Pioneers in Women’s Athletics
Fall 2012 marked a rush of new initiatives and continued progress toward ongoing projects, including major grant procurement, a new academic partnership and multiple OVC conference championships since the last issue of Campus Scene. With one exception, enrollment in all public universities in the state was down, and UT Martin reported two percent fewer students than in 2011. The official census enrollment was 7,751, with encouraging increases in graduate and UT Online enrollment. The incoming freshmen class was the third largest in school history.

Recent data from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission revealed that UTM has the most satisfied students and the second highest six-year graduation rate among public universities in Tennessee, and we intend to continue our student-focused emphasis. Efforts in this area include the establishment of a student ambassador group at the Parsons Center, a new Office of Student Engagement to improve our level of student services and several positive student government activities.

Our faculty and staff had an outstanding semester that included nearly a million dollars in external grants, the ranking of our MBA program as one of the top-20 Best Buys in the nation, a listing by the Princeton Review as one of the best accredited business schools in the country for 2013 and the signing of a new partnership agreement to add a Montessori teaching option to our education master’s program. Progress was also made toward piloting an externally funded effort to establish the Ned Ray McWherter Institute for Communication, Collaboration, and Innovation.

Our 2012 Homecoming festivities included the unveiling of three statues, located near the entrance of the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, honoring Pat Head Summitt, Bettye Giles and Nadine Gearin for their contributions to women’s athletics in Tennessee and across the nation. The university also celebrated the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act, which established the land-grant mission across the nation.

Plans are under way for a grand-opening ceremony to be held this spring for the newly renovated Fine Arts Building, which will greatly benefit our faculty, staff and students who have been involved in planning this outstanding facility. Additional growth opportunities include exploring a potential partnership to establish a Fayette County Higher Education Center and planning for an expansion of instructional space at the Parsons Center.

As you can see, UT Martin is focused on high-quality academic programs, involved employees and engaged students. Our students continue to benefit from increased opportunities for educational innovation and connectivity within our campus and communities around the world. With your help, UT Martin will continue to evolve as a top-tier institution we can all be proud to call home.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin Chancellor
## CONTENTS

### FEATURES

20 **STATUES HONOR PIONEERS IN WOMEN’S ATHLETICS**
Three women instrumental in UT Martin athletics are honored
By Bud Grimes

23 **ALUMS GIVING BACK**
Music on the Square and Let’s Paint the Town highlight alumni making a difference
By Elizabeth Davis

### DEPARTMENTS

#### SCENE & HEARD

8 **NOTEWORTHY** News and views on-and off-campus

12 **ATHLETICS** National Awards and Hall of Fame Inductees

16 **UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT**
A new era of leadership

#### ALUMNI NEWS

27 **THE REAL DEAL** Homecoming made possible by all groups
By Charley Deal

28 **ALUMNI NOTES** Alumni leadership awards

32 **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS**

40 **CLASS NOTES** The who, what, when and where

42 **IN MEMORY**

---

On the Cover: Bettye Giles (left) and Pat Head Summitt stand near their commemorative statues outside the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Giles, Summitt and the late Nadine Gearin were instrumental in the success enjoyed by the UT Martin women’s athletics program.

utmforever.com

Winter/Spring 2013
After a more than two-hour weather delay, the University of Tennessee at Martin claimed one of the biggest victories in school history when senior place kicker Cody Sandlin made a field goal with four seconds on the clock to give the visiting Skyhawks a 20-17 victory over the University of Memphis. The win marked the first time in school history that the Skyhawks have beaten a Football Bowl Subdivision team.
FACULTY SPOTLIGHT>>> Dr. Julie Floyd  
Associate Professor of Nursing

Dr. Julie Floyd began instructing nursing courses at UT Martin in 1998, and in 2012 UT Martin celebrated the 40th anniversary of the nursing program and the 20th anniversary of the BSN degree.

“We have a three-year program, which is different from most universities, so students get to start clinical as soon as they are admitted into the program. Plus we travel and do a lot of clinical in different places, not just here in Weakley County. They get to see bigger facilities and state facilities,” Floyd said of the UT Martin nursing program.

But the three-year degree program is not the only aspect of the UT Martin nursing program that is different from other schools. Floyd added, “We have faculty with a lot of different specialties, too. Mine is mental health. We have some that do critical care, some that do pediatrics and some that love OB. Different faculty have different fields of study, and I think that makes it good to have different areas of interest.”

The nursing program also has bragging rights when it comes to the NCLEX exam, the licensing exam all nurses must pass in the United States. “We have a higher pass rate than the state average,” said Floyd.

Floyd has worked in both critical care and mental health facilities. She went back to school for her psychiatric practitioner’s degree, which she earned in 2001 at Vanderbilt University, and continued to pursue a focus in mental health. Today, she is an associate professor in the Department of Nursing and is responsible for teaching courses on health assessment, issues in nursing, and mental health nursing and trends.
COLLECTOR DONATES FOSSILS TO UT MARTIN

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s fossil collection has grown in size and quality with the donation of a trilobite collection. George Stone, of Carterville, Ill., made his second gift of museum-quality trilobites to the university in July 2012. Stone made his first fossil donation to the university in 2009.

Trilobites, a “living fossil” related to today’s horseshoe crabs, are part of a fossil group of extinct marine arthropods that form the class Trilobita. Trilobites first appeared in the fossil record during the Early Cambrian period (540 million years ago), and thrived throughout the lower Paleozoic era before facing near extinction when, during the Devonian era, all trilobite orders, with the sole exception of Proetida, died out. Trilobites finally disappeared in a mass extinction at the end of the Permian era about 250 million years ago.

This collection came from a site in Pike County, Mo., and was found deposited in Maquoketa Shale from when Illinois was a tropical muddy sea. These trilobites belong to the genus Isotelus, several species of which are sometimes found in Middle and East Tennessee. The collection is noteworthy because of its unusually good preservation, even after 450 million years.

Most of the specimens are complete, meaning the animals did not go through the typical molting stage to shed their shells and grow larger, a process that usually fragments the exoskeleton like modern horseshoe crabs. This was likely caused by a rapid burial on the ancient seafloor, what paleontologists call an “obrution deposit.” The excellent preservation makes teaching trilobite anatomy and physiology to students much easier.

Besides UT Martin, Stone has donated specimens to universities and museums in multiple states, including the University of Kansas, Southern Illinois University, the University of Indiana, the University of Tennessee, and the Missouri and Illinois state museums. He began collecting Isotelus, a particular type of trilobite, in 1983, and his wife, Janet, retired deputy director of health protection for the state of Illinois, joins him frequently on fossil searches.

Stone, retired president of the Sangamon State University (now the University of Illinois at Springfield) Foundation, said his motivation for collecting and donating fossils is “because I love paleontology, and I love trilobites.” He added, “I started collecting trilobites when I was five years old on the shores of Lake Champlain, which is middle Ordovician age.” Dr. Michael Gibson, professor of geology, said that Stone’s generosity benefits the university in several ways.

“We get some of the best specimens to work with to teach,” he said, noting that his current students are studying specimens previously donated by Stone. “There are only three paleontology programs in West Tennessee, and we’ve got the one with the most courses in it right now.” The specimen collection is also used for teacher professional development and other public work.

“The other thing for us is most of our fossil record is way younger,” Gibson added. “We’re dinosaur time here in West Tennessee. This (donation) is significantly older: two, three times, four times older than that. So it allows us to round out our history of life collection tremendously.”

Stone’s donation joins several other fossil collections that reside at UT Martin, including the extensive Vanderbilt Fossil Collection. The Stone trilobites will be featured in a display in the university’s Joseph E. Johnson Engineering Physical Sciences Building and later loaned to the new Discovery Park of America museum in Union City.
UT MARTIN UNVEILS MOBILE APP >>> The University of Tennessee at Martin campus community is now more accessible from mobile devices, thanks to the efforts of the university’s Instructional Technology Center (ITC) and Web Services. The new UT Martin mobile application allows users to access a variety of campus services, ranging from the social to the academic. Components of the new app include a complete campus telephone directory, athletics schedule, news updates, local maps and the Paul Meek Library catalog.

UT Martin students and faculty can now also access their Blackboard learning content through the app, allowing them to view or post grades, participate in discussion boards and download assignments on-the-go. The academic and social calendars not only provide a list of upcoming events, but also alert users to activities near their current locations.

“Whether you want to keep up with news and events, check Skyhawk athletic schedules and scores or use the directory lookup to make a contact on campus, we feel this is a great beginning to a platform that we plan to continue to build on and enhance,” said Craig Ingram, interim director of ITC and Web Services.

TENNESSEE GOVERNOR VISITS UT MARTIN >>>

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam (left) met with Chancellor Tom Rakes and members of his staff on Oct. 16 in the university’s Dunagan Alumni Center to discuss the unique role UT Martin serves within the West Tennessee region and state. The governor’s visit is part of an ongoing dialogue held across the state concerning higher education and workforce development. Although no specific policy proposals were discussed, Haslam said he continues to gather information on the successes and needs of public higher education institutions and their ability to foster a more competitive workforce.

ANTHONY HODGES LEADS UT ADVOCACY >>>

Roughly two years ago, the 30-plus-year-old grassroots advocacy of the University of Tennessee System was revamped and became a more accessible avenue for UT alumni and friend involvement.

“The new advocacy effort is not limited to alumni like the old advocacy effort. It is a broader group which includes students, faculty, staff and different friends and supporters of the university,” said Anthony Haynes, the new vice president for government relations and advocacy and a 1988 UT Martin graduate.

Haynes took his position in the summer of 2012 upon the retirement of Hank Dye, vice president of public and government relations. The areas of public relations and government relations were then split.

“[University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro] recognized the importance of advocacy, and he wanted to establish a focused program within government relations,” Haynes said.

The bottom line with UT Advocacy, Haynes explained, is that anyone with an interest in the well-being of the University of Tennessee can help in a variety of ways, and UT Advocacy appreciates varied levels of involvement whether it’s attending UT Advocacy events and receiving updates and emails or writing to elected officials and recruiting others to fill volunteer needs.

Every resident of the state of Tennessee is affected by the UT System, Haynes explained, whether economically, educationally or through public service. Because of the system’s massive reach, it is important that it is supported in the governmental arena, hence UT Advocacy’s striving for a louder voice.

“We have a saying that the University of Tennessee touches every Tennessean at least once a day, somehow, someway,” Haynes said. “When people speak up or speak out on behalf of the university, it will only make it a better university. It will only help the university achieve political support for its programs, for its budget, for its goals and objectives. It helps the university to be better, be stronger.”

