planned from 1:5 p.m., September 11, 12, and 8 a.m.-noon, September 18 and 19. The fee will be $99. Presenters will be Dennis Mays and Jimmie Leach. Mays has commanded the Patrol Division and Special Operations units of Jackson Police Department since 1998, after commanding the Criminal Investigation Division for seven years. He also serves as the department’s Aviation Unit Commander, Critical Incident Commander and liaison with the U.S. Secret Service. Leach is a 20-year law enforcement professional, who has served as a police officer, state trooper, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation special agent and special agent in charge, and finally as Tennessee Department of Safety director of criminal investigations.

UT Martin Names Local Student to Summer Semester Dean’s List

MARTIN - The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2007 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 (3.3 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

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

Mason A. Hinton, McKenzie, Honors
UT Martin welcoming students for fall semester

New and returning students are arriving for fall semester this week and through the weekend at the University of Tennessee at Martin. First-year students move in August 22 and upperclassmen, August 25. Classes are set to begin August 27, with late registration through August 31. Early numbers for fall semester 2007 point to a continued enrollment increase at the university.

UT-Martin offers first-year students the First-Year Initiative, a two-phase program designed to help them get acclimated to university life. The first phase is Student Orientation and Registration offered in several sessions during the summer. The second phase involves participation by students in General Studies 101 (GENS 101) course. The GENS 101 course begins with Welcome Week during the week immediately prior to the start of classes in the fall semester. It is a time when students learn more about academic and campus life, along with community opportunities available while at UT Martin.

At the beginning of Welcome Week, each student is assigned to a group of students with similar academic interests. A faculty mentor and a peer counselor (Pep Leader) lead the group during Welcome Week and throughout GENS 101. It is during these days that students begin their transition into the UT Martin community. GENS 101 is a semester-long, two-credit hour class which focuses on the strategies and skills needed to experience success in the collegiate environment.

Welcome Week kicks off at 5:00 p.m., August 22, with a family picnic in the quad and opening ceremonies at 7:00 p.m. in Skyhawk Arena. Other Welcome Week activities include a recreational event, a non-denominational church service, concert, comedy show, luau, dance, special luncheons and a variety of speakers.

For more information about First-Year Initiative, contact the Student Success Center, at 731-881-1689.

Indoor contamination, mold and toxins topic of conference

Dr. Andrew Campbell, Houston immunotoxicologist, will present “Indoor Contamination, Mold and Toxins” in a three-hour seminar at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Campbell, who practices medicine at the Medical Center for Immune and Toxic Disorders, is board certified by three national boards and has specialized in immunotoxicology, the study of how toxins affect the human body and its immune system, for more than 20 years. Currently, he is treating patients for mold exposure throughout the country and the world, including Martin.

Slated for 7:00 p.m., August 28, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center, the event is open to the public. There will be a question-and-answer period. The conference is sponsored by the UT Martin Pre-Vet Club and Mu Epsilon Delta, pre-professional allied health fraternity.

Topics to be discussed include:

What do we know about molds? When can water damage cause mold growth? Is there anything else in water-damaged places that makes people sick? Can molds have adverse effects on our health? Can mold exposure be diagnosed? Are there treatment options available?

“My concern from a health perspective is that caused by water intrusion. A pipe left uncapped, a slow leak behind a wall, a small leak in the roof - these and others can cause drops or a trickle of water to accumulate unseen and unnoticed behind walls or other spaces,” said Campbell. “This wet environment then allows organisms to flourish in this hidden environment. The most common ones we know about are molds.”

For more information, contact Dr. Richard Joost, UT Martin professor of plant and soil science, at 731-881-7196, or the Center for Immune and Toxic Disorders, at 281-681-8989.
SOYBEAN FESTIVAL PAGEANTS

MARTIN: The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival is offering girls the opportunity to participate in upcoming Soybean Festival pageants. The University of Tennessee Federal Credit Union is sponsoring the pageants.

Girls 0-12 years of age are invited to participate in the pageants, September 1, during the festival. Pageants begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine and Performing Arts Building at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Deadline to register is August 24.

The pageant lineup includes the following: Baby Miss Soybean (0-1 year old), 10:00 a.m.; Tiny Miss Soybean (2-3 years old), 10:45 a.m.; Petite Miss Soybean (4-5 years old), 11:30 a.m.; Little Miss Soybean (6-9 years old), 1:00 p.m.; and Preteen Miss Soybean (10-12 years old), 1:45 p.m. All pageants will have one queen and four maids.

A $25 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. Make check payable to the Tennessee Soybean Festival. Mail fee and application to: Tennessee Soybean Pageant, 101 University St., Martin, TN 38237 or deliver to Martin City Hall.

For more information, call Kimberly Craddick at 731-587-3126 or Hollie Holt at 731-587-7333.

Applications for pageants are available at: Martin - UT Federal Credit Union, Lana’s Boutique & Bridal, Sugar and Spice, UT Martin Student Life Center and Martin City Hall; Union City - Joann’s; Dresden - Milani’s; Milan - Special Occasions; Jackson - Bonnie’s. Go online to www.tnsoybeaufestival.org/soyfest.html.

Local residents receive degrees from UT Martin

Several Weakley County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement held in Skylark Fieldhouse on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

- Martin - Melinda E. Bray, Charles Covington, Gerret Davis, Stephanie Jeanette Gardner, Megan Terese Hunter, Jason Andrew Jackson, Kellie Sommer Keen, Douglas Blake Landrum, Judy Rachel McMorries
- Sharon - Daniel Simpson
- Among students receiving a graduate degree was:
  - Martin - Jolene Cunningham

Dr. Bruce Blanding, Jackson State Community College president, was the keynote speaker and Dr. Thomas Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, presided and conferred degrees.

Humboldt Chronicle, Wednesday, August 22, 2007

UT Martin improves in rankings

Enrollment increase expected

The University of Tennessee at Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master’s level public universities in the South in the 2008 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 20th place among public universities in the South that grant bachelor’s and master’s degrees – improved from a 21st-place tie in the 2007 rankings.

“We are pleased to be ranked in the top 20 for public universities in the South,” said Dr. Thomas Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

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 2008 rankings, UT Martin improved its graduation rates and opportunities for faculty and students to interact.

“We take pride in the accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students and alumni who enable us to be rated highly by U.S. News and other publications,” Rakes said.

Early numbers for fall semester 2007 point to a continued enrollment increase at the university. Classes are set to begin August 27.
Social Studies teachers' workshops Sept. 8 at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Department of History and Philosophy in conjunction with the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will sponsor the 29th Annual Social Studies Teachers’ Workshop. Slated to begin at 9 a.m., Sept. 8, in Room 111, Boling University Center, at UT Martin, the workshop will offer sessions on reclaiming classical heritage, cultural identity, confronting war in the classroom and how presidential elections are changing.

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 credits. To register, contact the Office of ECCE, 110 Gooch Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, or 731-881-7082, or e-mail: ecce@utm.edu. Make checks payable to UT Martin.