Haynes encouraged those interested in getting involved in UT Advocacy to visit advocacy.tennessee.edu to sign up and learn about advocacy issues.
STUDENT SATISFACTION RANKS UT MARTIN FIRST

Continued from page 7

The results are based on spring 2009 and 2011 surveys in which students responded to the question, “How would you evaluate your entire educational experience at this college?” UT Martin received 91.9 and 91.2 percent ratings respectively, which indicate “good” or “excellent” responses.

The survey results are drawn from alternate-year data included in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). The student survey is required by THEC for all Tennessee public universities.

Two additional indicators of high academic quality include student pass rates on licensure examinations and the six-year graduation rate, also reported through THEC.

• UT Martin ranks first in Tennessee on licensure exam pass rates for public university first-time test takers reported in 2011 for engineering (89.2 percent) and nursing (100 percent).

• UT Martin ranks second in the state for the six-year graduation rate in total graduates with a 57.3 percent rate for the fall 2005 cohort. This is behind UT Knoxville at 68.8 percent for the same cohort group.

In other recognitions...

• UT Martin remains in the top-tier for southern master’s level universities in the 2013 edition of America’s Best Colleges, compiled by U.S. News & World Report. The rankings rate colleges and universities using information gathered from multiple sources. UT Martin tied for 18th place among southern-region public universities, up from 20th place in the 2012 rankings.

• The Princeton Review named UT Martin among “The Best Southeastern Colleges” for 2013 for the 10th consecutive year.

• UT Martin is listed for the seventh consecutive year among America’s 100 Best College Buys, compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. UT Martin is among three public Tennessee higher education institutions listed.

• UT Martin’s Master of Business Administration program was ranked a top-20 “Best Buy” by GetEducated.com and placed on the website’s 2012 list of “Best Online Master of Business Administration Programs.”

• UT Martin teacher-education graduates are highly rated by the schools that employ them, based on results of a recent employer survey conducted by the university. The survey is required every two years by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The UT Martin teacher-education program is both NCATE accredited and approved by the state of Tennessee.

MAURY CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL “ADOPTS” UT MARTIN

The fifth-grade class from Maury City Elementary School in Crockett County has adopted UT Martin as their university. The College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences partnered with the university’s offices of intercollegiate athletics and alumni relations to plant the seed about the importance of pursuing a college education. Each class at the school has adopted a college or university and college banners are displayed in the school’s hallways. This fifth-grade class attended the annual Character Counts basketball game on Nov. 2 at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, where the Skyhawk men played Illinois College. Approximately 1,800 students from elementary, middle and high schools attended the game as part of a field trip to reward good behavior. The Maury City fifth-grade class also toured parts of the campus, including the Office of the Chancellor, and met with Chancellor Tom Rakes before the game. Rakes and the class are pictured on the steps of the Hall-Moody Administration Building.
NEW MONTESSORI TEACHING OPTION OPEN TO GRADUATE EDUCATION STUDENTS

Children are the ultimate winners in a new partnership allowing UT Martin education graduate students to earn a Montessori teaching credential that can be applied toward completing a master’s degree in education.

A ceremony to finalize the agreement between the University of Tennessee at Martin and the Montessori Educational Institute of North America (MEINA) was held on Nov. 20 at the UT Martin Jackson Center. University Chancellor Tom Rakes (above, left) and Teri Canaday, institutional director of the MEINA instructional center located on Cooper Anderson Road in Jackson, signed the memorandum of understanding.

Dr. Maria Montessori, an Italian physician who died in 1952, developed the specialized curricular approach that focuses on self-directed learning, said Dr. Beth Quick, professor and chair, UT Martin Department of Educational Studies. Students will earn the Montessori teaching credential through the MEINA teacher education program and then take six core courses to complete a master’s degree in education online from UT Martin, she added.

This initial agreement covers the Elementary I course that focuses on first through third grades. Students can be accepted into the new graduate program beginning in spring 2013, pending submission and approval of a portfolio required by the university. An early childhood course of study focusing on children ages three through six could follow as soon as summer 2013.

“This is an important event for the university and a very important partnership,” said Rakes, who has family members enrolled in Montessori schools in another state.

“Canaday added, “Our goal for children is to master what they’re learning and feel the joy of the process. Montessori offers rigorous academics along with curriculum that includes a rich background in cultural studies and activities that encourage respect of self, others and the environment.”

For information about the program, call the UT Martin Education Graduate Programs office at 731-881-7128, or visit utm.edu/edgrad.
UT MARTIN’S BUTLER NAMED TO PRESEASON WATCH LIST FOR BASKETBALL’S HEISMAN.

Heather Butler needed a little good news. She had just returned to campus after spending a couple of hours at the funeral home in Trenton paying her respects to a former high school basketball teammate who died in a car accident.

Butler, who might be 5’ 6” on her tippy toes, has racked up every conceivable basketball honor in just two years at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Small in stature, but blessed with talent on the basketball court, this Gibson County dynamo is not one to cry.

That was until she got to the funeral home in Trenton.

“Magan (Porter) and I were very close,” Butler said. “We had a strong bond.” The two girls played basketball at Gibson County High School in Dyer and won a state championship together.

“I don’t like crying in front of people,” Butler said. “I cried.”

The tears dried up, but emotions were still present as Butler learned she was one of 25 players in the nation named to the “Wade Watch” list of candidates for the prestigious State Farm Wade Trophy.

The Wade Trophy, regarded as “The Heisman of Women’s Basketball,” is named in honor of the late, legendary three-time national champion Delta State University coach Lily Margaret Wade. The award is presented annually to the NCAA Division I Player of the Year by the National Association of Girls and Women in Sport (NAGWS) and the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA).

“Wow, this is awesome. It is an honor to be in this category,” Butler said.

“I cannot imagine that the Wade Trophy isn’t designed to exemplify Heather Butler,” UT Martin head women’s basketball coach Kevin McMillan said. “Heather has worked hard for years. What’s phenomenal about her is that she is driven in everything that she does.”

Butler averaged 24.1 points and 4.1 rebounds per game as a sophomore. She helped lead UT Martin to its second consecutive Ohio Valley Conference Tournament title and its second straight berth in the NCAA Tournament.

“She is one of those special kids that come along very rarely. When you tell her you want her to be the very best in everything she does, she actually does it,” McMillan said. “In the classroom she is an unbelievable student. She is almost a 4.0 (GPA). She works her tail off in the weight room, and in the community she is always helping the little kids.”

Butler earned All-OVC first team accolades, starting in all 31 games. She led the OVC and ranked third in the NCAA in scoring, bringing in a program-record 746 points. She led the NCAA in 3-point field goal percentage (.434) and ranked fifth in 3-point field goals made. She cracked double figures in scoring in every game, extending her previous record of 10 or more points in all 63 career games. On Jan. 23, 2012, Butler reached 1,000 career points during her 50th career game at Morehead State, passing Pat Head Summitt as the fastest UT Martin player to reach this milestone.

“I bet if you mapped out the conferences where the Wade Trophy finalists came from there is probably a big jump between (Heather) Butler and the next conference that is represented,” McMillan said. “This is an honor for our conference (the OVC) that Butler is there.”

After Butler heard the list of finalists, she said, “I am in a much better mood.”

Also on the preseason watch list with Butler is former Obion County prep standout Chassidy Fussell of Texas; Skylar Diggins of Notre Dame; Christina Foggie of Vanderbilt; Shoni Schimmel of Louisville; and the 2012 State Farm Wade Trophy winner Brittney Griner of Baylor.
FORMER STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO UT MARTIN ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME. Four former student-athletes were inducted into the UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame during the 2012 Homecoming festivities on Oct. 6 in the Elam Center Concourse: Tom Wride (men’s tennis); Tessa Fields (women’s basketball); Nicole Davis (softball) and Larry Washington (football).

Wride played tennis from 1998-2001 for head coach Dennis Taylor. He was named to the All-OVC team his freshman and senior seasons, in addition to being named to the OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll four consecutive years.

“I think about my time at UT Martin with fond memories and great happiness,” Wride said. “I developed such great relationships worldwide and learned how to deal and balance all aspects of my life.”

Wride is currently one of the lead clinical research associates at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Fields played women’s basketball from 1997-99 for co-head coaches Gary Van Atta and Kim Van Atta, and she helped UT Martin reach the OVC Tournament championship game both years.

“I remember that first basketball game I ever played in,” Fields said. “I got to play about 10 seconds at the end of the game. I went to my grandfather, and he tried to motivate me. Then I went to my mom, and she had some stern advice for me: ‘If you can’t run with the big dogs, stay on the porch. That’s why I am here now,’ Fields said.

Davis, the daughter of Jim and Marsha Davis of Alpine, Calif., played softball for head coach Donley Canary from 2002-05. She was named to the All-Ohio Valley Conference three consecutive years (2003-2005) and to the OVC All-Tournament in 2004.

“I’m so proud and honored to be acknowledged for the hard work and dedication I’ve put into softball through my young life in college,” Davis said. “This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and I am very humbled and grateful.”

Washington played football from 1974-76 for co-head coaches Bob Carroll and George MacIntyre. He rushed more than 1,700 yards and is still among the top-10 rushers in UT Martin history.

“Being enshrined in the UT Martin Hall of Fame has exceeded my imagination,” Washington said. “This was a ‘wow’ moment, a humbling experience.”
FOOTBALL TEAM RACKS UP PLenty of positives with 2012 campaign. Despite the fact that the University of Tennessee at Martin was not selected to participate in the football championship subdivision playoffs, head coach Jason Simpson and the Skyhawks chalked up several positives in the 2012 campaign. The Skyhawks wrapped up the season with an 8-3 overall record and tied for the best winning percentage (.727) in the Ohio Valley Conference. That mark also ranks as the second-highest winning percentage in program history, behind only the 2006 OVC championship team 9-3 record.

In conference play, UT Martin tied a program record with six OVC victories and only two losses. The Skyhawks racked up 39.9 points per game against league opposition and defeated OVC regular-season champion Eastern Illinois by a 51-37 margin on Oct. 6 – the Panthers’ only conference loss of the season.

SOCCER TEAM ADVANCES TO SECOND CONSECUTIVE NCAA TOURNAMENT. The University of Tennessee at Martin soccer team played host Kentucky to a draw in the NCAA Tournament first round, but the Wildcats came away with the golden goal in the 93rd minute to put an end to the Skyhawks’ remarkable season run.

UT Martin, who was making its second NCAA Tournament appearance, ended the season with a 13-6-3 mark and setting a new program record for single-season winning percentage (.659), while also claiming the program’s first-ever outright OVC regular-season championship.

This outcome also marked the career end for two valuable Skyhawk seniors, Midori Sera and Kendyl Wilson. Sera was one of the league’s best offensive threats in her two seasons at UT Martin, while Wilson will graduate as the program’s all-time leader in matches played and with the distinction of being the only player in program history to have been a part of all of the team’s championships (2009, 2011, 2012).

UT MARTIN MEN’S RODEO TEAM WINS FOUR-OF-FOUR OZARK REGION RODEOS. The University of Tennessee at Martin men’s rodeo team finished second in the Troy University rodeo, but still maintained its lead in the Ozark Region and in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) national standings. The UT Martin men’s team won four of the five fall semester Ozark Region rodeos.

VOLLEYBALL LIBERO CONTINUES TO RACK UP HONORS. The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Kasey Elswick added another award to her long list of career accolades as the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) named the senior libero to their honorable mention all-Midwest region squad.

Elswick ended her Skyhawk career with another successful season, leading the Ohio Valley Conference with 643 digs (5.64 per set). The Louisville, Ky., native overtook the all-time OVC digs mark at Morehead State on Oct. 20 and ended her career with 2,606 digs – 152 more than the second-place player.

The 5-7 defensive specialist capped off her career with three All-OVC selections, becoming the third Skyhawk to ever earn all-conference accolades in three different years. She also became the first player in UT Martin history to lead the team in digs in four straight seasons (505 as a freshman, 606 as a sophomore, NCAA single-season record 852 as a junior, 643 as a senior).

A two-time OVC Defensive Player of the Year, Elswick was named the league’s Defensive Player of the Week on Sept. 3, 2012, for the 10th time in her career.

Academically, the 2011 AVCA honorable mention All-American is a three-time OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll recipient. She has posted a 3.97 cumulative GPA as an accounting major and has earned a spot on the CoSIDA Academic All-District first team the past two seasons.
>>>FIVE SOFTBALL PLAYERS NAMED NFCA ALL-AMERICA SCHOLAR-ATHLETES. LEAH TAYLOR, SAM MCCLURE, JENNY BAIN, CHELSEA JONES AND LINDSEY FEIGL, all members of the 2011-12 softball team at the University of Tennessee at Martin, were named NFCA All-America Scholar-Athletes. The All-America Scholar-Athlete distinction is bestowed upon any player, submitted by a member coach, who achieved a 3.50 grade point average or higher during the 2011-12 academic year.

>>>TAYLOR NAMED ONE OF SIX OVC SCHOLAR-ATHLETES. Taylor, an outfielder, was also named one of six Ohio Valley Conference student-athletes to receive the prestigious Scholar-Athlete Award for 2011-12.

The award is the highest individual honor that can be earned by OVC student-athletes and is given annually to three male and three female student-athletes of junior or senior status for their leadership qualities and accomplishments in both academic and athletic arenas.

Taylor will enter her final year with the UT Martin softball team this season. She was named OVC Player of the Year in 2012 after leading the Skyhawks to the OVC regular season and tournament championships. During the year, she hit .386 with 77 hits, 61 runs scored and 34 RBIs and went on to earn Easton Fastpitch All-American honors.

Along the way she set the school record for triples (10) and stolen bases (37) in a season. In the classroom Taylor has a 3.96 GPA in marketing. She was named a first-team CoSIDA Academic All-American following the 2012 season.

>>>WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM TURNS IN FASTEST TIME IN SCHOOL HISTORY. The University of Tennessee at Martin cross country teams were led by a pair of veterans at the Ohio Valley Conference championships, held at Oxford Lake Park and hosted by Jacksonville State University in Alabama.

In the 5k course, the Skyhawk women’s squad turned in a total time of 1:37:08.36 (average time of 19:25.67), while the UT Martin men’s team finished with a total time of 2:16:09.50 (average time of 27:13.90) in the 8k.

On the women’s side, Amanda Wardlaw paced the field with a final time of 18:44.04. Hannah Wolters registered a final time of 18:46.62, while Alexandra Stover was next to finish at 19:39.43. Samantha Hunt (19:51.22), Kaycee Grimes (20:07.04) and Kathryn Skaggs (20:20.99) ran in a tight pack, while Laura Wind and Emily Jones slotted back-to-back finishes with times of 21:02.33 and 21:03.22, respectively.

“On a certified and flat course, the top-six ladies all had personal bests or were within five seconds of that to make the scoring five the fastest in UT Martin history,” UT Martin head coach Gordon Sanders said.

>>>TWO UT MARTIN RIFLE TEAMS RANKED IN TOP 20 FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SCHOOL HISTORY. For the first time in program history, two University of Tennessee at Martin rifle teams are among the nation’s top-20 squads. In the Collegiate Rifle Coaches Association (CRCA) polls released on Oct. 8, the Skyhawk mixed team was ranked 13th in the nation, while the UT Martin women’s team was not far behind in 18th place.

The mixed squad’s rank is the highest in several years, while this is the first time both UT Martin rifle teams have cracked the top-20 in the polls.

“I am very proud of this accomplishment,” Skyhawk head coach Bob Beard said. “It’s always good to make school history.”

Pictured l to r: Taylor, McClure, Bain, Jones and Feigl all receive softball honors.
A New Era of Leadership

by Carmen Wagster

Andy Wilson joins the UT Martin administrative staff as the new vice chancellor of university advancement, replacing Len Solomons, who has assumed a part-time role in fundraising. Before coming to UT Martin, Wilson was the associate vice president of development with Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville. He has also worked for Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, Ky., and his alma mater, Campbellsville University, in Campbellsville, Ky.

“Affordable education is a hallmark, and being in rural Tennessee presents a bigger challenge — to be able to have students attend and afford that hallmark. It is nice to see so many people give privately-funded scholarships that assist many regional students in getting a head start on a first-rate education. UT Martin knows what they are doing with a graduation rate that is second highest in the state. We are pretty proud that students come to UT Martin and graduate,” Wilson said as he looks forward to working with UT Martin Advancement and the University of Tennessee Foundation.

Andy and his wife, Ami, reside in Martin and have two children, Emily and David.
The Annual Donor Report is a list of gifts to UT Martin beginning July 1, 2011, and ending June 30, 2012. This report does not include total campaign pledge commitments, but memberships in Lifetime Giving Societies are noted by each donor’s name (please refer to the Lifetime Giving Societies legend at the end of this section). Each entry was carefully reviewed and every effort made to ensure accuracy. If there are errors or omissions, please contact the Office of Development at 731-881-7620.

GIFTS OF $500,000 OR MORE
Mr. R. Clayton and Mrs. Michelle McWhorter, Founders/Legacy

GIFTS OF $100,000 OR MORE
Mr. James and Mrs. Janet Ayers, Founders
Dr. Lew and Mrs. Mary Jo Dougherty, 1974/ Legacy
Mrs. Kathleen Elam*, Founders/ Legacy
Kathleen Elam Endowment Fund
Mr. Ray and Mrs. Wilma Smith, Founders
The Honorable John and Mrs. Betty Ann Tanner, Tennessee

GIFTS OF $50,000 OR MORE
Alpha Delta Pi Sorority
Mr. William L. Blankenship, Founders/ Legacy
Chi Omega House Corporation
Mr. J. Houston and Mrs. Deborah Gordon, Dabney
Tennessee Health Management, Inc., Benefactors

GIFTS OF $25,000 OR MORE
Mr. Bryant and Mrs. Sam Bondurant, Tennessee
Mr. Warren and Mrs. Pat Carmichael, Founders/ Legacy
Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Benefactors
Mrs. Sylvia Collier Davis, Heritage
Fats Everett Memorial, Inc., Heritage
Mr. Tommy and Mrs. Joan Graham, Benefactors
Ripley Gas and Water
West Tennessee Healthcare, Inc., Benefactors

GIFTS OF $10,000 OR MORE
Alpha Omicron Pi Foundation
Apple Tech Computer Fund, Dabney
Bancshares of Ripley, Inc., Benefactors
Boaz Furniture and Appliance, Inc., Heritage
Mr. Raymond A. Bratcher*
Community South Bank, Benefactors
Dan Post Boot Company
Decatur County Bank, Heritage
EdAmerica, Inc., Founders
Farmers Bank, Heritage
Mr. David A. Gatwood
Ms. Bettye L. Giles, Benefactors/ Legacy
Mr. J. Reginald Hill, Founders/ Legacy
Influence1, Foundation
Ms. Mary Ivey, Heritage
Mr. Richard and Mrs. Melba Jackson, Benefactors/ Legacy
Ms. Gail M. Latimer, Founders/ Legacy
Dr. Susan and Mr. William Lowry, Tennessee
Mr. Jay and Mrs. Shannon McPherson, Benefactors
Mr. Charles and Mrs. Bettye Moore, 1974/ Legacy
Mr. Murry and Mrs. Debbie Duffel Moore
Dr. Sandra and Mr. Thomas Murray, Benefactors/ Legacy
Dr. George L. Nelson, Legacy
Mr. John and Mrs. Marlow Peters
Mr. Bill and Mrs. Amy Rhodes, Benefactors
Rodeo Boosters Club, Inc., Benefactors
Security Bancorp of Tennessee, Inc., Tennessee
Tri-State International Trucks, Inc.
UT Federal Credit Union, Benefactors
Mr. Ricky Volner, Heritage

GIFTS OF $1,000 OR MORE
AT&T, Inc., Tennessee
Mr. Wayne and Mrs. Roxanne Adkisson
AIG American International Group, Inc.
Dr. Anita Airee
Dr. Hans N. Airee