"Reclaiming Our Classical Heritage: Ancient Greece and Rome" will be presented by Dr. Nathan D. Howard, UT Martin assistant professor of history. In this session, participants will explore ways to use texts, ideas and words from classical Greece and/or Rome to make these cultures from the ancient world meaningful to today’s students. Much of the way that modern-day people think, act and speak derives from the Greeks and Romans. The possibilities of making ancient texts available to students online and how discussing these readings can make ancient Greece and Rome seem relevant to life in today’s world are part of the session.

• "Who am I? What are you?: Cultural identity in the classroom" will be presented by Richard Saunders, UT Martin curator and archivist. This session will examine how students might study the way they create and maintain cultural identity. Identity (manifested as race, economics, language, culture and fashion) can provide footings for appreciating differences. This session focuses on ideas to identify what gives people identity and encourages students to look critically at what makes them different and similar to others.

• "Confronting War in the Classroom" will be the topic of Dr. David Coffey, UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy chair and College of Fine Arts and Humanities co-dean. Coffey notes that it is perhaps more important than ever to deal frankly and openly with controversial issues in the classroom. Wars touch everyone in some way, but it may not always be clear just how. Too often, questions are not asked or discussion not fostered for fear of negative reaction, which can render abstract the deadly conflicts, such as the current struggles in Iraq and Afghanistan, he added. In his presentation, Coffey will examine how past classroom history lessons tended to promote patriotism without examining cause and effect. Coffey, military historian, will share his thoughts on how to approach the subject of war in the classroom, which must begin, he said, with an honest appraisal of America’s involvement in war and how U.S. policy decisions have created generations of enemies across the globe.

• "How presidential elections are changing" will be presented by Dr. Richard Cheseen, UT Martin professor of political science. This session will focus on three changing trends in presidential elections: visible female and minority race candidates, time scheduling of primaries, financing of presidential campaigns.

For more information, call the Office of ECCE at 731-881-7082 or 1-800-482-5199.

Immunotoxicologist to present seminar on indoor contaminants

Dr. Andrew Campbell, Houston immunotoxicologist, will present "Indoor Contamination, Mold and Toxins" in a three-hour seminar at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Campbell, who specializes in medicine at the Medical Center for Immune and Toxic Disorders, is board certified by the National Institute of Medicine and has specialized in immunotoxicology, the study of how toxics affect the human body and its immune system, for more than 20 years. Currently, he is treating patients for mold exposure throughout the country and the world, including Martin.

Slated for 7 p.m., Aug. 28, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center, the event is open to the public. There will be a question-and-answer period. The conference is sponsored by the UT Martin Pre-Vet Club and Mu Epsilon Delta, pre-professional allied health fraternity.

Topics to be discussed include:

What do we know about mold? When can water damage cause mold growth? Is there anything else in water-damaged places that make people sick? Can molds have adverse effects on our health? Can mold exposure be diagnosed? Are there treatment options available?

"My concern from a health perspective is that caused by water intrusion. A pipe left uncapped, a slow leak behind a wall, a small leak in the roof – these and others can cause drops or a trickle of water to accumulate unseen and unnoticed behind walls or other spaces," said Campbell. "This environment then allows organisms to flourish in this hidden environment. The most common ones we know about are molds."

For more information, contact Dr. Richard Joost, UT Martin professor of plant and soil science, at 731-881-7196, or the Center for Immune and Toxic Disorders, at 281-681-8989.

UT-MARTIN 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 2007 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). UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.

Local people achieving the dean’s list status include: Kory A. Narango of Clinton, with high honors; Felisha A. Smith of Fulton, with highest honors; and Tara L. Rudolph of South Fulton, with highest honors.
Several students from Obion County have been named to the summer Dean's List at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at UT Martin have been honored with publication of the 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.

The honorees from Obion County, listed by hometown, include:
- Hornbeak — Connie P. Conley, high honors.
- South Fulton — Tara L. Randolph, highest honors.
- Troy — Carolyn A. Duncan, honors.
- Union City — Melissa S. Blackwell, highest honors; Amanda K. Carr, honors; Amy N. Kendall, highest honors; Nathan K. Woods, honors; and Michael S. Yandell, highest 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).

Byford kicks off festival

Dr. Jim Byford, University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean, will be the featured speaker during the 14th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival Mayor's Kickoff Luncheon at 11:30 a.m., Sept. 4, in Boling University Center at UT Martin.

The masters of ceremony for this year's luncheon will be Paul Tinkle and Chris Brinkley of WCMT's "Good Times in the Morning" radio show.

The luncheon is sponsored by Leland Powell and Regions Bank. Luncheon tickets are $12 each, and can be purchased by Aug. 29 at Martin City Hall, at 731-587-3126; or at C.E. Weldon Public Library in Martin at 731-587-3148. For festival information, call 731-588-2507.

Byford, a wildlife biologist, has a bachelor's degree from UT Martin and a doctorate in wildlife from Auburn University. He has spent a career teaching landowners, outdoor users and children how to manage and enjoy the land. Being an outdoorsman and landowner himself, Byford tries to connect scientific knowledge to practical applications.

His broad perspective of land management, his conviction to land stewardship and his moderate, common-sense approach to the land ethic has attracted national attention in recent years. He tries to bridge the communications gap and help defuse conflicts, between agriculture, forestry, wildlife and fisheries.

Another highlight of this year's Mayor's Luncheon will be the announcement of the "Big Bean" and Community Service award recipients and Martin Beautiful awards.

The festival offers a week of musical entertainment and activities for all ages and interests. Complete festival information and schedule are posted on the Web at www.tnsoybeanfestival.org.
InDesign and Beginning Excel among ECCE professional courses

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering professional development courses in InDesign, Beginning Excel, general civil mediation training, workplace violence and others beginning in September.

"InDesign for Publications Production" is planned from 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays Sept. 4-Oct. 11. Kara Hooper, UT Martin coordinator of publications, will be the instructor and the fee will be $150.

Focused primarily on those who are working in printing, publications or related fields, this course will help those who already know some basics about publication production, design and the Adobe InDesign program, but who need or want additional instruction, exposure, tips and collaboration to make their work more effective and successful. Participants will work on projects relevant to the class and the course will be designed around the needs of those attending.

"Beginning Excel" will be taught by Shannon Burgin, UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs and chief information officer. It is slated from 9 a.m.-noon Sept. 25 and 27 and has a fee of $110.

Participants will learn to build spreadsheets using easy-to-use techniques. Other topics include functions, sample worksheets, multiple worksheets, easy graphs, drawing tools for special emphasis, managing files, moving, copying and formatting, along with other hints, tips and backups.

"General Civil Mediation Training Course for Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 31" (40 hours) is approved by the Tennessee Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission (ADRC) and will be offered from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sept. 10 and 18, Oct. 8 and 22, Nov. 12 and 26 and Dec. 10 and 17. The $1,275 fee includes training materials. Instructor will be Raymond L. Stevenson, general civil case mediator, consultant and Mediation Association member.

While the course will necessarily deal to some extent with interpersonal conflict resolution in its skill-building segments, its focus will be on the resolution of conflict between individuals vs. companies or agencies, independent groups or units, either intra- or inter-organizations. Specifically emphasized will be the skills required — communication, creative problem solving, facilitation — and the basic processes used — negotiation, conciliation, mediation — in conflict resolution.

The participants will examine the current theory in conflict resolution — legal, ethical and emotional issues that are common in disputes — and the format by which employment disputes are resolved.

"Workplace Violence" is planned from 1-5 p.m. Sept. 11 and 12 and 8 a.m.-noon Sept. 18 and 19. The fee will be $99. Presenters will be Dennis Mays and Jimmie Leach. Mays has commanded the Patrol Division and Special Operations units of Jackson Police Department since 1998, after commanding the Criminal Investigation Division for seven years. He also serves as the department's Aviation Unit Commander, Critical Incident Commander and liaison with the U.S. Secret Service. Leach is a 20-year law enforcement professional, who has served as a police officer, state trooper, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation special agent and special agent in charge and, finally, as the Tennessee Department of Safety director of criminal investigations.

Each year, workplace violence results in 1.7 million workers injured. A total of 18 percent of all violent crime is committed in the workplace. And those statistics do not include the bullying, intimidation and threatening behavior among co-workers and their supervisors. This seminar, designed for supervisors, managers and human resource personnel, provides the participants with real-world information about the causes, the predictors, preventive measures, intervention techniques and how to respond to an incident.

The presentation will include:
- How supervisors' attitudes and styles can reduce the potential or increase the possibility;
- Which employees are at greatest risk;
- The characteristics of a potentially violent worker;
- The warning signs and triggering events;
- Setting up a security committee and evaluations;
- Dealing with irate people;
- How to defuse a confrontation;
- Investigating threats;
- Investigating violent incidents;
- Interview techniques and recognizing deception;
- Techniques for preventing violence in the workplace;
- Legal liability for failure to act;
- Employee screening techniques;
- Developing policy/training;
- Physical security planning;
- What to do when it happens;
- How the police will respond;
- Managing the media; and
- Getting back to normal.

To register for a workshop, contact the ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or (731) 881-7082 or visit the Web at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/courses_nondegree.php.

A number of Obion County and Fulton County (Ky.) students were among those who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement, held in Skyhawk Fieldhouse on the UT Martin campus.

The students who received undergraduate degrees, listed by hometown, include:
- Kenton — Bradley Aaron Davis.
- South Fulton — Matthew Henderson Grimm and Matthew Allen Lynch.
- Union City — Alan Shane Autry, Girtrle Mae Johnson, Jonathan Len Jorge and Patrick Ryan Miller.
- Fulton — Felisha Annice Smith and David A. Wynn.
- Lynnville, Ky. — James Cole Duncan.

Among those who received graduate degrees were:
- Union City — Heatherly Reed Kendall and Stephanie Gray Robinson.
- Clinton, Ky. — Don Wayne Bible II.

• Get Out! • Aug. 23, 2007

UT MARTIN DRUMLINE TUNEUP
All day, Saturday at UT Martin Fine Arts Building. Call 881-7418.

KNITTING CLASSES SESSION III
Today at UT Martin. Cost $60. To register or for more information, call (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.
UTM names Gibson County students to Summer Semester Dean’s Lists

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2007 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).

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

Included are:
• Bradford: Shanna R. McCartney, Honors, and Deidre A. Veasey, Honors;
• Humboldt: Benjamyn A. Baughman, High Honors;
• Medina: Yisel T. McConnell, Honors;
• Milan: April A. Brake, High Honors; Brittany L. Broach, High Honors; Jenny L. Dodson, Highest Honors; Amanda L. Reeves, Highest Honors.

Dr. Charlene Alsop

Alsop receives doctor of education

Charlene Gammill Alsop of Dresden received a doctor of education degree with an emphasis in educational leadership from Union University in Jackson during the Aug. 3 commencement services.

Alsop is a 1969 graduate of Martin High School and earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1974. She began a career in public education teaching elementary school in 1985.

Alsop earned a master’s degree in education with an emphasis in curriculum and instruction from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1998. She continued her education at Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville and graduated in 2001 with a master’s degree in administration. In addition to teaching, she has served as an assistant principal at Dresden Elementary School and principal of McKenzie Elementary School. She currently serves as supervisor of instruction for grades PreK-5 with Weakley County Schools.

Alsop is the daughter of Charlie and Mary Gammill of Dickson. She is the mother of John Alsop of Montrose, Colo., Rachael Taylor of Jackson, Miss., and Sarah Hendren of Birmingham, Ala. She is also the grandmother of Callie Hendren of Birmingham, Ala., and Zachary Taylor of Jackson, Miss.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2007

UT Martin welcoming fall freshmen

New and returning students are arriving for fall semester this week and through the weekend at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

First-year students move in Aug. 22 and upperclassmen, Aug. 25. Classes are set to begin Aug. 27, with late registration through Aug. 31. Early numbers for fall semester 2007 point to a continued enrollment increase at the university.

UT Martin offers first-year students the First-Year Initiative, a two-phase program designed to help them get acclimated to university life. The first phase is Student Orientation and Registration offered in several sessions during the summer.

The second phase involves participation by students in General Studies 101 (GENS 101) course.

The GENS 101 course begins with Welcome Week during the week immediately prior to the start of classes in the fall semester. It is a time when students learn more about academic and campus life, along with community opportunities available while at UT Martin.

At the beginning of Welcome Week, each student is assigned to a group of students with similar academic interests. A faculty mentor and a peer counselor (PEP Leader) lead the group during Welcome Week and throughout GENS 101.

It is during these days that students begin their transition into the UT Martin community. GENS 101 is a semester-long, two-credit hour class which focuses on the strategies and skills needed to experience success in the collegiate environment.

Welcome Week kicked off at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, with a family picnic in the fieldhouse and opening ceremonies at 7 p.m. in Skyhawk Arena. Other Welcome Week activities include a recreational event, a nondenominational church service, concert, comedy show, luau, dance, special luncheons and a variety of speakers.

For more information about First-Year Initiative, contact the Student Success Center, at 731-881-1689.
Construction crews build a drainage basin and put the finishing touches on the Humboldt Education Center Wednesday in Humboldt. The newly restored center will house campuses for Jackson State Community College, the University of Tennessee and Tennessee Technical Institute. The first day of classes for the fall semester is Monday.

Old places, new uses

An old elementary school becomes an adult learning facility

By TONYA SMITH-KING

HUMBOLDT — Classes soon will be in session again at Main Street Elementary School.

But this time the students will be adults. A transformation the building is going through is nearing completion.

The new Humboldt Education Center will house satellite campuses for four colleges and universities. Renovation work is slated to be completed within the next two to three weeks, according to Bruce Blanding, president of Jackson State Community College.

Classes for two of the institutions of higher learning that will have campuses in the building are slated to start next week.

JSCC and the University of Memphis are holding classes elsewhere until the renovation is finished.

“We’re excited,” Blanding said Wednesday. “This is something we’ve been looking forward to for a long time.”