Dr. Richa Airee
Dr. S.K. and Mrs. Shashi Airee
Alexander Thompson Arnold, PLLC
Dr. Lynn M. Alexander
Mrs. Betty Murphree Allen
Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority
Alpha Zeta
Dr. Jerry and Mrs. Clara Arnold, Benefactors
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, L.P., Benefactors
Mr. Kyle and Mrs. Elizabeth Atkins
Dr. Bill and Mrs. Dianne Austin
AutoZone, Inc.
AXA Financial Foundation
Mr. Billy and Mrs. Maryann Ayers
Mr. Jon and Mrs. Kristy Ayers, Tennessee
Mr. Jack F. Baltz, Tennessee
Mr. Harold D. Barnes
Mr. Jon and Mrs. Catherine Bascom
Bayer Environmental Science
Dr. Leo and Mrs. Mona Beale
Dr. Robert and Mrs. Mary Beard
Dr. Michael and Mrs. Angela Beeler
Mr. James and Mrs. Piper Bell
Mr. Jack Bendure, Tennessee
Mr. William and Mrs. Kara Bethune
Mr. Brad and Mrs. Betsy Biggs
Mr. Clay and Mrs. Karen Blalack
Mrs. Evelyn Blythe, Tennessee
Boeing Company Foundation, Benefactors
Dr. Edward and Mrs. Carolyn Boling, Dabney/ Legacy
Mr. Kevin Campbell and Mrs. Julie Boswell
Mr. Emory and Mrs. Melinda Bradley, Legacy
Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Phyllis Brasher, Tennessee
Drs. Thomas and Brenda Brooks
Dr. Gary and Mrs. Carolyn Brown
Mr. Glenn and Mrs. Jamie Bruce, Tennessee
Mr. John and Mrs. Julia Brundige, Tennessee
Mr. David H. Bryan, Benefactors/Legacy
Dr. Peter and Mrs. Lisa Bukeavich, Tennessee
Dr. Timothy and Mrs. Joan Burcham
Dr. Elizabeth and Mr. David Byars
Dr. Sue and Mr. Robert Byrd
Dr. Christopher W. Cain
Mr. Donley and Mrs. Jenny Canary
Drs. Stephen and Alice-Catherine Carls
Mr. Steven and Mrs. Claudia Carmichael, Tennessee
Mr. Phillip and Mrs. Camille Carr, Tennessee
* deceased
(university advancement)
Mr. David W. Murphy Sr., Tennessee
Dr. Robert and Mrs. Janine Nanney
National Automobile Dealers Charitable Foundation
National Spirit Group Corporation
Mr. Timothy and Mrs. Carolyn Nipp
Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Janice Noble, Heritage
Northwest Tennessee Development District
Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Lee Ann Norville
Dr. Jerald and Mrs. Jane Ogg
Mr. John and Mrs. Anita Oliver
Parker Hannifin Foundation, Heritage
Mr. Walter C. Parrish
Ms. Christy L. Passmore
Pike Creek Turf, Inc.
Pilot Club of Martin, Inc.
Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., Benefactors
Mr. Raymond and Mrs. Donna Pollard
Mr. Joseph M. Piestley
Mrs. Dee Fields Pritchett, Heritage/Legacy
Mr. Lee and Mrs. Phyllis Pritchett
Dr. Blake and Mrs. Suzanne Ragsdale, Tennessee
Mr. Louis G. Ragsdale
Drs. Thomas and Glenda Rakes, Tennessee
Mr. Barry Ralston
Dr. M. Linda Ramsey, Tennessee
Raytheon Company
Mr. Joshua H. Reed
Reelfoot Bank, Benefactors
Rehabilitation Corporation of Tennessee, Founders
Ripley Power and Light
Mr. Guy and Mrs. Sandra Robbins
Mr. Evelyn and Mrs. Hugholene Robertson
Mr. Bob and Mrs. Betsy Robinson
Mr. King and Mrs. Judy Rogers, Founders
Mrs. Katherine F. Scott, Benefactors/Legacy
Mr. John Secord
Dr. Victoria Strickland Seng
Mr. Eric and Mrs. Teresa Shellnut
Mr. Jason and Mrs. Julie Simpson
Mrs. Mary Baird Simpson
Mr. John M. Sisinni
Mr. William and Mrs. Cheryl Slayden, Heritage
Lt. Col. Barrie and Mrs. Kathy Smith
Mr. Richard and Mrs. Betty Smith
Mr. Brian and Mrs. Candra Smith
Mr. Reese and Mrs. Emily Smith, Tennessee
Dr. William and Mrs. Len Solomons, Tennessee
Mr. Arthur and Mrs. Tammy Sparks, Benefactors
State Farm Companies Foundation, Benefactors
Ms. Morgan Elizabeth Stone
Mrs. Jill Vinson Stroud
Mr. Jerry M. Summers
Ms. Pat Head Summitt, Dabney
Sun Gro Horticulture Distribution, Inc.
Mr. Keith and Mrs. Jeanna Swafford
Dr. Michael and Mrs. Ann Swaim, Tennessee/Legacy
Dr. Van and Mrs. Shirley Swaim, Tennessee
Mr. Ledley B. Symmes
Tennessee Energy Corporation
Tennessee Association of Broadcasters
Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, Dabney
Tennessee Farmers Cooperative, Dabney
Tennessee River Riders Association
Tennessee Road Builders Association, Benefactors
The Procter & Gamble Fund, Founders
Mrs. Barbara Thompson, Benefactors
Thunderbolt Broadcasting Company, Tennessee
Ms. Jessie Ruth Tiller, Tennessee
Ms. Alyce Toon, Tennessee
Dr. Jimmy and Mrs. Barbara Tretham, Tennessee
Mr. David and Mrs. Lisha Tuck
Dr. John and Mrs. Kathryn Tucker
Dr. Hugh and Mrs. Patty Turner
University of Memphis
Mr. Joel R. Usery
UTM Friends of Paul Meek Library
Van’s Pharmacy
Mr. Steven and Mrs. Vicki Vantrease
Mr. Cary Vaughn
Mr. Michael and Mrs. Joan Vaughn
Mr. Buddy and Mrs. Patricia Viniard
Mrs. Mary Kelly Vowell, Tennessee
Ms. Vickie L. Walling
Walmart
Mr. Mark G. Warren
Weakley County Chamber of Commerce
Weakley County Motors, Benefactors/Legacy
Ms. Theresa L. Weathers
Mr. Garry W. Welch
Mr. Ted and Mrs. Colleen Welch, Benefactors
West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation, Dabney
West Tennessee Industrial Association, Inc.
West Tennessee Young Farmers and Homemakers Leadership Development, Tennessee
Mr. James and Mrs. Donna Westbrook, Tennessee
Mr. Larry and Mrs. Kay White, Heritage
Mr. Ronald P. Whiteside
Mr. Ralph and Mrs. Judy Wilkerson
Mrs. Donna Wilson
Mr. James and Mrs. Barbara Wingett
Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Patricia Witty
Mr. John S. Wooten*, Dabney
Dr. Donald and Mrs. Linda Wright, Heritage
Dr. G. Bradford Wright, Tennessee
Mrs. Karen Y. Wright, Heritage
Zeta Tau Alpha Foundation, Inc.
* deceased

New Legacy Society Members–Deferred Pledges
Dr. Lynn M. Alexander
Dr. Perry J. Hockaday

LIFETIME GIVING SOCIETIES
Torchbearer Society … $10,000,000
The 1794 Society ……..$5,000,000
Founders Society ……..$1,000,000
Dabney Society ……..$500,000
Benefactors Society ……...$100,000
Heritage Society ………..$50,000
Tennessee Society ……….$25,000
Legacy Society …….planned gifts/pledges
A homecoming dedication quickly developed a pep-rally atmosphere as the University of Tennessee at Martin honored three women instrumental in the history of women’s athletics on Oct. 6. UT Lady Vols Coach Emeritus Pat Summit, former UT Martin Women’s Athletics Director Bettye Giles and the late Nadine Gearin, Summit’s UT Martin basketball coach, were honored with the unveiling of “Coaches,” a statue display at the entrance to the university’s Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

A large homecoming crowd, many clad in orange, gathered on this clear autumn morning to honor three women who helped to redefine college women’s athletics. UT President Joe DiPietro, UT President Emeritus Joe Johnson, UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes and members of Chi Omega, Summit’s college sorority, joined in the celebration. Hazel Head, Summit’s mother, and other family members also attended.

University officials began discussions several years ago to decide how to honor Title IX, the federal civil rights law enacted in 1972 and best known for breaking down barriers for female participation in athletics. The statues idea was presented to the administration and approved based on a private-funding model.

On July 10, 2010, the university commissioned Lugar Foundry of Eads, Tenn., to sculpt the three bronze figures in loose likenesses of Summit, Giles and Gearin. More than $130,000 has been raised to date to cover the expense of the statues. Remaining funds will be placed in the Giles-Gearin Scholarship Endowment to benefit UT Martin women’s athletics. Richard and Melba Jackson, of Columbia, S.C., and Bill Blankenship, of Sandestin, Fla., provided leadership gifts to the project. The Jacksons are Summit’s close friends and supporters, while Bill and his late wife, Roberta, first met Giles during their days as UT Martin students and maintained a lifelong friendship with the couple’s former tennis coach.

Summit, a Cheatham County native, earned 1,098 career coaching wins, more than any other Division I basketball head coach, men’s or women’s. As a coach, she also achieved eight NCAA Division I women’s basketball championships and 16 SEC regular-season and 16 SEC Tournament championships. Most recently, she was a 2012 Presidential Medal of Freedom honoree, the country’s highest civilian award. She was named coach-emeritus of the UT Lady Vols basketball program in April 2012 after being diagnosed the previous year with early-onset dementia.

Giles, of Clarksville, was director of UT Martin women’s athletics from 1969-94. She served as the university’s cheerleading sponsor from 1952-73 and started the women’s tennis program in 1952, a team she coached for eight years.

Gearin, a Weakley County native, led efforts to develop UT Martin’s women’s basketball program. She coached the Lady Pacers from 1969-74, taking her 1971 team to the first national basketball tournament of the Division for Girls’
and Women’s Sports. One of her brightest basketball players was Pat Head, who first rose to national fame in 1973 by qualifying for the USA World University Games team. Summitt, Gearin and Giles are all UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame members.

Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed the crowd and reviewed recent successes in the UT Martin women’s athletics program, connecting the honorees’ lifetime contributions to that success. “These statues represent an ongoing relationship between faculty and students, a tradition for this campus, our students and our faculty,” he said.

“Women’s athletics is very, very important across our whole University of Tennessee System,” added Joe DiPietro, noting the scholarship and academic opportunities provided through women’s athletics. “This year (2012) marks the 40th anniversary of Title IX, and today’s students and female athletes are the beneficiaries of the hard work and frustration of many people who struggled for gender equity.”

DiPietro drew laughter and applause when he told the audience how he and his wife, Deb, became Lady Vols fans when they moved to Tennessee six years ago. He said that he had watched Coach Summitt on television, “But the first time I ever saw ‘the stare’ live, I turned to Deb and said, ‘Man, I wished I had that when we were raising kids.’”

Charley Deal, UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations and event emcee, read the inscriptions that appear on each statue and called project donors and supporters forward as each figure was unveiled. Summitt and Giles offered brief comments and appreciation after the unveilings.

“What a great day,” Summitt said, drawing applause from the crowd. She added, “I think it was truly one of the best things that ever happened to me to go to UT Martin, because the people here were so real and just so committed.”