More than 100 students have already registered for classes there. Those interested can still register for classes with some of the institutions, officials said Wednesday.

Conversation about transforming Main Street Elementary School started about two years ago, Blanding said. Humboldt officials approached JSCC about locating classes there.

“I said, ‘You build it, we’ll come,’” Blanding said. “By golly, they did, and it’s really a nice looking building.”

JSCC is the lead institution in the facility. The others are the University of Memphis, the University of Tennessee-Martin and the Tennessee Technology Center.

As of now, about 50 students have registered for classes with JSCC; 35 with Tennessee Tech; 20 with Memphis, for a total of 105. UT Martin won’t be offering any classes at the center until the spring of 2008, spokesman Bud Grimes said Wednesday.

They’ll offer only upper division and graduate classes as there is a demand for them, Grimes added.

What to know

- The regular deadline to register for classes with the University of Memphis is Friday. Late registration is Saturday through August 30. Call 424-4725 for more information.
- For more information, call JSCC at 424-3520, Tennessee Tech at 424-0691 and UT Martin at 881-7020.

Blanding said that typically with new campuses, enrollment starts low and builds from there.

Both Humboldt General Hospital and Humboldt High School have extended invitations for JSCC students to meet in their facilities until the Humboldt Education Center is completed, Blanding said.

Memphis students will temporarily attend classes at JSCC’s Jackson campus, said Jean Ashmore, director of the Jackson Center of the Memphis.

Tennessee Tech classes don’t start until Sept. 4, said Don Williams, director of the Jackson school. If the building isn’t ready by then, classes will start at the Jackson campus, Williams said.

Please see SCHOOL, 28
School
Continued from cover

JSCC is offering courses for an associate's degree. Tennessee Tech is offering a practical nursing program and will offer a business systems technology program starting in January.

U of M is offering two classes this fall in "Communications in Organization" and "Economics of Social Issues." The school is offering a non-profit administration degree.

"There are so many people in West Tennessee that work for non-profit organizations" that the school decided to start offering the degree, Ashmore said.

Dennis Little, a project superintendent with Wolfe Company in Jackson, said the renovation was "well over" 99 percent complete. Crews were working Thursday on what Little called a "punch list."

"Odds and ends things," said Chris Little, Dennis Little's son and the project's foreman.

Dennis Little said the project has been "a real good experience. "I think we've done everything that they've asked for," he said. "Everybody seems happy."

Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.
— Tonya Smith-King, 425-9680

TENNESSEE SOYBEAN FESTIVAL
Featuring Blake Shelton, Mickey Dolenz, Rose Royce and Emerson Drive.
Saturday through Sept. 9 in Martin.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2007

Puckett receives UTM scholarship

A Weakley County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2007-08 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

- Allison Puckett, daughter of Stevie and Holly Puckett of Greenfield, will be a freshman. She received the Salutatorian 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-UTM1; out-of-state residents should call 881-7040.

UT Martin improves in rankings’ top tier

The University of Tennessee at Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master's level public universities in the South in the 2008 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 20th place among public universities in the South that grant bachelor's and master's degrees — improved from a 21st-place tie in the 2007 rankings.

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 2008 rankings, UT Martin improved its graduation rates and opportunities for faculty and students to interact.

Classes are set to begin Monday.
Former Arkadelphia resident honored at University of Tennessee

MARTIN, Tenn. — Richard C. Robinson, a former Arkadelphia resident, has been named the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association “Outstanding Teacher of the Year” for 2007. Each year, the national association names a faculty member from each of the University of Tennessee campuses to receive the honor. In the initial phase, students, alumni and faculty are asked to nominate outstanding teachers. Teachers who receive at least one nomination from each category then advance to the evaluation phase, with ratings of classroom performance. Each honoree receives a $2,000 cash award.

Robinson was recognized for outstanding scholastic achievement and academic excellence from the University of Tennessee at Martin campus. He has previously been named an outstanding teacher on the UT Martin campus by students from “Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities” and Phi Kappa Phi honors students in both 2003 and 2005. Robinson was named an “Outstanding Junior Faculty Member” by the College of Fine Arts and Humanities in 2005.

Robinson is a doctoral candidate in mass communication and media arts at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. He was also honored as the “Outstanding Graduate Student in Journalism” for 2005 at SIU, while completing Ph.D. coursework.

A native of Conway, Ark., Robinson received a bachelor of science in journalism from the University of Central Arkansas at Conway in 1975 and a master of arts in journalism in 1995 from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Robinson was formerly a management project analyst at the Arkadelphia Human Development Center, a morning personality for KVRC/KDEL radio and an adjunct professor of mass communications at Henderson State University and Ouachita Technical College in Malvern.

He is married to the former Fran Graham and is the son-in-law of Eddie and Carolyn Graham of Arkadelphia.
Dr. Tom Rakes (left), Dr. Glenda Rakes, Carolyn Moss of Cordova and Harrell Jeter enjoyed a reception for University of Tennessee at Martin alumni and friends recently at the Memphis Area Home Builders. During the event, as the new chancellor for the UT Martin campus, Dr. Tom Rakes shared highlights about new academic programs, new construction and the future of the Martin campus. Rakes gave facts about online classes as well as satellite campuses in Bartlett and other West Tennessee towns.

Kilburn receives doctorate degree

Brandon Kilburn of Bradford, received a doctorate in business management from the University of Memphis during Aug. 12 commencement ceremonies. Kilburn earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business administration from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Married to Ashley Kilburn, he is the son of Robert Kilburn of Bradford and Glenda Feild of Oakland, Tenn.

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Shanna R. McCartney, Bradford, Honors
Deidre A. Veasey, Bradford, Honors
Yisel T. McConnell, Medina, Honors
April A. Brake, Milan, High Honors
Brittany L. Broach, Milan, High Honors
Jenny L. Dodson, Milan, Highest Honors
Amanda L. Reeves, Milan, Highest Honors
Dr. Rakes to faculty: 'Who are we?'

"We are a comprehensive, regional, public university that is perceived by our stakeholders as a place with a spirit for personal attention and passion for quality undergraduate education and rigorous graduate programs. Our graduates do well when they leave us. Our alumni are overwhelmingly staunch supporters which is shared by the UT (System) that continues to display a sincere, supportive loyalty to UT Martin." — Dr. Thomas Rakes, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor.

Rakes recently opened his first fall faculty meeting since becoming the ninth UT Martin chancellor by answering the question: Who are we?

His remarks, titled "Capacity-Building: A Spirit, A Vision, A Plan," also answered the questions: Where are we headed? How do we get there?

"I believe it is in the best interests of those we serve, as well as ourselves, to remain true to who we are now, but expand upon our tradition of purpose by becoming even better, being very strategic in how we change," he said.

"We need to look ahead and envision ourselves as being among the best regional, public universities in the nation. There are things we can do over the coming years to move our programs and services to another level — not necessarily becoming that much larger in enrollment, but becoming stronger academically as we increase in overall stature among those we serve, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Rakes spoke about several distinguishing programs, features and assets at UT Martin — campus safety, strength of academic majors and facilities. All were ranked as important in a recent survey by Stamats, a marketing communications company that provides strategic and creative services to colleges and universities.