Giles followed Summitt and offered appreciation all around. “I thank the university for supporting this venture and allowing it. And I certainly thank you folks for making it happen, and that’s what you did,” she said. She also acknowledged Nadine Gearin, remembering, “Nadine had a constant grin,” and Giles said she could sense that grin happening on this special day.

As she closed her comments, Giles referenced the statues and quipped, “Nadine Gearin and Pat Summitt and Bettye Giles are going to be right here. Come and visit us.” Her invitation assures that future generations of fans entering the Elam Center can acknowledge three women who helped pave the way for today’s female college athletes. <<<
Ron Pace gives back to hometown, making “Music on the Square” a big hit in Waverly.

As a teenager living in Waverly, Ron Pace worked after school as a soda jerk in the drug store.

“That’s where all the kids hung out,” he said.

The drug store was in the middle of it all—in the town square.

In some small towns these days, the town square is no longer the hip place to be, but it still is in Waverly, especially on Saturday nights in the summer. And the town has Pace to thank.

“Music on the Square” has been going strong since 2001 when Pace (Knoxville ’64, ’69) and his wife, Sandy, hired the first band and handed out the first fliers.

“It’s turned into more of a happening,” Pace says. “People come to see people, to be entertained, to participate.”

“Music on the Square” features a live band behind the courthouse, and people of all ages sit in lawn chairs, tapping their feet and singing along. Attendees, both parents and children, may just enjoy the music or dance in the street.

Neighbors talk to their friends operating the concession stands, selling food and drinks to raise money for the local fire department or church.

After a successful business career, Pace wanted to give back to his hometown. Over the years, he has backed several projects, such as “Bring Back the Trees,” which planted hundreds of maple trees in the town. The Paces also had a 1890s-era clock installed at the courthouse and helped in the startup of the Humphreys County Center for Higher Education.

“If we see a need, we try to fill it,” Pace says.

But he ultimately wanted to establish an ongoing event that would have a continuous effect on the town. “The idea is to bring people together,” he says.

“Music on the Square” has been a big hit, thanks to the support of the people, the mayor and Pace’s financial backing and planning.

David Vaughn, who has been mayor since the event started, says residents look forward to the start of “Music on the Square” each year. “With the economy like it is today and gas as high as it is, this is at home, and it’s free,” he says.

Pace books the acts, helps with publicity each week and provides for the stage, sound and light equipment.

Pace hasn’t lived in Waverly since he graduated from high school in 1958. He had big plans to go out West after high school, so he hitchhiked and worked in construction. He quickly decided on a new career, enrolling at UT Martin and getting a night job. At the time, the business program was two years at UT Martin, with the final two years in Knoxville. It took him six years to graduate because he worked between quarters, fighting forest fires in California.

While he didn’t graduate from UT Martin, he considers himself an alumnus of both campuses.

After four years in the military and a return to Knoxville for his Master of Business Administration, Pace began the doctorate program at Georgia State with aspirations to be a professor. He started his own marketing company to pay for school, which was so successful he quit the academic program.

Pace later invested in a company called Baby Superstores. Toys ‘R’ Us bought out Baby Superstores in 1997, and Pace retired and created a family foundation.

Now Pace lives in Nashville, a far cry from the small cabin where he lived as a young boy with his five sisters.

“I have family here and I’ve always felt a kinship,” Pace says. “All of us are part and parcel of where we grew up.”

It’s nice to see people getting to enjoy the kind of wholesome atmosphere Pace knew as a youngster. “Music on the Square” brings hundreds of people to town when they might not otherwise go there on a Saturday night.
A Fresh Coat of Paint Does Wonders.

Residents in the Twin Cities of Fulton, Ky., and South Fulton, Tenn., know about hard times. Recent decades have brought factory closures and shuttered businesses. Once a key railroad shipping hub for bananas and home to two garment factories, this formerly prosperous town is enduring the ravages of a changing economy.

Enter Jeff Campbell, retired from the corporate world but not from life. Successful careers at Federal Express and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp. allowed him to return home and bring hope for better days through a project called “Let’s Paint the Town.”

Born and raised in Fulton, he and his brother were the first college graduates in six generations of Campbells as his parents, John Joe and Betty Joe, ran a small family business and struggled financially to educate their sons. Campbell attended the University of Kentucky for two years and then came to UT Martin to complete an accounting degree, graduating in 1979.

After graduation, his career quickly took him into the corporate world, where he worked 18 years for FedEx in Memphis and later became CIO for Burlington Northern in Ft. Worth, Texas. In 2008, he decided to take early retirement, return to his Twin Cities roots and care for his aging mother. Her health unexpectedly declined and she died in February 2009, leaving Campbell to ponder his future.

One Saturday morning, he drove downtown, crossed the old railroad tracks and noticed what he described as “this weed infested, broken concrete, sand, vacant lot” next to Evans Drug Co. He told the owners he would build a small park in memory of his parents if they would donate the property. Campbell Plaza soon occupied the site. Campbell then approached the local Rotary Club for support to build Civic Park a block away. In only six weeks, donations totaling $35,000 were raised to complete the project.

This was only the beginning as Campbell saw how this Mayberry-like town had fallen on hard times. “It had gone down. Factories had been shuttered, high unemployment rate, broken-out windows, boarded-up storefronts, crumbling paint. … And that’s what I saw,” he remembered, adding, “And I thought, ‘You know what? I can either stay here and live like this, or I can leave, or I can do something to change it, but I am not going to live like this.’”

In spring 2010, then-Fulton mayor Dan Voegeli heard about the “Let’s Paint the Town” program in Princeton, Ky. Campbell and Thea Vowell, director of the local chamber, traveled to Princeton to learn more. They were impressed and reported back to the mayor, who promptly tapped Campbell to lead the project. On May 18, 2010, a town hall meeting was held with expectations that maybe 75 would attend. Instead, 200 came and raised $6,000 for the project that night. “Let’s Paint the Town” was off and running.

Campbell established a non-profit organization to handle the finances, and paint vendors agreed to sell the paint at cost. “The building owners pay for the paint, and then we have to raise funds for all the general painting supplies,” Jeff said. A storefront is selected, the owner of a power-washing business donates his services to wash the building, and volunteers arrive by 7:30 on Saturday morning to paint.

No two buildings look the same thanks to a careful paint-selection process. Volunteer Nancy Fossett and a small committee show building owners an entire color palette and narrow choices to two color families, both approved by the committee. The owner makes the final choice and the paint follows the architecture. One beauty shop tastefully added polka dots to the color scheme, while other buildings sport new canopies as part of the facelift.

Simply driving through town reveals the scope of the town’s transformation in the project’s third year. Approximately 4,000 volunteer hours and 49 buildings later, a fresh new look for the Twin Cities has emerged. Only four buildings are left to paint, including the classic Meadows Hotel building that dates to 1897 and occupies a prominent
location where Stateline Road and Highway 45 intersect just south of downtown.

Sherry Elliott, owner of Cissy’s Flowers and Gifts, is still amazed by the number of volunteers who came early one Saturday morning to paint her building. Expecting only a few to come, she remembered, “There were like 30 people down here, and I mean it just almost brought me to tears. … We’re people wanting to make a difference.”

Current Fulton Mayor Elaine Forrester agrees that “Let’s Paint the Town” has changed things for the better in the Twin Cities. “We have one vacant building downtown … since we started all of this, and it has just kind of revitalized our downtown,” she said. “I talk to people all the time that said, ‘Oh my goodness. I can’t believe what you’ve done to downtown.’ You know, a coat of paint does wonders.”

Campbell says the program is more than painting old buildings, “it’s about showing people what’s possible.” Vacant buildings don’t produce jobs, he said, adding, “And I’m proud to say, since the ‘Let’s Paint the Town Program,’ we have actually leased and had four businesses open up.” He and some business partners also invested in the The Keg Bar and Grill in downtown Fulton, transforming the longtime restaurant into an area favorite. In total, private investment and “Let’s Paint the Town” are valued at more than $500,000.

More positive changes are on the way in the form of a $250,000 parks grant awarded to South Fulton by the state of Tennessee and a local match provided by Campbell.

This $500,000 parks project will provide construction jobs in 2013 and create four acres of green space featuring a one-acre town lake complete with lighted fountains, a walking trail, bandstand or amphitheatre, children’s playground and a paved/stripped parking lot.

Jeff Campbell experienced success in corporate America, but in returning home he added new achievements to his resume that have changed a community for the better. He means it when he says, “It’s the most exciting, rewarding period in my life, bar none.” <<<
(the real deal)>>> 

Have you ever thought about where you would be without the experiences and education you received at UT Martin? Did you know that your story could end up as a recruitment ad targeting future Skyhawks? We need your stories about how UTM made an impact on your life in order to create a virtual environment a prospective student can visit before they arrive to campus. Visit www.utm.edu/tellme to submit your story.

In this edition of Campus Scene, you will find the wrap-up from Homecoming 2012 and lots of pictures. My sincere appreciation to everyone who came out to see the campus, renew friendships and support the Skyhawks. For those not keeping track, UTM has won its last three homecoming games, dating back to 2009! We have also experienced record crowds at Pyramid, Rope Pull and Quad City.

The NPHC Step Show was a great success along with the Black Alumni Council’s annual homecoming reception. This year, a group of young kids from the Martin Housing Authority stepped for the guests during the reception. The MHA step group is being coached by two UTM students and provides a great opportunity for the university to be engaged with the community. Several student groups and Greek organizations participated in events ranging from painting banners to raising money for the Pat Summitt Foundation. It was truly a wonderful homecoming thanks to many people.

Remember, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter, you never know when we might ask a question and the answer might win you a great prize! Until your next visit to campus, stay true to the orange and blue.

---

SEE MORE ONLINE
For the most up-to-date information, news and event schedules, check out the alumni website at www.utmforever.com. Now you can stay connected, share news and photos and network all through utmforever.com.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY
DYER COUNTY ALUMNI EVENT
FEBRUARY 16
YOUNG ALUMNI LEADERS MTG
MARCH
OBION COUNTY ALUMNI LUNCHEON
MARCH 7
OVC TOURNAMENT RECEPTION IN NASHVILLE
MARCH 13
UTAA YOUNG ALUMNI NETWORKING EVENT - NASHVILLE
MARCH 16
UTM ALUMNI COUNCIL MTG
APRIL
YOUNG ALUMNI NETWORKING EVENT - HUMBOLDT
APRIL 13
45TH ANNUAL RODEO REUNION
APRIL 15-16
GOLDEN GRAD REUNION
APRIL 24
GRAND FINALE CELEBRATION

(alumni notes)>>> Three University of Tennessee at Martin alumni and friends were honored as part of the first all-volunteer leadership day on Aug. 25. The award recipients were recognized during a special luncheon held in their honor and hosted by Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, and Dr. Joe Dipietro, UT president.