"We are at a juncture in the life of the university. We can open avenues for faculty and staff to engage in partnerships and opportunities in agriculture, the arts, business, education, applied sciences and social sciences."

The chancellor cited six core values that will continue to serve as the foundation: Excellence in teaching/learning, integrity, leadership, community, inclusiveness and creativity/innovation.

Moving forward, he added, begins by "recognizing our strengths and exploring ways to improve our performance and the value of our services."

Rakes said he supports increasing academic rigor; renewing and strengthening efforts to ensure diversity; reviewing and enhancing security initiatives; reviewing support for operations such as development and alumni relations, online studies and extended campuses.

Additional priorities will include evaluating and adjusting resources to enhance academic and student services to expand research, leadership and internship opportunities; increasing research and economic development activities; completing $76 million in facilities projects and ensuring all ancillary facilities and services are well maintained or enhanced.

"This morning, I speak of plans, priorities and initiatives, most of which depend on your support, your buy-in, and gathering and aligning resources to move forward. Capacity-building is a continuous avenue to travel, and I realize our actions will speak louder than our words.

"I pledge to each of you that I have the very best interests of this campus at heart. Our employees, students, alumni and stakeholders deserve that. I expect us to enjoy many, many positive and uplifting times in the coming years. UT Martin is a special place to work and serve. We are the economic and social engine within our region. We need to plan and act accordingly to continue our successful ways."

Mold and toxin effects are conference topics

Dr. Andrew Campbell, Houston immunotoxicologist, will present "Indoor Contamination, Mold and Toxins" in a three-hour seminar at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Campbell, who practices medicine at the Medical Center for Immune and Toxic Disorders, is board certified by three national boards and has specialized in immunotoxicology, the study of how toxins affect the human body and its immune system, for more than 20 years. Currently, he is treating patients for mold exposure throughout the country and the world, including Martin.

Slated for 7 p.m., Aug. 28, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center, the event is open to the public. There will be a question-and-answer period.

The conference is sponsored by the UT Martin Pre-Vet Club and Mu Epsilon Delta, pre-professional allied health fraternity.

Topics to be discussed include: What do we know about molds? When can water damage cause mold growth? Is there anything else in water-damaged places that make people sick? Can molds have adverse effects on our health? Can mold exposure be diagnosed? Are there treatment options available?

"My concern from a health perspective is that caused by water intrusion. A pipe left uncapped, a slow leak behind a wall, a small leak in the roof these and others can cause drops or a trickle of water to accumulate unseen and unnoticed behind walls or other spaces," said Campbell.

For more information, contact Dr. Richard Joost, UT Martin professor of plant and soil science, at 881-7196, or the Center for Immune and Toxic Disorders, at (281) 681-8989.
14th Annual Soybean Festival announced

Musical entertainment, a cookoff, car and bike show, good food and children's events are all part of "The Crossroads of Good Livin'," planned during the 14th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, Sept. 1-9, in Martin.

Added to this year's venue is the "Super Retriever Series" featuring the best dog and handler teams from around the country. Three separate SRS events will be held at the Martin Recreation Complex: retriever trials, Super Fly and Super V.

These events have multiple trials and replicate common hunting and field scenarios. Top teams will qualify for the SRS Crown Championship. The Super Retriever Series is nationally televised on the Versus Channel, which will allow Martin to receive national exposure.

Blake Shelton and Mickey Dolenz will headline two of the evening concerts.

The musical mix also includes Chapter Six in concert as the Tuesday night feature during festival week, the fourth annual Faith and Community Night, sponsored by the Martin Ministerial Alliance, with Gold City as the Wednesday night entertainment and Emerson Drive ("A Good Man," "Fall Into Me" and "I Should Be Sleeping") performing Thursday night. The Rose Royce and Mickey Dolenz concerts Friday night and Blake Shelton's performance Saturday night will cap festival musical events.

All concerts are free and will be on the main stage in downtown Martin.

Shelton has had hits, "Don't Make Me," "Some Beach," "The Baby," "Goodbye Time" and "Austin."

Rose Royce is known for songs, "Car Wash" and "Wishing on a Star." Mickey Dolenz is best known as a member of The Monkees group with songs, "Last Train to Clarksville," "I'm a Believer" and "Daydream Believer."

Festival Big Harvester sponsors include the city of Martin, the University of Tennessee at Martin, Union City Coca-Cola Bottling Co., MTI Products Inc., Tyson Foods Inc., First State Bank, First Citizens National Bank, Volunteer Community Hospital, Martin Area Ministerial Alliance, UT Martin Student Activities Council, Final Flight Outfitters and UT Federal Credit Union.

Traditional festival events will include the Mayor's Kickoff Luncheon, First State Bank-sponsored Soybean Festival Parade; the Soybean Farmer's Breakfast; Union City Coca-Cola Bottling Co.-sponsored School Children's Street Fair with Volunteer Community Hospital hosting lunch for the children; "The Singing Bee" live game show, sponsored by Thunderbolt Broadcasting Co.; Rotary Club golf tournament; Kiwanis 5K run; Optimist Club bicycle rodeo; the 11th annual car and bike show, sponsored by MTI Products Inc., and the 13th annual barbecue cookoff, sponsored by Tyson Foods.

Complete festival information is posted on the Web at www.tnsoybeansfestival.org. For more information, call Karami Hagan, at 731-588-2507 or email mcd@martintennessee.org.

UT Martin again named one of 'Best in the Southeast'

The University of Tennessee at Martin has again earned the designation as one of the "Best in the Southeast" in The Princeton Review for 2008.

"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 commend these institutions for their excellent academics, and we believe our choices offer applicants and their parents in these regions a wide range of fine schools to consider ..." The regions include the Northeast, Midwest, Southeast and West.

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UT Martin is West Tennessee's only public, four-year institution outside of Memphis. Despite being located outside a large metropolis area, students cited the variety of activities available on campus.

As one undergraduate said, "It all depends on how involved you want to get here. There is a Student Activities Council that makes sure there are things to do every week."

Overall, students love that it's "so easy to get involved." Even the outdoors is a significant part of campus life at UT Martin.

One student explained, "If you love to hunt, this is the place to come."

And, more than one student mentioned that there is a "general friendliness" on the campus.

"Students feel like they belong here. The small-town atmosphere provides a safe environment in which to spend your four years."

"We are delighted to again be recognized as one of the 'Best in the Southeast' designation. Our students and alumni are our best ambassadors," said Dr. Thomas Rakes, university chancellor.
Local students named to 2007 dean's list

The summer 2007 dean’s lists have been announced. 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). Students on the dean’s lists included: Tugce Gokdemir, Ankara, Turkey, Honors; Lance S. Legons, Dresden, Highest Honors; Shelley C. Featherston, Greenfield, High Honors; Kimberly K. Thirpe, Greenfield, Honors; Abdulla Abdulla, Martin, High Honors; Cameron W. Chandler, Martin, Highest Honors; Brent L. Harden, Martin, Honors; Bethany N. Hazlewood, Martin, Highest Honors; Douglas B. Landrum, Martin, Highest Honors; Lorie K. Mallari, Martin, High Honors; Sara M. McIntosh, Martin, High Honors; Stephen E. Rush, Martin, High Honors; Teresa J. Sanfratello, Martin, Highest Honors; Nicole T. Sudberry, Martin, Highest Honors; Julie B. Vantrease, Martin, Honors; Joshua S. Allen, Sharon, Highest Honors; Amy L. Hall, Sharon, Highest Honors; and Cassie M. Hickey, Sharon, High Honors.

ACT prep, horsemanship offered by UTM's ECCE

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is offering several classes of interest to youth.

"Making Sense of the ACT" is planned in two sessions to accommodate more students. Classes are limited to 20 students. Ron Ramage will be the instructor, and the fee is $50. Session I will be from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, Sept. 8-29, and Session II, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, Oct. 6-27.

Making the highest score you can on the ACT test makes sense and dollars these days. This course will help you plan a strategy to make the highest score you are capable of making.

The course is designed for first-time test takers, as well as those planning to retake the test. Students will be using "The Real ACT Prep Guide" and should bring the book to the first class meeting.

The cost of the text is not included in the registration fee. The book may be purchased on the UT Martin campus at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore. To reserve a copy, call 881-7760.

"Private Beginning Horsemanship English/Western Riding Lessons" will be taught by Meghan Cunningham, UT Martin equestrian coach.

Individual lessons will cover the fundamentals of horse safety and horsemanship to include handling, grooming, equipment, riding English/Western and the relationship of riding to physical and mental well-being.

No prior riding experience is necessary. Riders must be at least seven years of age to participate.

There is a $35 fee per hour lesson and a half hour of riding time. Participants should wear long pants and boots with heels. Riding helmets will be provided. To schedule a lesson(s), contact Coach Cunningham at 881-7273 or 881-7261.

To register for a course, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082 or visit the Web at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/courses_nondegree.php.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity plans celebration

Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity at the University of Tennessee at Martin will be celebrating its 35th anniversary the weekend of Sept. 28-30.

The Tennessee Tau chapter was chartered in 1972 and has initiated over 560 brothers into its chapter since its installation. Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity was founded March 9, 1856, at the University of Alabama and now includes over 225 chapters throughout the United States and Canada.

Tennessee Tau will celebrate its 35th year in existence beginning with an initiation ceremony the evening of Sept. 28 followed by a reception for its newest members. All alumni are encouraged to attend this special occasion, a spokesman said.

Activities on Sept. 29 will include a lunch at the fraternity house and an alumni meeting later in the day. The evening will be highlighted by a dinner and a special presentation from the SAE National Office.

All events will be held at the fraternity house in Martin and are casual attire.

All fraternity brothers are invited to attend and are encouraged to make their reservations by contacting Tommy Legins at P.O. Box 436, Martin, TN 38237 by enclosing their reservation fee of $40 for singles or $50 for families by Sept. 7. Registration fees will increase by $5 each after Sept. 7. This fee will cover all meal expenses and a souvenir of the occasion.

Those registering should include their T-shirt size with the registration fee information. Hotel reservations will need to be made directly with local hotels in the Martin area.

For more information, contact alumni advisor Tony Johnson at (731) 446-8439.
Lego classes help science and math skills

Hands-on science and math. Teamwork skills. All this sounds serious, and it is.

But participants in two classes may be surprised to learn that as can be fun — when Lego® kits are involved.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering Lego® Engineering Class and Lego® Jr. Engineering Class on Saturdays — Sept. 22, Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, Nov. 10 and Dec. 1 — for ages 5-7 from 9-11 a.m. and for ages 8-12 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

The instructor will be Mary Margaret Ulderich, science teacher, and the cost is $130.

The older participants will have lessons about simple machines, structures and forces, levers, wheels and axles, gears and gear math, ratchets and drive trains, motorized systems and challenges for points.

The younger students will build and work with models to investigate fixed and movable pulleys, gears and belt drives.

The students will work in a lab setting with one Lego® Technic kit for each two students.

Objectives of the courses are to encourage hands-on (tactile) learning, promote team building, allow creativity in construction and to have fun with basic science and mathematics.

Advanced registration is required. Call ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or (731) 881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

University of Tennessee at Martin at juncture to strengthen assets

"We are a comprehensive, regional, public university that is perceived by our stakeholders as a place with a spirit for personal attention and passion for quality undergraduate education and rigorous graduate programs. Our graduates do well when they leave us. Our alumni are overwhelmingly staunch supporters which is shared by the UT (System) that continues to display a sincere, supportive loyalty to UT Martin." — Dr. Thomas Rakes, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor.

Rakes recently opened his first fall faculty meeting since becoming the ninth UT Martin chancellor by answering the question "Who are we?" His remarks, titled "Capacity-Building: A Spirit, A Vision, A Plan," also answered the questions "Where are we headed? How do we get there?"

"I believe it is in the best interests of those we serve, as well as ourselves, to remain true to who we are now, but expand upon our tradition of purpose by becoming even better, being very strategic in how we change," he said. "We need to look ahead and envison ourselves as being among the best regional, public universities in the nation. There are things we can do over the coming years to move our programs and services to another level — not necessarily becoming that much larger in enrollment, but becoming stronger academically as we increase in overall stature among those we serve, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Rakes spoke about several distinguishing programs, features and assets at UT Martin — campus safety, strength of academic majors and facilities. All were ranked as important in a recent survey by Stamats, a marketing communications company that provides strategic and creative services to colleges and universities.

"We are at a juncture in the life of the university. We can open avenues for faculty and staff to engage in partnerships and opportunities in agriculture, the arts, business, education, applied sciences and social sciences," he said.

The chancellor cited six core values that will continue to serve as the foundation: Excellence in teaching/learning, integrity, leadership, community, inclusiveness and creativity/innovation.

Moving forward, he added, begins by "recognizing our strengths and exploring ways to improve our performance and the value of our services." Rakes said he supports increasing academic rigor, renewing and strengthening efforts to ensure diversity; reviewing and enhancing security initiatives; and reviewing support for operations such as development and alumni relations, online studies and extended campuses. Additional priorities will include evaluating and adjusting resources to enhance academic and student services to expand research, leadership and internship opportunities; increasing research and economic development activities; completing $76 million in facilities projects; and ensuring all ancillary facilities and services are well maintained or enhanced.

"This morning, I speak of plans, priorities and initiatives, most of which depend on your support, your buy-in and gathering and aligning resources to move forward. Capacity-building is a continuous avenue to travel and I realize our actions will speak louder than our words," he said.

"I pledge to each of you that I have the very best interests of this campus at heart. Our employees, students, alumni and stakeholders deserve that. I expect us to enjoy many, many positive and uplifting times in the coming years. UT-Martin is a special place to work and serve. We are the economic and social engine within our region. We need to plan and act accordingly to continue our successful ways."}

Norman receives UTM scholarship

Priscilla Norman, the daughter of Danny and Linda Norman of Dyersburg, has been awarded a scholarship for the 2007-08 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Norman will be a junior. She received a music scholarship.
New faculty introduced at meeting

A number of 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 several others who have assumed new responsibilities.