The award recipients were:

R. Clayton McWhorter, Chancellor’s Award for University Service, given in recognition of outstanding service to UT Martin; Dr. Brenda J. Cude, Outstanding Alumni Award, given to an alumnus or alumna in recognition of outstanding achievement in his/her chosen profession; and Julie A. Boswell, Outstanding Young Alumni Award, given in recognition of outstanding achievement by an alum under the age of 45 in his/her chosen profession.

McWhorter serves as chairman of Clayton Associates, LLC, which he founded in January 1996 to provide venture capital to start-up companies. In 1996 McWhorter also created LifeTrust America, Inc., a developer and operator of assisted-living communities, and
A reception was held on July 13 in UT Martin’s Paul Meek Library to honor the Russell Duncan family and unveil a refurbished chandelier that was formerly located in the Boling University Center’s Duncan Ballroom. Duncan was university center director from 1946-78, and the ballroom was named in his honor following his retirement. Two chandeliers were donated by the Duncan family and hung in the ballroom until the space was remodeled in 2011, at which time the chandeliers were removed. The two chandeliers were combined into one fixture now featured in the library and visible from the university’s quadrangle. The chandelier’s new location honors the professional and personal relationship of the late Chancellor Paul Meek and Russell Duncan during the university’s formative years. Meek family members joined the Duncan siblings for the event. Attending the reception were (l to r) Ann Duncan Hall (UTM ’73), Dr. Tom Duncan (UTM ’64, UTHSC ’66), David Duncan and Jenny Duncan Landrum (UTM ’76), the four children of Russell and Martha Anne Duncan. Meek family members attending were Marilyn Hammonds (UTM ’66), Suzanne Powers (UTM ’76, ’92), Jenna Wright (UTM ’70, 73) and Dr. Anne Meek (UTM ’59, UTK ’69, ’76), daughter of Paul and Martha Meek.
HOMECOMING 2012

From Rope Pull, Pyramid, Lip Sync and Step Show to Quad City and ending with the defeat of Austin Peay on the football field at Hardy M. Graham Stadium, Homecoming 2012 was a week to remember! The theme was “Peace, Love, Skyhawks” and students, alumni and friends celebrated the event with ‘60s flair.
This page (clockwise from top): Lady Vols Coach Emeritus Pat Head Summitt tours Quad City with Bettye Giles and Chancellor Tom Rakes; fraternity members participate in Pyramid; Rope Pull participants brace themselves for a fight; UT Martin Skyhawk football players run the ball against Austin Peay State University; Skyhawk football players participate in “HawkWalk;” homecoming Queen Katie Pigg (second from right) poses with her court; students display ’60s themed signs during quad city; Bettye Giles and Pat Head Summitt are honored on the field during halftime, joined by Chancellor Tom Rakes, Dr. Brenda Cude and UT President Joe DiPietro; members of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity play cornhole during Quad City; students have fun with giant bubbles.
Steve Potts ('79), is director of athletics at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif. Before accepting the position in January 2011, Potts spent 17 years as a professor and administrator at Pepperdine’s law school, beginning in 1982. He then earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Pepperdine in 1983.

Potts later served at the director of athletics at Lipscomb University for more than eight years before returning to Pepperdine as the senior associate director of athletics in July 2008. During his time at Lipscomb University, Potts guided the athletics department through the transition from the NAIA to NCAA Division I and then through four years of NCAA I provisional membership. He also led the institution through the 18-month NCAA athletic certification process, which was completed in 2005.

Potts was responsible for Lipscomb University’s decision to join the Atlantic Sun Conference, and several of its teams won conference championships over the years. Lipscomb hosted the Atlantic Sun Conference basketball championships in 2008, which was the first combined postseason men’s and women’s tournament in conference history. Potts also oversaw the construction of Lipscomb’s multi-purpose, 5,000-seat Allen Arena and improvements to the baseball and soccer complexes, as well as the weight rooms and softball fields.

He and his wife, Jaimie, live in Malibu, Calif., and have two sons: Tyler and Tanner.

Mansfield receives 2012 Entrepreneur Award

Dr. Stephen Mansfield (MBA ’86), Methodist Health System president and CEO in Dallas, Texas, received the Ernst & Young LLP Entrepreneur of the Year Award in the health-care provider category. The award, presented on June 23, 2012, is for the Southwest Area North Region, which includes North Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

The award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. An independent panel of judges selected Mansfield, a Martin native. Winners were announced from a group of 42 finalists, including leading entrepreneurs and CEOs, private capital investors and other regional business leaders.

“This is such a deep honor and recognition for everyone at Methodist who has worked so hard over the past five years to double the size of the system while accomplishing so many ‘best evers’ for Methodist,” Mansfield said.

Now in its 26th year, the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year program recognizes those leaders who grow a company from original concept as well as those industry leaders who significantly grow a known company.

Read more about Mansfield’s career in the 2010 Summer/Fall edition of Campus Scene.

State Naturalist is Academic Speaker

Randy Hedgepath ('80), state naturalist for Tennessee State Parks, made a presentation about the history of state parks on Nov. 5 as part of the university’s Academic Speaker Series, which is sponsored by Honors Programs. A native of Hollow Rock in Carroll County, he graduated from UT Martin’s Park and Recreation Administration Program. He was named state naturalist in 2007.
Chris Goodman (’02) has been named manager of Civil Site Design Group, PLLC’s, new Clarksville office. Goodman earned his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from UT Martin in 2002 after having also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental engineering technology from Murray State University in 1996. Goodman’s experience includes surveying, commercial site design, roadway design and municipal design. He also has extensive experience in water and sewer system design and modeling.

Goodman was previously the director of business development at DBS & Associates, where he started as a project engineer. He is a Leadership Clarksville graduate, president of Two Rivers Company and the incoming chairman of the business development committee for the Clarksville Chamber of Commerce.

Civil Site Design Group, PLLC, specializes in land planning and urban design, site planning and design, and civil engineering services for clients throughout the southern region of the United States. Their current projects in Montgomery County include Buffalo Wild Wings, Comfort Suites Hotels and several residential complexes.

McBRIDE FAMILY CONTINUES UT MARTIN AND FFA TRADITION>>> Stephen McBride (right), of Beechgrove, Tenn., continues a McBride family tradition of attending UT Martin and also serving as the Tennessee Association FFA state president. He’s pictured with his father, Mark (’82) (left), and brother, Matthew (’09) (center), who are both UT Martin graduates and served as FFA state presidents. Mark was president in 1980-81, and Matthew served as president in 2006-07. Stephen is 2012-13 FFA state president and a freshman agriculture major.

HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM NAMED AFTER FORMER UT MARTIN FOOTBALL STANDOUT>>> Former UT Martin football standout Danny Watkins (Lebanon High School Class of 1973) stood in front of the scoreboard / jumbotron at Clifton-Tribble Field / Danny Watkins Stadium on Sept. 24. Watkins and the late Tribble (a former LHS standout and award-winning coach) were honored with their names being linked to the new 4,700-seat facility. Watkins, who played football at UT Martin from 1976-77, was named the All-Gulf South Conference Defensive Player of the Year in 1976. Watkins still holds the UT Martin record for most career tackles (426). Photo provided by Bobbie Kay Bryan / The Wilson Post
Lexington Middle School is doing its part to build early interest in making college and career choices. The school held a College and Career Fair for its students on Oct. 31, an event marked by lots of spirit and many faculty and staff wearing their college school colors. Justin Totty, UT Martin Office of Admissions counselor, represented the university, as did nine Lexington Middle School faculty and staff who hold UTM degrees.

School counselor Mary Bragg, a Freed-Hardeman University graduate who also attended UT Martin, organized the event. Reese Blair (’07), Lexington native who earned a degree in wildlife biology and teaches 8th grade science, said the event was meaningful on several fronts.

“I think it’s important for our kids to understand the resources that they have right here in our community within an hour, hour-and-a-half a drive. …” Blair said. The event was also designed to be fun and to let the students know, “This is where my teachers came from. This is who they are.’ So, I think that’s important,” Blair added.

Blair sees positive relationships with teachers as motivation for today’s students to succeed. “I think that it’s very important for them (the students) to understand that regardless of where they come from or the experiences they may or may not have, there is something outside of just being a student or just being a kid, that there is a goal to get to, and I think that’s what motivates them is to see people happy and experienced and educated.”

He and his fellow UT Martin grads are, in turn, motivated to enjoy close working relationships, based in part on their mutual backgrounds. “We share lots of common experiences,” Blair said. “Martin is small enough to where we all went and did the same things, whether it be going to Homecoming Week or walking through the quad or eating at the same restaurants. … It’s a common bond.”
The power failed temporarily, but graduates, family members and friends remained energized for December commencement exercises Saturday morning in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

A gathering crowd found itself mostly in the dark about 30 minutes before the scheduled 11 a.m. start time, but flash lights, cell phones and emergency lighting allowed family and friends to finish filling the arena until power returned and processional music began around 11:15.

Cheri Childress, UT Martin graduate and businesswoman from Milan, opened her commencement address with a story about her family’s recent Thanksgiving dinner where text messages initially replaced verbal requests to pass the food. This prompted her brother-in-law to begin collecting electronic devices and say, “There will be no more texting at this Thanksgiving dinner.”

“You see the truth is that we build more computers, more ipads, more smartphones to hold more and more information, to answer more questions. But we communicate less and less,” Childress said.

She admitted that nothing she told the audience couldn’t be found with help from Google or Siri, Apple’s intelligent personal assistant. So, instead, she asked each graduate a simple question, “When is your birthday?”

Birthdays, Childress said, mark important milestones in life. “Did you notice that with every year came just a few more responsibilities?” she asked, adding, “It (your birthday) was given to you, but this day (commencement), … you earned. No one gave it to you.”

Much like birthdays, commencement day adds responsibilities and expectations, she said. “As you completed your required courses to achieve your degree, in the words of Robert Kennedy, ‘Some of you saw things as they were, and you asked, ‘Why?’ Some of you saw things as they should be, and you asked, ‘Why not?’ And that’s OK, because this class of 2012 at UTM is graduating great leaders and great followers. …Ladies and gentlemen, it takes both working together.”

“And you will hear people to tell you to ‘follow your dream.’ Don’t you dare follow your dream,” she emphasized. “You go get your dream. You didn’t get here today by following your dream. You got here today by working and achieving and persevering (to achieve) your dream.”