"This is an exceptional group of new professionals and I am excited about the contributions they will make — both in and outside of the classroom," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, UT-Martin interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, at the annual fall faculty meeting recently. "I look forward to working with each of them in what is shaping up as another banner year for our campus."

"Hiring quality faculty who support our mission is arguably the most important thing we do as administrators. I commend the department chairs and deans for all of their hard work recruiting this team of scholars."

Among the faculty members recognized at the meeting were Mary Vaughan Carpenter, director and assistant professor of library science, Paul Meek Library; Dr. John M. Coons, assistant professor of exercise science, Department of Health and Human Performance; Terra M. Davenport, lecturer of health and human performance, Department of Health and Human Performance; Pamela L. Fieldler, assistant professor of graphic arts, Department of Visual and Theatre Arts; John V. Glass III, lecturer of English, Department of English; Dr. Paul H. Higgs, assistant professor of chemistry, Department of Chemistry; Dr. Michael J. Kempf, assistant professor of biology, Department of Biological Sciences; Dr. Mark D. Keränen, assistant professor of chemistry, Department of Chemistry; Dr. Brandon R. Kilburn, assistant professor of management, Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science; Dr. Malcolm G. Koch, lecturer of political science, Department of Government and Political Science; Dr. Curtis J. Kunkel, assistant professor of mathematics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Dr. Anna J. Lasota, assistant professor of library science, Paul Meek Library; Linda W. Luther, assistant professor, Department of Nursing; Yelena A. Meadows, lecturer of mathematics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Dr. Ann Y. Mulhearn, lecturer of history, Department of History and Philosophy; and Alissa R. Parrish, librarian of nursing, Department of Nursing.

Others recognized were Neena W. Patterson, laboratory instructor of nursing, Department of Nursing; Kitiatsak Phongsalusathit, assistant professor of management, Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science; Dr. Matthew A. Pritchett, assistant professor of biology, Department of Biological Sciences; Tracy M. Rutledge, instructor of communications, Department of Communications; Sandipan S. Sen, lecturer of marketing, Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science; Dr. Donald Shaw, assistant professor of biology, Department of Biological Sciences; Dr. Nancy K. Sonleitner, assistant professor of sociology, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice; Dr. Matthew L. Spangler, assistant professor of animal science, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Michael W. Spaulding, assistant professor of instructional technology, Department of Educational Studies; Ethel B. Spivey, assistant professor of nursing, Department of Nursing; Dr. Somsak Sukitanon, assistant professor of engineering, Department of Engineering; Gwendolyn M. Tomlin, lecturer of education, Department of Educational Studies; Dr. F. Wesley Totten, assistant professor of plant and soil science, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Dr. Chari K. Van Horn, assistant professor of communications, Department of Communications; Troy A. Voeller, lecturer of management, Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science; Dr. Gregory Washington, associate professor of social work, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice; and Dr. Cherry Watts, assistant professor of education, Department of Educational Studies.

ACT prep, horsemanship courses slated

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UT president visits Martin and Jackson

Dr. John Petersen, University of Tennessee president, opened his statewide tour of UT campuses and units with a visit July 30 to UT Martin and the West Tennessee Research and Education Center in Jackson. He met with university faculty and staff, elected officials, university trustees, educators and business leaders to discuss UT's statewide mission and outreach. Other stops on the tour included the UT Health Science Center in Memphis, the UT Space Institute in Tullahoma, UT Chattanooga, Kingsport and the Knoxville campus.

Deidra Beene, UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer director, talks to UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes, at the West Tennessee Research and Education Center.

College selected as one of best

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DRESDEN ENTERPRISE, Dresden, Tennessee, August 29, 2007

Business consultant at REED Center September 13

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in September at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., September 13.

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 406 Lindell St., Martin, TN 38237.

Weakley County student receives scholarship to attend UT Martin

A Weakley County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2007-2008 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Allison Puckett, daughter of Steve and Holly Puckett of Greenfield, will be a freshman. She received the Salutatorian Scholarship.
Tennessee Soybean Festival gets underway September 1

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“We are delighted to again be recognized as one of the ‘Best in the Southeast’ designation. Our students and alumni are our best ambassadors,” said Dr. Thomas Rakes, university chancellor.
Publication production workers offered September courses

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering professional development courses in InDesign, Beginning Excel, general civil mediation training, workplace violence and others beginning in September.

"InDesign for Publications Production" is planned from 6-8 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 4-Oct. 11. Kara Hooper, UT Martin coordinator of publications will be the instructor, and the fee will be $150.

Focused primarily on those who are working in printing, publications, or related fields, this course will help those who already know some basics about publication production, design and the Adobe InDesign program, but who need or want additional instruction, exposure, tips and collaboration to make their work more effective and successful. Participants will work on projects relevant to the class, and the course will be designed around the needs of those attending.

"Beginning Excel" will be taught by Shannon Burgin, UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs and chief information officer. It is slated from 9 a.m.-noon, Sept. 25 and 27 and has a fee of $110. Participants will learn to build spreadsheets using easy-to-use techniques. Other topics include: functions, sample worksheets, multiple worksheets, easy graphs, drawing tools for special emphasis, managing files, moving, copying and formatting, along with other hints, tips and backups.

"General Civil Mediation Training Course for Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 31" (40 hours) is approved by the Tennessee Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission (ADRC) and will be offered from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Sept. 10 and 18, Oct. 8 and 22, Nov. 12 and 26 and Dec. 10 and 17. The $1,275 fee includes training materials.

Instructor will be Raymond L. Stevenson, general civil case mediator, consultant and Mediation Association member.

While the course will necessarily deal to some extent with interpersonal conflict resolution in its skill-building segments, its focus will be on the resolution of conflict between individuals vs. companies or agencies, interdependent groups or units, either intra- or inter-organizations. Specifically emphasized will be the skills required – communication, creative problem solving, facilitation – and the basic processes used – negotiation, conciliation, mediation – in conflict resolution.

The participants will examine the current theory in conflict resolution – legal, ethical and emotional issues that are common in disputes and the format by which employment disputes are resolved.

"Workplace Violence" is planned from 1-5 p.m., Sept. 11, 12, and 8 a.m.-noon, Sept. 18 and 19. The fee will be $99. Presenters will be Dennis Mays and Jimmie Leach. Mays has commanded the Patrol Division and Special Operations units of Jackson Police Department since 1998, after commanding the Criminal Investigation Division for seven years. He also serves as the department's Aviation Unit Commander, Critical Incident Commander and liaison with the U.S. Secret Service.

Each year, workplace violence results in 1.7 million workers injured. A total of 18 percent of all violent crimes is committed in the workplace. And, those statistics do not include the bullying, intimidation and threatening behavior among co-workers and their supervisors.