She recalled Fred Deluca, co-founder of Subway, who opened his first restaurant in 1965. The restaurant failed, and instead of giving up, he opened a second restaurant. Today 37,000 Subway locations can be found in 98 countries, 10 of which are co-owned by Childress herself.

“Graduates, we live in a time of instant gratification,” she said, adding, “Life isn’t that way. You do not build a business; you do not build a career instantly. It takes patience.” She used the example of a Chinese bamboo tree, as told by the late Zig Ziegler, famed author and motivational speaker. He explained how you plant, water and fertilize the bamboo tree seed and have to wait until it finally sprouts sometime during the fifth year, suddenly growing 90 feet in six weeks. “You can do all the right things at all the right times, but success takes patience and perseverance,” she said.

“As you look around, graduates, and you look at this crowd that is here for you, I want you to know that we all — faculty, your family, your friends — we are all here for you. And we all … collectively believe that you will be a builder with a vision, patiently persevering. We all are counting on you.”

Rakes conferred the degrees and Dr. Keith Carver, West Tennessee native and executive assistant to the University of Tennessee president, brought greetings on behalf of UT President Joe DiPietro.
GARTON IS WILDLIFE OFFICER OF THE YEAR>>> Ray Garton (’02) has been named the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) Wildlife Officer of the Year for the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA). Garton is a wildlife officer in TWRA Region I’s District 12 and was selected from among other TWRA law enforcement officers to become the state recipient. He was recognized at the 2012 SEAFWA meeting in October in Arkansas.

Garton is officially assigned to Hardin County but also works throughout the 12 counties in District 12.

“Ray’s teamwork and outreach efforts were outstanding,” said Darren Rider, TWRA Boating and Law Enforcement Division Chief.

Garton writes weekly articles for two county newspapers and conducts radio and television spots for local stations. He also gave programs at a local school utilizing the “bone box,” spoke at Hardin County Farm Day and set up a deer-scoring and informational booth at “Hunter’s Night Out.” Garton also assists with the “Hunting for a Cure” program and the Hardin County youth deer hunt.

“Ray’s efforts in excellence and innovation were also great,” said Rider. “He developed a new ‘Aquatic Habitat Program’ for the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Their goals are to take kids to the creek and take samples with nets and seines to learn and identify the different aquatic species. Ray also works with the Eagle Scouts on surveying the estimated number of eagles in the area.” Garton also conducts an after-school fishing clinic for students where classroom instruction is given on one day and pond fishing is accomplished on the second day.

Garton’s attitude and leadership efforts are also to be commended, according to Rider. He coordinated an enforcement detail in his work area with officers from Alabama and Mississippi to help control boating issues that were occurring on Pickwick Lake. He serves as the coordinator for work details in four counties of his district. Garton was also instrumental in the training of two newly hired officers for the district. Other officers in the district rely on Garton for complicated wildlife and boating cases because of his unique investigative skills.

This year Garton became a certified Boone and Crockett scorer for North American big game, was certified to measure motorboat engine noise and attended a course on courtroom testimony.

He also made field contact with 172 hunters, 407 anglers and 438 boaters, resulting in 95 citations and assisted other officers on 75 citations.

(Courtesy Lee Wilmot, TWRA)

ALL SIGNS POINT TO A CHAMPIONSHIP>>> Coach Lin Dunn (’69) (third right from trophy and in inset) joins her WNBA team Indiana Fever to celebrate their first league title after defeating the Minnesota Lynx 87-78 on Oct. 21 in Indianapolis, Ind. Dunn, regarded as a pioneer in women’s basketball, reached the pinnacle of her professional career on the sport’s highest professional stage as the Fever claimed the WNBA title. Dunn became widely known as one of the most successful collegiate coaches of all time before making the jump to the professional ranks in 1996. As a professional head coach, she served as the inaugural head coach of the ABL’s Portland Power before moving on to lead the WNBA Seattle Storm and eventually to her present post with the Fever. Though the university didn’t have a women’s basketball team during her time at UT Martin, Dunn’s passion and persistence helped open the door for countless female athletes who would follow her at the university.
As a leadership development consultant, **Cade Cowan (’94)** often provokes executives to accept the discomfort of trying new approaches to old challenges. He says his willingness to be uncomfortable with some of the challenges of his own job has been key to his growth.

“I’ve often found myself in situations where I’m wondering what the heck I’m doing there—whether it’s delivering a keynote to 150 leaders or having a one-on-one conversation with a Fortune 100 CEO—but you’ve got to be willing to not know the outcome of your efforts before you try in order to really push yourself. If you only accept challenges in which you know you’ll succeed, you’re going to limit your opportunities,” said Cowan.

Cowan has followed this approach since his days at UTM. He got involved early in student government, eventually being elected president of the student body. Additionally, he was the university mascot Pacer Pete. “I had no business being dressed in a chicken suit, but I went with it, despite the nerves, and I had a blast.”

After earning his BSBA in economics at UT Martin, Cowan snagged a job with General Electric in Louisville, Ky. After traveling for several years, including a two-year stint in Hong Kong, Cowan attended graduate school at Columbia University where he earned a master’s degree in organizational and social psychology. He completed his degree at Columbia while on the staff of GE Crotonville, the company’s renowned leadership development institution.

Since graduating from UT Martin, Cowan has traveled to 39 countries and worked in 28. Cowan also spent seven years working at Coca-Cola, eventually being named Director of Global Leadership Development at Coca-Cola University. He is currently based in Atlanta, Ga., and is a partner with Pivot Leadership, a consulting group that helps businesses develop leadership programs to further their strategies.

“Pivot is a small consulting firm. We consult with Fortune 100 companies regarding their leadership capability. We ask, ‘What is the strategy?’ ‘What are you trying to accomplish?’ ‘What leadership is required for those efforts?’ And then we help build that capacity.”

While at Pivot, Cowan has worked with executives from Walmart, Aetna, Microsoft, HP, GSK, J&J, PayPal and others.

---

**ROBERTSON NAMED DIRECTOR OF STATE PARKS OPERATIONS >>>**

Tennessee State Parks has named a UT Martin graduate as director of state parks operations. UT Martin graduate **Mike Robertson (’83)**, who holds a bachelor’s degree in natural resources management, was named to the position in September.

As director of state parks operations, Robertson will provide departmental supervision for the 55 park units within the Division of State Parks, in addition to direct supervision of park area managers, area administrative staff and the Chief Ranger Training Program. He will also be responsible for policies and procedures guiding operations and operational budget review. As more accountability for state parks’ operations and budget performance has been shifted to individual parks, Mike will be working closely with park managers to ensure they have the necessary resources, tools and feedback to meet performance standards and expectations.

Robertson is a 26-year Tennessee State Park employee who has experience in the full scope of park operations, including seasonal recreator, park ranger, park manager and park area manager since 2009. He has served at a number of park locations, including Meeman-Shelby, Big Hill Pond, Bledsoe Creek, David Crockett and Tims Ford, where he was park manager from 2001 to 2009 and also oversaw the Tennessee Elk River Resource Management (TERRM) Plan.

Robertson is a NAI-certified interpretive guide and has earned numerous awards and recognitions, including being named Tennessee State Parks’ Ranger of the Year in 2008 and serving as a member of the Tennessee State Parks’ Honor Guard.
ADAMS AND REESE PARTNER DALE ALLEN ELECTED FELLOW OF TENNESSEE BAR FOUNDATION

Dale Allen (’80), a partner in the Nashville office of Adams and Reese, has been selected for election as a fellow in the Tennessee Bar Foundation.

The Foundation honors attorneys who have distinguished themselves in the profession by electing them to membership as fellows, and their contributions are used to support selected, law-related public interest projects.

Fellowship is limited to attorneys, judges and teachers of law who have been licensed to practice for a period of 10 years and demonstrated an uncompromised dedication to integrity and high personal and professional ethical standards, made outstanding and recognized contributions to the legal profession and to the public good, and demonstrated a strong commitment to the published objectives and purposes of the Tennessee Bar Foundation.

A class of no more than 35 new fellows is elected in the fall of each year. Suggestions for new fellows are solicited annually from the current membership, and the Board of Trustees makes the final decision. The newly-elected Fellows are honored each January at the Fellows’ Dinner.

Allen is a corporate lawyer at Adams and Reese, and concentrates his practice in transportation, government relations and regulatory law. Practicing law since 1983, he is a partner on the governmental relations team and serves as legislative counsel to a number of businesses, trade associations and nonprofit organizations with interests before the Tennessee General Assembly.

Allen has been successful in assisting to pass legislation over the past 20 years resulting in tax and regulatory relief on a variety of matters in the areas of trucking, rental car, entertainment and health care areas. Allen is an active member of the Conference of Freight Counsel and Transportation Lawyers of America.

In the community, he is on the board of directors of the Tennessee Performing Arts Corp. and a board member of the National Guard Association Foundation of the United States. Allen has served for more than 20 years in the Tennessee Army National Guard, where he currently holds the rank of colonel as the J-7 supporting legislative initiatives on the state and federal levels. He formerly served in numerous positions, including as the staff judge advocate for the TNARNG.

ALUM MAKES NAME AS CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR

Dr. Jason Overby (’92) said he once briefly entertained the idea of attending law school. Luckily for science students, Overby opted to pursue his passion for chemistry and become a successful college faculty member, scholar and textbook author instead. He returned to the UT Martin campus on Aug. 20 before the start of the fall semester to talk about teacher/scholar models during UT Martin’s annual Fall Faculty Workshop. He also talked about how his experiences at the university shaped his career.

Jason, who was raised in Clarksville, is the son of UT Martin business faculty member and department chair Dr. John Overby. He is currently an associate professor of chemistry at the historic College of Charleston, located in Charleston, S.C. The college is the 13th oldest in the U.S. and has an enrollment of approximately 10,500 students.

He earned a double major in chemistry and political science at UT Martin before enrolling at Vanderbilt University, where he earned a doctorate in chemistry. A postdoctoral research appointment at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire followed, and he then began his tenure-track position in 1999 at the College of Charleston. He was promoted to associate professor with tenure in 2005 and since then has conducted undergraduate research with students, published papers, attended conferences and co-authored two successful general-chemistry textbooks, both published by McGraw-Hill.

Overby is in his element as the College of Charleston graduates 30 to 40 chemistry majors annually, with approximately 200
chemistry and biochemistry majors enrolled at any given time. He credits a practical teaching approach for his success in effectively presenting difficult subject matter.

“So much of teaching is really about telling stories, and not that I consider myself a story teller, but when you consider people who are really, really good at telling stories, you’ve learned tremendous amounts from them,” he said. As for teaching chemistry and science, he added, “It (chemistry) is not a collection of random facts … and so I want to engage students in seeing that there’s really more to science than just memorizing stuff, that there’s a history, there’s a culture, there’s a societal impact, there’s the scientific impact.”

This philosophy has influenced his work as a textbook author. The first book, “General Chemistry: The Essential Concepts,” published in 2010 with co-author Raymond Chang, is described by Overby as “kind of a traditional general chemistry textbook,” a book that allowed him to learn about the publishing business.

“The second one ("Chemistry: Atoms First," published in 2011 with co-author Julia Burdge) is really a new, old approach to teaching general chemistry. Chemistry was taught for many years in the same manner until the late 70s or early 80s,” he said. A transition in teaching methods occurred, but the traditional method has returned, and he and his co-author developed a “reinterpretation for today’s students of how to do this.” The book has enjoyed considerable success as the top-selling textbook for this market segment.

Although he’s a bit biased, Overby sees many reasons why the study of chemistry is important. “So many times, people want to treat chemistry as applied math, and it’s not that,” he said. “We certainly use math as a tool, but chemistry is a unique discipline that encompasses so much. It touches on biology, and geology, and nutrition, and anatomy, and there are so many things that really come out of chemistry that I think, ‘How can you not be excited about learning where the universe comes from and what it’s made of?’”

Overby points to his UT Martin experience for shaping his academic career and approach to teaching. “I credit UT Martin for so many things that have shaped me as a professor, as a citizen of this country, the citizen of this universe,” he said. “One of the things when I got here (to UT Martin) was I saw that the faculty were passionate. They cared about what they did. They wanted to see students succeed. … All the little things that added up to my college experience here really crafted me eventually into what I ended up doing.”

So how did the double major in political science happen? Originally a pre-med student, Overby nurtured additional interest in political science. “I enjoy the debate. I enjoy the thought of the law,” he said. “I enjoy the processes in society and culture that lead to political science.”

He planned to major in political science, minor in biology, and earn all prerequisites for medical school. “And I did entertain the idea of law school for about 15 minutes one time,” he recalled, crediting political science faculty members Ted Mosch, George Kao, Stan Seiber and the late Richard Chesteen “who made it (political science) fun.” But, he discovered a love for chemistry and thought, “No one ever said I (couldn’t) double major in chemistry and political science.”

Students and scholars can thank Jason Overby for choosing chemistry as his career path and bringing his passion for science to the classroom.
1950
Jere Roe ('50) was an oral surgeon until his retirement in 2007. He currently lives in Raleigh, N.C., and has three children: Blaire, 42; Ashley, 40; and Brandon, 37. Email: jereroe@yahoo.com.

1973
Jim Flowers ('73) is a department head and professor at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C. He was named the 2012 Outstanding Agricultural Educator by the American Association for Agricultural Education and serves as the vice president of the Agricultural Education Division of the Association for Career and Technical Education. Jim is also a member of the National Council for Agricultural Education. He and his wife, Peggy Tyree Flowers, currently live in Cary, N.C. Email: jim_flow-ers@ncsu.edu.

Wendell Wainwright ('73) is serving on the Fayette County School Board. He currently lives in Oakland and collects Mickey Mouse items.

1975
Roy Herron ('75) finished 26 years of service in Tennessee General Assembly in November 2012. He is now practicing law and working with a non-profit organization he started with the late Tennessee Governor Ned McWherter to help children and young people through education and job opportunities. Roy was also the Democratic nominee for Tennessee's 8th Congressional District in 2010. In August 2012, he completed his fourth 140 mile Ironman triathlon, swimming 2.4 miles, biking 112 miles and running a marathon (26.2 miles).

Danny Walker ('75) is a veterinarian for UT Martin and teaches courses for the veterinary health technology option under the animal science degree. His wife, Susan Beeler Walker ('75), also works for UT Martin as a health educator with student health and counseling services. The couple currently lives in Martin and has two children: Matthew, 35, and Lee Taylor, 30. Email: DRWC@plus.net.

1976
Lucindia Chance ('76), who received her master's degree in curriculum and instruction from UT Martin, has been named dean of Augusta State University's College of Education, effective July 1, 2012. Chance has been serving as a professor emeritus in educational leadership at Georgia Southern University and is a previous dean of the University College of Education. Chance has also been a dean at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, and spent 10 years with the University of Memphis.

1985
Sandra Starr ('85, '91, '98) is a nurse practitioner at Pathways Behavioral Health in Jackson. Sandra received three degrees from UT Martin: a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, an Associate Degree in Nursing and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She went on to receive a Master’s of Science in Nursing from Mississippi University for Women in 2005 and a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner certification in 2010. Sandra currently lives in Jackson.

1986
Jonathan Ivins ('86) is a special education teacher and after-school supervisor at Tracy City Elementary School in Tracy City. He went on to earn his Master of Education in Secondary Education from Tennessee Tech. Jonathan and his wife, Belinda, currently live in Manchester and have two children: Lela, 21, and Alexandra, 18. Email: jivins@k12tn.net.

1994
Joe Plunk ('94) is a research coordinator at the UT Middle Tennessee Research and Education Center in Spring Hill. His wife, Embra DeSpain Plunk ('93), is an animal care specialist at the UT Middle Tennessee Research and Education Center. The couple currently lives in Spring Hill and has two children: Emma, 14, and Mitch, 2. Joe’s email: plunk.david@yahoo.com. Embra’s email: embraiplunk@yahoo.com.

1995
Julie Lumpkins Basler ('95) is vice president of academic affairs at Platt College in Aurora, Colo. She currently lives in Castle Rock, Colo. Email: julielumpkins@hotmail.com

1996
Kurt Hodges ('96) is an animal welfare compliance coordinator at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fla. Email: kurt_m_hodges@hotmail.com.
1998

**Sherry Rickman (’98)** is a therapist with Innovative Rehab Associates in Chambersburg, Pa. She went on to earn her doctorate in physical therapy from Belmont University. She has also worked at Kiwanis Children’s Hospital in pediatrics and at Vanderbilt University Research Hospital in orthopedic and oncology rehabilitation and in neuroscience, focusing on spinal cord injuries and stroke rehabilitation.

1999

**Kelly Alimon Weaver (’99)** is a faculty member at Kaplan University. Kelly and her husband, Paul R. Weaver, currently live in Medina. The couple has two children: Jacob Bryant, 9, and Levi Bryant, 7. Email: kelrweaver@gmail.com.

2000

**Casey Bauer Dixon (’00)** is a financial accountant for Midwest CBK in Union City. Casey currently lives in South Fulton and has one son: Gavin Dixon, 3. Email: caseybee77@hotmail.com.

**Christen Ganley (’00)** is a clinical instructor of radiation therapy at Baptist College of Health Science in Memphis. Email: cmgbstrt@yahoo.com.

**Becky Johnson Turcotte, (’00)** is a case officer at Corrections Management Corp. in Whiteville. She currently lives in Somerville. Email: becky_turcotte@comcast.net.

(we want to know)>>>
2001
Kristy Carroll-Grimes ('01, '03) is a legislative performance auditor IV with the comptroller of the treasury in Nashville. After UT Martin, Kristy went on to earn a Master of Science in Professional Counseling degree from Lipscomb University in 2012. Her husband, Torrey Grimes, '01 and '03, is a staff attorney at the Department of Correction. The couple currently lives in Antioch. Kristy’s email: Kristy.CarrollGrimes@yahoo.com. Torrey’s email: torreys.grimes@gmail.com.

Jennifer Lambert, ('01) is currently of the faculty of the Boston University School of Medicine, where she teaches medical students and residents in ophthalmology. As a certified orthoptist, she also works full-time treating children and adults with eye motility and binocular vision disorders at Boston Medical Center.

2002
Mary Jane Chunn Ball ('02) is a registered nurse at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She currently lives in Murfreesboro. Email: marjchun@gmail.com. Christopher Long ('02) celebrated the first birthday of his adopted son, Asher, who was born in September 2011.

2005
April M. Powers Davidson ('05) and her husband, Donnie Davidson, live in Dresden. April works as a registered nurse and earned her Master of Science in Nursing degree from Murray State University in May 2012. The couple has three children: Jacob, 18, Caleb, 16, and Isaac, 12. Email: ddavidson@crunet.com

2009
Savannah Aime Grow ('09) is a teacher and coach at Millington High School in Millington. She and her husband, Anthony, currently live in Millington and have one child, Addison, born on May 7, 2012.

2011
Damon Dukes ('11) is currently pursuing his master’s degree at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill.

Clinton Hoard ('11) is pursuing a Masters of Science degree in industrial organizational psychology at UT Chattanooga and plans to graduate in 2013. He served as a graduate assistant at the UT Chattanooga Center for Applied Social Research during the 2011-12 academic year and completed an internship at the Chattanooga Times-Free Press in human resources. He is currently a psychology instructor and a graduate assistant for the UT Chattanooga Department of Psychology. He currently lives in Chattanooga. Email: kxx481@mocs.utc.edu.

2009
Annie Sue Clift (UTJC '51), of Brighton, passed away Nov. 4, 2012 (former UT Martin nursing faculty member).


Dr. Maurice Field ('59), a former UT Martin education faculty member, passed away Aug. 17, 2011.


Joe C. Johnson (UTJC '45), of Huntsville, Ala., passed away Aug. 8, 2012.


William Michael Turner ('77), of Germantown, passed away on September 1, 2012.

Sarah Johnson chose to attend UT Martin to pursue a career in which she could one day work with animals. It did not take long for Sarah to realize that UT Martin would be able to equip her for a vast array of opportunities in animal sciences.

***I want to work with animals.***

I would love to be a veterinarian. Then again, I would love to stay in the animal sciences, too. I learn more options every day. I’d love to look into pharmaceuticals for animals and be a pharmaceutical rep and travel. There are so many choices.
Advance your career with UT Martin’s
online Education Graduate Programs.

- Quality academic programs that are NCATE® accredited.
- Faculty and staff dedicated to your success.
- Programs designed for working adults and full-time students.

ONLINE MASTER’S PROGRAMS
Counseling
- School and Clinical Mental Health
Curriculum and Instruction
Educational Leadership
Interdisciplinary
- Advanced Special Education
- Agricultural Education and Leadership
- Early Childhood Learning and Development
- ESL–English as a Second Language (9 hour endorsement only)
- Geosciences Education
- Gifted & Talented Education
- Instructional Design & Technology (Learn to teach online)
- Montessori
- Reading Specialist K-12

From counseling to leadership to advanced teaching, we are here for YOU!

Scan to request additional information, or visit us at www.utm.edu/edgrad.

Like Us On

www.facebook.com/utmartinedgrad