The presentation will include:
- How supervisors attitudes and styles can reduce the potential or increase the possibility,
- Which employees are at greatest risk,
- The characteristics of a potentially violent worker.
- The warning signs and triggering events.
- Setting up a security committee and evaluations.
- Dealing with irate people.
- How to defuse a confrontation.
- Investigating threats.
- Investigating violent incidents.
- Development of employee training and recognizing deception.
- Techniques for preventing violence in the workplace.
- Legal liability for failure to act.
- Employee screening techniques.
- Developing policy/ training.
- Physical security planning.
- What to do when it happens.
- How the police will respond.
- Managing the media.
- Getting back to normal.

To register for a workshop, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082 or visit the Web at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/courses_nondegree.php.

U.S. News and World Report ranks UT Martin for master's level universities

The University of Tennessee at Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master's level public universities in the South in the 2008 edition of America's Best Colleges compiled by U.S. News and World Report. The rankings, released this week, rate colleges and universities using information gathered from various sources.

UT Martin tied for 20th place among public universities in the South that grant bachelor's and master's degrees – improved from a 21st-place tie in the 2007 rankings.

"We are pleased to be ranked in the top 20 for public universities in the South," said Dr. Thomas Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

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 2008 rankings, UT Martin improved its graduation rates and opportunities for faculty and students to interact.

"We take pride in the accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students and alumni who enable us to be rated highly by U.S. News and other publications," Rakes said.
DIGNITARIES – The theme of last week’s Chamber of Commerce Membership Banquet was education and focused on the Humboldt Higher Education Center. The old Main Street School building is being transformed into a satellite campus for Jackson State Community College, Tennessee Technology Center of Jackson, University of Tennessee at Martin, and the University of Memphis. Those sitting at the head table during the banquet are, from left, chamber president Jeff Gamble, HHEC fundraising committee chair Richard Ayers, Dr. Thomas Rakes with UT Martin, Dr. Bruce Blanding with JSFC, Dr. Dan Lattimore with U of M, James King vice-chancellor for the TCCs across the state, and chamber executive director Jim Blankenship.

Sikes receives UTM scholarship

A Gibson County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2007-2008 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Daniel Sikes, son of Charles and Sheila Sikes of Humboldt, will be a freshman. He was admitted to the University Scholars Program and received the University Scholars 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-UTM1; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.

Seminars for entrepreneurs scheduled at UTM August 28, September 11, 20

Business basics, effective management and simplified bookkeeping are topics for three seminars planned at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center in August and September. The center is located at 406 Lindell Street, Martin.

“The Basics of Starting a Business and Writing the Business Plan” will be offered from 5:30-7:30 p.m., August 28. Instructor will be Jamie Frakes, director of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center in Dyersburg, and the fee will be $10. Participants will learn the basics of starting a business, proper legal structures, financing and other components to help them be successful.

“The Good, the Bad and the Ugly,” is planned from 5:30-7:30 p.m., September 11, with Frakes as the instructor and a $10 fee will be charged. Those attending will learn the principles of effective leadership and management by gaining insight about personalities. Each participant will get an understanding of his or her personality, take a 70-question personality assessment and learn the proper power language to use on and off the job.

Finally, “Small Business Simplified Bookkeeping” is slated from 9:30-11:30 a.m., September 20. The instructor will be Eddie Ramsey, CPA. There is no fee to attend. Participants will learn the small business basics of simplified bookkeeping. Discussion will include “single-entry” bookkeeping, as well as suggested accounting software programs.

Register online at www.utm.edu/reed, or by calling the REED Center at 731-587-7333.
Local residents receive degrees

Several Gibson County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent summer commencement held in Skyhawk Fieldhouse on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Trenton: Edward Clinton Sturgeon;
- Dyer: Kevin Lee Elliott;
- Humboldt: Adam Lee Ragan and Joseph Duane Shepherd;
- Rutherford: Jay P. Warren.

Dr. Bruce Blanding, Jackson State Community College president, was the keynote speaker, and Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, presided and conferred degrees.

UTM again ‘Best in Southeast’

The University of Tennessee at Martin has again earned the designation as one of the “Best in the Southeast” in The Princeton Review for 2008.

“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 commend these institutions for their excellent academics, and we believe our choices offer applicants and their parents in these regions a wide range of fine schools to consider.” The regions include the Northeast, Midwest, Southeast and West.

In the recently released student opinion data in The Princeton Review, one student noted that UT Martin, “is big enough to get the full college experience, yet small enough to get one-on-one attention from your teachers.” Another said that the school “offers a lot of additional help, when needed, to allow its students to excel.”

UT Martin is West Tennessee's only public, four-year institution outside of Memphis. Despite being located outside a large metropolitan area, students cited the variety of activities available on campus. As one undergraduate said, “It all depends on how involved you want to get here. There is a Student Activities Council that makes sure there are things to do every week.” Overall, students love that it’s “so easy to get involved.” Even the outdoors is a significant part of campus life at UT Martin. One student explained, “If you love to hunt, this is the place to come.”

AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP – On Aug. 2, the Palmersville Masonic Lodge No. 121 awarded a memorial scholarship for $1,000 to Cody Perkins, a recent graduate of Dresden High School. This scholarship was given in memory of James Hubert McKelvey and was presented to Perkins by Greg Sallee, Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 112. Perkins plans to enter the University of Tennessee at Martin this fall to major in engineering.
BASIC TRAINING — Pvt. 2nd Class Marvin Espinal (left) has completed basic training and heavy equipment operator school. He is attending UT Martin where the National Guard is paying for his school. Congratulating him is Sgt. 1st Class Sam Purdum.

INFANTRY TRAINING — Pfc. Robert Gallimore (left) has completed infantry training at Fort Benning, Ga. He is assigned to the Huntington Unit. He is in the ROTC program at UT Martin where the National Guard and the Army are paying for his degree. Congratulating him is Sgt. 1st Class Sam Purdum.
Subject: News Summary - August 31, 2007
Date: Friday, August 31, 2007 8:33 AM
From: UT News <utnews@UTK.EDU>
Reply-To: UT Media Relations
<NEWSSUMM@LISTSERV.UTK.EDU>
To: <NEWSSUMM@LISTSERV.UTK.EDU>
Conversation: News Summary - August 31, 2007

Friday's News Summary is ready for viewing at:

User name - webnews
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Today's Headlines
WBIR: Smart students make up inaugural class at academy, UT mentioned
Knoxnews: Governor's academy offers a different focus, UT mentioned
WATE: UT describes guidelines for students' mental illnesses
Tennessean: UT student bases Internet piracy lawsuit fight on privacy grounds
The Leaf Chronicle: UT students to design Sunnydale replacement
Science: Curation in Crisis, UT mentioned
AP: 2 U.S. Bishops Consecrated in Kenya, UT prof. quoted
Chattanooga Times Free Press: Obesity rates increase in 31 states, report finds, UT prof. quoted
Mass High Tech: Number of uninsured Tennesseans falls, UT study mentioned

→ Jackson Sun: Local universities named among best, UTM mentioned

Other news of interest:
AP: Va. Tech report criticizes university
The Chronicle of Higher Education: Recommendations From the Report: