Senior recital set for Monday at UT Martin

Scottie Somerville of Kenton will perform his senior percussion recital at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the University of Tennessee at Martin Fine Arts Building.

The event is free and open to the public.

Somerville's program will include "Uneven Souls" by Nebojsa Zivkovic, which involves percussion ensemble and male choir. Works by James Campbell, Michael Burritt and Michael Aukofer will be featured on the program as well.

For more information, contact Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music, at (731) 881-7418.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008

Art reception

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will begin the spring semester of student art exhibitions with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m., Feb. 19, in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building.

This first exhibition features the cumulative works of Jody Stokes, a senior art education major from Humboldt, and Stephanie Smoyer, a senior graphic design major from Martin. The exhibition will run through March 2.

For more information, contact Doug Cook, professor and chair of the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts, at 881-7406 or dcook@utm.edu.

UT Martin offers yoga for babies and tots

The University of Tennessee Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer two courses of yoga for babies. Baby Itsy Bitsy Yoga is designed for newborns to children nearly crawling. Classes contain yoga postures designed to support baby's development. Each class is filled with calming, nurturing ways to enhance bonding and improve baby's sleep.

During a Baby Itsy Bitsy Yoga class, babies participate while on their backs, tummies or while being held. For parents, this class is an opportunity to meet other parents, get support and learn about baby's emerging personality.

Tots Itsy Bitsy Yoga is designed for tots who are almost crawling to 24 months. Bond with your child as you help them feel comfortable in their moving body, develop self-confidence and encourage their creativity. Tots participate according to their ability, learning style and personality.

No yoga experience is required. Helen Garabedian—an infant developmental movement educator, yoga teacher and mother—created Baby Itsy Bitsy Yoga. Classes are taught by Kathleen Vandenberk, a trained Baby Itsy Bitsy yoga facilitator and mother.

Tots Itsy Bitsy Yoga will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Fridays on Feb. 8, 15, 22 and 29. Baby Itsy Bitsy Yoga will be held from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. Fridays on Feb. 8, 15, 22 and 29. Both classes will be in the Conference Room of C.E. Weldon Library, 100 Main St., in Martin. For one time only, these sessions will be offered for free. Enrollment is limited. Visit www.itsybitsy.com. To register, call (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082 or online at www.utm.edu/departments/eco/non_credit_registration.php.

MIKE MOLLENHOUR
BOOK SIGNING

10 a.m. Thursday in Paul Meek Library at UT Martin. Mike Mollenhour, 1973 UT Martin graduate, signing new book, 'Arcturus.'
European art can be studied online

Art lovers will have the opportunity to take “Enjoying European Art” as an online class to be offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education.

The art and architecture of Europe offers an overwhelming array of choices sure to exhaust even the most dedicated art lover. People who are planning a trip to Europe or just want a better understanding of European art, will find this course is an introduction to the most important works of European art on a personal and familiar level. Participants will learn where to find the works, how to get the most out of the viewing experience and will receive a wealth of commentary and historical information based on the instructor’s knowledge of art and culture and extensive travel experiences. Requirements include Internet access, e-mail, Internet Explorer, Netscape or Firefox Web browser. The fee is $95.

A new section of this course starts monthly (Feb. 20, March 19, April 16, and May 21). Two lessons are released each week for the six-week duration of the course. Participants will have access to all the released lessons until the course ends and do not have to be present when lessons are released. An interactive discussion area accompanies each lesson and automatically closes two weeks after the lesson is released. The final exam is released the same day as the last lesson. Once the final exam has been released, participants have two weeks to complete all course work, including the final exam. A 10-day extension is available.

The course will be facilitated by Diane Scott, art historian and world traveler. She has more than 15 years of teaching experience, both in the classroom and on television. She earned degrees from the University of California in art history and art studio, the practice of art. Her master’s degree is in the field of art history. In 1997, she received a full grant from the Great Teachers Program, as well as funding from the International Studies Program at Sacramento City College, to pursue her interests in transdisciplinary approaches to global art. Besides European art, she enjoys the arts of non-western cultures, such as the Maya. She is a certified instructor with the Cuyamungue Institute in New Mexico, an anthropological research and teaching institution. She is also a writer and editor.

To register, visit the Online Instruction Center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/online-courses.php. Select Education To Go.

Recital slated

Drs. J.B. Smith and Bob Spring, professors of percussion and clarinet at Arizona State University, will present a duo recital at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 18, in the choir room of the University of Tennessee at Martin Fine Arts Building. The event is free and open to the public.

This world-renowned ensemble, Desert’s Edge Clarinet/Percussion Duo, will perform contemporary works for clarinet and percussion, many of which are commissions.

For more information, contact Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music, at 881-7418.

Choirs featured at The Dixie

The University of Tennessee at Martin New Pacer Singers, under the direction of Dr. Mark Simmons, will join choirs from area colleges and universities at The Dixie Carter Performing Arts and Academic Enrichment Center, in Huntingdon, for the “Festival of Choirs.” The event is slated for 7:30 p.m., Feb. 26. Each choir will perform two songs and all will unite as a mass choir to perform a grand finale.

“Festival of Choirs,” produced by the West Tennessee Higher Education Consortium and coordinated by Dr. Jeremy Kolwinka, UT Martin Department of Music chair, is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Tickets are available at The Dixie. For tickets, visit or call the box office between 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday-Friday. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Phone reservations will be accepted at (731) 986-2100, but tickets will be held at will call - none will be mailed.

BABY YOGA CLASSES IN MARTIN

Friday, Feb. 15, 22, and 29 in the Conference Room of C.E. Weldon Library, 100 Main St., Martin. Tots Itsy Bitsy Yoga will be at 9:30 a.m., Friday, Feb. 15, 22 and 29. Baby Itsy Bitsy Yoga will be at 10:45 a.m., Friday, Feb. 15, 22 and 29.

Free. Call (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments.
Smart planning can lead to business success

If you are a budding entrepreneur or a business owner who needs advice to grow a company, Ron Acree wants to help you. The Tennessee Small Business Development Center consultant is available each month at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center. His next visit will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Feb. 14.

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

"The latest statistics I have note that individuals who attempt start-up businesses without a good business plan are more subject to failure, (65 percent), than those who take the time to do it right," said Acree. "Of the new start-ups that fail, most can be attributed to three factors: 1.) Lack of sufficient operating capital, (at least six months' worth), when starting the business; 2.) Cash Flow Management Problems and 3.) A poor marketing plan and strategy.

"Small businesses in the United States account for more than 90 percent (or more) of the economic impact, and this is becoming more recognizable to the federal, state and local governments, as well as chambers of commerce and economic development groups," he added.

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

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

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

Foreign Film Series opens

"Das Leben der Anderen (The Lives of Others)," the first movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Foreign Film Series, is scheduled at 7 p.m., Feb. 15, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

"The Lives of Others," a critically acclaimed, Oscar-winning film, is the emotionally-charged experience Lisa Schwarzbaum of Entertainment Weekly calls "a nail-biter of a thriller!" Before the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the State Secret Police closely monitored East Germany's population. Only a few citizens above suspicion, like renowned pro-Socialist playwright Georg Dreyman, were permitted to lead private lives. But when a corrupt government official falls for Georg's stunning actress-girlfriend, Christa, an ambitious Stasi policeman is ordered to bug the writer's apartment to gain incriminating evidence against the rival. Now, what the officer discovers is about to dramatically change their lives, as well as his, in this seductive political thriller Peter Travers of Rolling Stone proclaims is "the best kind of movie: one you can't get out of your head."

Dr. Charles Hammond, assistant professor of German, will introduce the film.

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

UT Martin has record spring enrollment

A record 6,711 students are enrolled for spring semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The enrollment tops the previous spring semester high of 6,504 students set in 2007 and is the ninth consecutive spring semester increase. The most recent figures resulted in spring semester records for total undergraduates, transfer students, and total full-time equivalent and full-time equivalent undergraduate students.

The 3.2 percent spring 2008 enrollment increase also follows a fall 2007 enrollment of 7,173 that set four all-time records in various categories. All enrollment numbers are compiled and reported by the university's Office of Institutional Research.

"We continue to plan and ensure we have the resources to address expanding needs for the university," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, "A UT Martin education is a true value, and I appreciate the confidence more and more students are demonstrating by choosing UT Martin. This level of excellence is a reflection of the hard work of our faculty and staff."

The 2008 spring enrollment set a spring semester record for undergraduate students, with 6,331, a 5.7 percent increase over spring 2007; transfer students, with 256, a 13.8 percent increase; undergraduate FTE, with 5,508, a 3.6 percent increase; and total FTE, with 5,693, a 2.1 percent increase over spring 2007. FTE is the total number of student-credit hours divided by 15 for undergraduate students and 12 for graduate students. Also increasing over spring 2007 were the number of entering freshmen and non-degree-seeking students.
Pitts photo ultimately benefits wildlife endowment fund

A photo shot by a University of Tennessee at Martin professor of biology more than a decade ago turned into artwork that has adorned special Tennessee license plates. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of those plates since 1995 has benefited the Watchable Wildlife Endowment Fund.

Dr. David Pitts recently received a certificate of appreciation from Gov. Phil Bredesen for contributing the photo that was used to create the plate. Pitts also was recognized at a UT Martin faculty meeting by Chancellor Tom Rakes.

The bluebird plate went on sale 13 years ago at an additional cost of $25. A total of $22 from the sale of each plate was earmarked for the Watchable Wildlife Endowment Fund. Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency began using the earnings in 1999 to fund various projects such as several observation towers including the Black Bayou (Reelfoot Lake) Refuge Observation Tower, Blythe Ferry Crane Day Activities, Wildside Television Show, Bowmavat Wetland Walkway and Trail and the Interior Low Plateau Bird Project.

In excess of 150,000 bluebird plates have been sold so far, producing $4.9 million for the fund. The money placed in the fund is to remain in perpetuity with the earnings available to fund non-game, endangered species and other watchable wildlife programs as determined by the TWRA.

University choirs featured at The Dixie

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Each choir will perform two songs and all will unite as a mass choir to perform a grand finale.

"Festival of Choirs," produced by the West Tennessee Higher Education Consortium and coordinated by Dr. Jeremy Kolwinska, UT Martin Department of Music chair, is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Tickets are available at The Dixie. For tickets, visit or call the box office between 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Phone reservations will be accepted at 731-986-2100, but tickets will be held at will call – none will be mailed.

Other schools participating in "Festival of Choirs" include: Bethel College, Lane College, Lambuth University, Jackson State Community College, Dyersburg State Community College and University of Memphis.

For more information, contact The Dixie at 731-986-2100.
UT Martin Has Record Spring Enrollment

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For more information, contact Doug Cook, professor and chair of the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts, at 731-881-7406 or dcook@utm.edu.
Weakley County residents in WestStar 2008 Class

Bud Grimes

Bud Grimes, Brian Harris, Tom Seratt and Steve Westenhofer, all of Weakley County, are among 31 members of the 2008 WestStar class. Representing 14 counties in the 21-county region, class members have a diverse range of occupations and volunteer leadership experiences. Among this year’s class, there are chamber of commerce and economic development professionals, bankers, elected officials, government personnel, executive directors and state employees.

Grimes is Office of University Relations director at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He is an institutional member of the Tennessee College Public Relations Association, a statewide organization he has previously served as past president.

He is president of the West Tennessee Public Television Council, Inc., the governing board for WLJT-TV/DT; and is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County.

"West Tennessee faces major challenges in education and economic development," said Grimes. "Participation in WestStar will allow me to learn ways to improve these important areas for the betterment of the region."

Brian Harris

Harris is the executive director of the Martin Housing Authority, Martin. He currently serves as a park board commissioner for the City of Martin Parks and Recreation Department; is a board member for the Hope of Martin Community Housing Development Corp.; is an advisory board member for Pathways of Tennessee Behavioral Health Center; and is treasurer for the Community Mentoring Program of Weakley County. He has served as president and board member of the Tennessee Association of Housing and Redevelopment Agencies; as a committee and board member for the Public Housing Authority Director's Association; and as a board member of the Martin Economic Development Corp. Harris is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County.

"West Tennessee faces major challenges in dealing with the aging population," said Harris.

Tom Seratt

His participation in WestStar will offer a unique opportunity to meet leaders who can bring additional knowledge and resources to further assist with economic development.

Seratt is community bank president for First Citizens National Bank in Martin. He has served as a board member for the city of Martin's Industrial Development Board; has held various leadership roles for the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce; is a member of the board of directors for the Tennessee Bankers Association Independent Bankers Division; and is a member of the Martin Rotary Club. He was recently named a certified small business counselor through the REED Center and the State of Tennessee and had been honored with several awards during his tenure with the banking industry.

"West Tennessee faces major challenges in the rural communities and competition with the larger cities," said Seratt. He said his participation in WestStar will help him gain a better understanding on how to effectively impress upon elected officials the lack of attention to rural West Tennessee.

Westenhofer is the chief executive officer of Volunteer Community Hospital in Martin. He is a member of the Martin Rotary Club; is a board member of the Martin Business Association; and is an advisory member at the University of Tennessee at Martin for both the College of Business and Public Affairs and the Pre-Health Science Program. In 2007, he was awarded the "Big Bean" award by the Tennessee Soybean Festival committee and, in 2006, he was the recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award by Community Health Systems.

"West Tennessee’s major challenge is economic development," said Westenhofer. His participation in WestStar will help him increase and improve contacts throughout West Tennessee to learn more about other areas and organizations, and to be part of the synergy that creates ideas and initiatives for the region.
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Four candidates to interview for UT Martin vice chancellor for academic affairs

Interviews are slated to begin February 11 with four candidates for the vice chancellor for academic affairs post at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The interview process will include meetings with faculty, staff and students and an open forum. The search advisory committee is chaired by Dr. Jim Byford, UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean. Finalists will be recommended to Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, for consideration.

“The search advisory committee has done an excellent job in its global search,” said Byford. “I think we have four candidates with the credentials and experience that merit a closer look during an extensive interview process. I feel confident we will find a successful candidate in this pool.”

The candidates include:
- Dr. Richard A. Beck, associate vice president for academic and student affairs, Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, July 2001-present;
- Dr. Donna L. Burggraf, dean, College of Business, Education and Professional Studies, Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall, Minnesota, 2005-present;
- Dr. E. Jerald Ogg, Jr., interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, University of Tennessee at Martin, 2007-present; and
- Dr. W. Harold Ormes, dean, College of Science, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah, July 1999-present.

The interview schedule is as follows: Ogg, February 11-12; Burggraf, February 12-13; Ormes, February 13-14; and Beck, February 14-15.

Other members of the search advisory committee include: Brandy Cartmell, director of academic records and registrar; Cynthia West, Department of Sociology; Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice interim chair; Dr. Darrell Ray, associate professor of biology; Doug Cook, Department of Visual and Theatre Arts chair; Grayson Uldrich, Student Government Association vice president; Dr. John Overby, Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science chair; Dr. Kathy Evans, associate professor of education; Keith Carver, assistant vice chancellor for development; Dr. Nancy Warren, Department of Nursing chair; Phil Bright, Office of Human Resources director; Sam S. Richardson, assistant professor of library science; and Shannon Burgin, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Dr. E. Jerald Ogg will continue to serve as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs until the new vice chancellor is named.

For more information, visit utm.edu/vcca_search.php.

Gibson County students receive UTM scholarships

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

Haleigh Cole, daughter of Gerard and Cheryl Cole of Trenton, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship and the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

Payton Elliott, son of Rocky and Ann Elliott of Trenton, will be a freshman. He received the Dean’s Scholarship.

Alexi Hamm, daughter of James and Lisa Hamm of Trenton, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship.

Kellie Joyner, daughter of William and Terrie Joyner of Trenton, will be a freshman. She received the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

Erin Jackson, daughter of Mark and Kathy Jackson of Humboldt, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship.

Jay Lusk, son of Wayne and Wendy Lusk of Milan, will be a freshman. He received the Chancellor’s Award.

Melody Sain, daughter of Douglas and Bernice Sain of Humboldt, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship and the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

Mallory Walker, daughter of Jeff Walker of Rutherford and Teresa Walker of Kenton, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, TN 38238. In-state residents telephone 800-829-UTM1; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.

The Gazette, Trenton, Tennessee

Wednesday, February 6, 2008
Three mayors from Gibson County in WestStar class

Tony Burriss, Allen Barker, Vance Coleman and Terry Drumwright, all of Gibson County, are among 31 members of the 2008 WestStar class. Representing 14 counties in the 21-county region, class members have a diverse range of occupations and volunteer leadership experiences. Among this year’s class, there are chamber of commerce and economic development professionals, bankers, elected officials, government personnel, executive directors and state employees.

Burriss is the mayor for the City of Trenton. He retired from education after serving 30 years as a band director in Decatur County, the Gibson County Special School District and the Trenton Special School District. He currently serves as a board member for the West Tennessee Emmaus Community. He has served as a member of the West Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association, Trenton Teapot Festival committee and the Tennessee Music Educators Association. In 1995, Burriss was awarded Gibson County Teacher of the Year.

He says the most critical issue for West Tennessee is the lack of employment opportunities. His participation in WestStar will allow him to develop more networking opportunities that will benefit his community and the region.

Barker is the mayor for the City of Humboldt. He has been a Humboldt Utilities board member since 1994 and chairman of the Gibson County Joint Economic Community Development board from 2002 until present. He is also a member of the Humboldt Lions Club.

“The retention of qualified young adults for the workforce and their need to understand the significance of education beyond high school are tremendous challenges for West Tennessee,” he said. His participation in WestStar will expand his relations with his Gibson County peers and the leaders in West Tennessee.

Coleman is the mayor for the City of Medina. He is currently a member of the Medina Lions Club and the Masonic Lodge 86. He is a graduate of the Elected Official Academy.

“One of the most critical issues in his area is having three independent chambers in one county,” said Coleman. “A unified chamber would utilize the valuable resources of all three and would create a stronger representation and impact to maximize the county’s potential.” His participation in WestStar will give him a deeper understanding of community development.

Drumwright is a professionally licensed civil engineer with TLM Associates, Inc., in Jackson. He is a member of the Humboldt Lions Club, where he has held several positions, including president and chairman of the board. He is co-chair of the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Department of Engineering advisory board; is a member of the Jackson Downtown Development Corporation Board; and is a member of the Humboldt Board of Zoning Appeals.

“The most critical issue in West Tennessee is the need to increase the minimum acceptable level of education from a high school diploma to two years of college,” said Drumwright. His participation in WestStar will help him to gain insight into other problems, opportunities and solutions in West Tennessee so that the region can advance as a united community.
University of Tennessee at Martin establishes study-abroad program

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Modern Foreign Languages and the University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM), with cooperation from the Mid-Continent Consortium for International Education, recently established a new study-abroad program in Toledo, Spain.

Located in Castilla-La Mancha, the region where Don Quijote and Sancho Panza had many of their adventures, Toledo features winding cobbled streets and breathtaking architecture. Founded in the pre-Roman era on a bend in the Tagus River, Toledo has been an important intellectual and political center for a succession of civilizations including the Romans (who ruled from 193 B.C. to 410 A.D.), the Visigoths (410 A.D. to 711 A.D.), the Muslims (711 A.D. to 1085 A.D) and the Spanish. Toledo has also been home to a vibrant Jewish community, the culture of which can still be seen in its picturesque neighborhood in the city’s Old Quarter. Toledo’s artistic masterpieces are thus the product of heterogeneous civilizations and three major religions – Judaism, Islam and Christianity. Toledo was designated an UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986.

The study-abroad program in Toledo lasts four weeks, from June 28 to July 26. The “Don Quijote” Package (homestay with a Spanish family) costs $4,275; the “Sancho Panza” Package (stay in the newly refurbished residence hall) costs $3,975. These prices include round-trip airfare from Nashville to Madrid, transportation from Barajas Airport in Madrid to Toledo and back, tuition, lodging, travel insurance and access to all the facilities of the University of Castilla-La Mancha. The program of study will include courses in Spanish conversation, grammar, culture and civilization. All courses are taught by native speakers from the UCLM faculty in the newly remodeled San Pedro Martir Building, located in the heart of Toledo. Students may transfer six to eight credits from UCLM to UT Martin for their participation in the program. Participation in the Toledo Program will satisfy the immersion experience requirement for Spanish majors.

For more information, contact Dr. Daniel Nappo, UT Martin Department of Modern Foreign Languages chair, at 731-881-7740 or 731-881-7428; email: dnappo@utm.edu.

Professor’s photo featured on license plate

A photo shot by a University of Tennessee at Martin professor of biology more than a decade ago turned into artwork that has adorned special Tennessee license plates. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of those plates since 1995 has benefited the Watchable Wildlife Endowment Fund.

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Get-Out! • Feb. 7, 2008

BABY YOGA
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MIKE MOLLENHOUR BOOK SIGNING
10 a.m. today in Paul Meek Library at UT Martin. Mike Mollenhour, 1973 UT Martin graduate, signing new book, 'Arcturus.'
McKinney to serve as General Assembly intern

Jessica McKinney of South Fulton is one of three University of Tennessee at Martin students serving as interns this semester during the 2008 Tennessee General Assembly.

The Tennessee Legislative Intern Program, established in 1972, provides Tennessee university students with an opportunity to work and learn in a hands-on legislative environment. Each year, 70-80 students from across the state participate in the program to learn about leadership responsibilities and to develop legislative process skills. The interns assist legislative office staff with activities and business functions.

McKinney will be assigned to the 81st District Rep. Jimmy Naifeh, Speaker of the House. She is a senior marketing major with a minor in political science, and is considering a career in law or marketing.

“I hope to get a better knowledge of our government,” said McKinney, who added that the internship will offer her experience and networking opportunities. McKinney usually takes 17-18 hours per semester, and the internship will only provide 12, but she said, “The experience is worth it all.”

McKinney said she looks forward to returning to UTM for summer classes and for her final semester in the fall.

“I love UT Martin. I wouldn’t pick anywhere else to be,” she said.

![Jessica McKinney](image)

UTM experiences record enrollment for spring term

A record 6,711 students are enrolled for spring semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The enrollment tops the previous spring semester high of 6,504 students set in 2007 and is the ninth consecutive spring semester increase. The most recent figures resulted in spring semester records for total undergraduates, transfer students, and total full-time equivalent and full-time equivalent undergraduate students.

The 3.2 percent spring 2008 enrollment increase also follows a fall 2007 enrollment of 7,173 that set four all-time records in various categories. All enrollment numbers are compiled and reported by the university’s Office of Institutional Research.

“We continue to plan and ensure we have the resources to address expanding needs for the university,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. “A UT Martin education is a true value, and I appreciate the confidence more and more students are demonstrating by choosing UT Martin. This level of excellence is a reflection of the hard work of our faculty and staff.”

The 2008 spring enrollment set a spring semester record for undergraduate students, with 6,331, a 5.7 percent increase over spring 2007; transfer students, with 256, a 13.8 percent increase; undergraduate FTE, with 5,508, a 3.6 percent increase; and total FTE, with 5,693, a 2.1 percent increase over spring 2007. FTE is the total number of student-credit hours divided by 15 for undergraduate students and 12 for graduate students. Also increasing over spring 2007 were the number of entering freshmen and non-degree-seeking students.

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Four Gibson Countians in 2008 WestStar class

Allen Barker, Tony Burriss, Vance Coleman and Terry Drumwright, all of Gibson County, are among 31 members of the 2008 WestStar class. Representing 14 counties in the 21-county region, class members have a diverse range of occupations and volunteer leadership experiences. Among this year's class, there are chamber of commerce and economic development professionals, bankers, elected officials, government personnel, executive directors and state employees.

Barker is the mayor for the city of Humboldt. He has been a Humboldt Utilities board member since 1994 and chairman of the Gibson County Joint Economic Development Board from 2002 until present. He is also a member of the Humboldt Lions Club.

"The retention of qualified young adults for the workforce and their need to understand the significance of education beyond high school are tremendous challenges for West Tennessee," he said. His participation in WestStar will expand his relations with his Gibson County peers and the leaders in West Tennessee.

Burriss is the mayor for the city of Trenton. He retired from education after serving 30 years as a band director in Decatur County, the Gibson County Special School District and the Trenton Special School District. He currently serves as a board member for the West Tennessee Emmaus Community. He has served as a member of the West Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association, Trenton Teapot Festival committee and the Tennessee Music Educators Association. In 1995, Burriss was awarded Gibson County Teacher of the Year.

He says the most critical issue for West Tennessee is the lack of employment opportunities. His participation in WestStar will allow him to develop more networking opportunities that will benefit his community and the region.

Coleman is the mayor for the city of Medina. He is currently a member of the Medina Lions Club and the Masonic Lodge 86. He is a graduate of the Elected Official Academy.

"One of the most critical issues in his area is having three independent chambers in one county," said Coleman. "A unified chamber would utilize the valuable resources of all three and would create a stronger representation and impact to maximize the county's potential." His participation in WestStar will give him a deeper understanding of community development.

Drumwright is a professionally licensed civil engineer with TLM Associates, Inc., in Jackson. He is a member of the Humboldt Lions Club, where he has held several positions, including president and chairman of the board. He is co-chair of the University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Engineering advisory board; is a member of the Jackson Downtown Development Corporation Board; and is a member of the Humboldt Board of Zoning Appeals.

"The most critical issue in West Tennessee is the need to increase the minimum acceptable level of education from a high school diploma to two years of college," said Drumwright. His participation in WestStar will help him to gain insight into other problems, opportunities and solutions in West Tennessee so that the region can advance as a united community.

Dyer County students receive UTM scholarships

Six Dyer County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Rachael Anderson, the daughter of Sue Anderson of Dyersburg, will be a freshman. She received the UT McWhorter Scholarship.

Alexandra Campbell, the daughter of Mike and Lisa Campbell of Dyersburg, will be a freshman. She received the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

Rachel Carter, the daughter of Merry Carter and Roy Carter, both of Dyersburg, will be a freshman. She received the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

Alison Petty, the daughter of Richard and Nancy Petty of Dyersburg, will be a freshman. She received the Dean's Scholarship and the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

Brandon Smith, the son of Steve and Judy Smith of Dyersburg, will be a freshman. He received the Chancellor's Award.

Rhiannon Triplet, the daughter of Rhonda Evans of Dyersburg and Kevin Triplet of Emerson, Ark., will be a freshman. She received the Dean's Scholarship.
UT Martin professors to have art showcased in Mayfield

The Ice House Gallery will feature works by University of Tennessee-Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts faculty Diane Shaw and David McBeth January 29 - February 28.

The exhibit explores nature's forms and colors in Ms. Shaw's landscapes and Mr. McBeth's pottery.

Each of the paintings in Ms. Shaw's collection is expressive, using pure color and rubbed textures to capture an imaginary natural setting that emerges from the process of the work and not from any pre-conceived design.

Using brushes, rags, paper towels, paint scrapers and fingers, she applies acrylic paint directly from the tube onto paper and canvas.

She layers and glazes to achieve desired effects with any mixing of color coming from the interaction of the paint on the surface.

Ms. Shaw, an Assistant Professor of Art, states, "My work strives for a purity of artistic application and medium that is a replication of the way in which I view nature's purity of form."

Mr. McBeth, a Professor of Art who has taught drawing, art history, ceramics, sculpture and 3-D design, is a practicing artist producing pottery that is in private and public collections in twelve countries.

He keeps a summer studio on the coast of Maine and exhibits across the country.

Mr. McBeth demonstrates pottery in numerous traditional skills festivals in the region and encourages his students to do the same.

His broad, open-formed bowls with their graceful edges are meant to express generosity and gentleness, while his installation pieces celebrate the handmade cup.

The Mayfield/Graves County Art Guild is a non-profit organization and member supported. The Guild is located in the historic Ice House, 120 North 8th St. (corner of North and North Eighth Streets) in Mayfield.

The Guild is accessible to individuals with disabilities. The Guild is open Tuesday - Friday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Admission is free.

The Kentucky Arts Council, a state agency in the Commerce Cabinet, provides operational support funding for The Mayfield/Graves County Art Guild with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

UTM ALUMNUS SPEAKS AT BLACK HISTORY PROGRAM — Fuller Street Baptist Church in Dresden will hold a black history program at 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 17, at the church on 310 N. Park St., Dresden. The Rev. Harold T. Conner of Martin is pastor. Speaker for the occasion will be minister, soloist and pianist Mrs. Jerrian Moody Harris of Memphis. Harris is an associate minister at Castalia Baptist Church in Memphis, a UT Martin graduate, member of the UTM Alumni Council and an elementary school teacher in the Memphis City Schools. A community-wide youth choir directed by the Rev. Russell Morrow, pastor of Miles Chapel Church in Martin, will also be featured on the program. Everyone is invited to attend the program and the reception that follows in the fellowship hall of the church.
SAACS sponsors lecture

The University of Tennessee at Martin chapter of the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society is sponsoring a lecture on research related to probes used in clinical and environmental applications at 7 p.m., Feb. 12, in Room 317 of Johnson EPS Building. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Dr. Mark D. Kearney, assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will make a presentation on fluorescent/luminescent sensors for environmentally and physiologically significant substrates. Of special interest is the new generation of molecular agents that allow for use in MRI and one or more imaging mode (optical, ultrasound and CT). The design, synthesis and application of some of the latest agents will be discussed along with some of the current efforts underway at UT Martin toward the construction of probes to be used in various diagnostic and environmental arenas.

Percussion and clarinet recital slated

Drs. J.B. Smith and Bob Spring, professors of percussion and clarinet at Arizona State University, will present a duo recital at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 18 in the choir room of the University of Tennessee at Martin Fine Arts Building.

The event is free and open to the public.

This world-renowned ensemble, Desert’s Edge Clarinet/ Percussion Duo, will perform contemporary works for clarinet and percussion, many of which are commissions.

For more information, contact Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music, at (731) 881-7418.

Apply for writing project

Even though the West Tennessee Writing Project’s annual invitational summer institute at the University of Tennessee at Martin isn’t until May 17 and then Mondays through Thursdays June 2-26, the deadline is Feb. 22.

West Tennessee teachers of grades K-12 in all subject areas may apply for participation. All who are accepted must be accepted for graduate study at UTM.

Teachers will receive six hours of graduate credit.

Call Dr. David Carithers at (731) 881-7290 or e-mail wtwp@utm.edu.
Ms. Wood earns auditor designation

Amanda Wood, CPA, a manager with Alexander Thompson Arnold CPAs, was recently named as a Certified Internal Auditor® (CIA®) by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA).

The CIA designation is awarded to internal audit professionals who have met the rigorous requirements of the IIA’s CIA program, including a four-part examination, as well as high standards of character, education and experience.

The exam reflects the current state of the art in internal auditing and evaluates technical competence in important subject areas related to internal auditing.

A summa cum laude graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, Ms. Wood joined Alexander Thompson Arnold CPAs in 2000 and is a manager for the firm. Her practice focuses on internal bank audit and interest rate risk.

She is an active member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the Tennessee Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA) and the Institute of Internal Auditors. She currently serves on the TSCPA Young CPA Committee.

Ms. Wood’s involvement extends to the community. Currently a member of the Jackson Cotillion Club, she served as treasurer for Madison County CASA and is active with Madison County’s Relay for Life.

She and her family are members at White’s Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, where Ms. Wood has served as assistant treasurer and a Sunday School teacher.

Alexander Thompson Arnold CPAs PLLC is one of the largest accounting and consulting firms in the Mid-South and was named the ninth largest accounting firm in the State of Tennessee by Business TN Magazine in March 2007.

Founded in 1946, ATA offers a comprehensive array of tax, audit, accounting, consulting and wealth management services and is a member of the BDO Seidman Alliance. Firm offices are located in Dyersburg, Fulton, Henderson, Jackson, Martin, McKenzie, Milan, Paris, Trenton and Union City.

Established in 1941, The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) is an international professional association of more than 150,000 members with global headquarters in Altamonte Springs, Fla. Throughout the world, the IIA is recognized as the internal audit profession’s leader in certification, education, research and technological guidance.

For more information, call Alexander Thompson Arnold CPAs PLLC at (731) 427-8571 or visit the Web site www.atacpa.net.

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Monday, February 11, 2008

Faculty Women’s Club plans annual luncheon

The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty Women's Club will have its Women’s History Month luncheon from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. March 3 in Room 206 of Boling University Center on campus.

A panel of speakers — Dr. Nell Gilllett, Bettye Giles, Gina McClure and Dimphy Sasse — will discuss “The Changing World for Women in Collegiate Athletics.” The event is open to the public.

Tickets for the luncheon are $10 each and may be purchased before the Feb. 25 deadline at the Information Desk at the University Center; at Vickie’s Designer Touch in Martin; or from board members Mary Beard (587-5547), Annie Schommer (588-0794), Catherine Carithers (587-6689), Lynn Patterson (587-0714), Carla Field (587-3522), Penny Moser (588-5766) or Mary Prather (588-1131).

Reservations for free childcare may be made by calling Ms. Schommer by Feb. 28.

Frankum appointed to advisory board

Local business and civic leader Dave Frankum has been elected to Commercial Bank & Trust's advisory board of directors, according to Jack Parker, the Union City bank's community president.

Frankum is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he served as Interfraternity Council president and president of Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity.

He is a partner at Glenn E. Dalton Inc. and is involved in a host of civic endeavors in the area.

He serves on the Obion County Election Commission and the Northwest Tennessee Port Authority Board.

He has completed both the Dyer County and Weakley team.
Candidates interview for UT Martin post

Interviews are slated to begin today with four candidates for the vice chancellor for academic affairs post at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The interview process will include meetings with faculty, staff and students and an open forum.

The search advisory committee is chaired by Dr. Jim Byford, UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean. Finalists will be recommended to Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, for consideration.

"The search advisory committee has done an excellent job in its global search," Byford said. "I think we have four candidates with the credentials and experience that merit a closer look during an extensive interview process. I feel confident we will find a successful candidate in this pool."

The candidates include:
- Dr. Richard A. Beck, associate vice president for academic and student affairs, Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas, July 2001-present;
- Dr. Donna L. Burgraf, dean, College of Business, Education and Professional Studies, Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall, Minn., 2005-present;
- Dr. E. Jerald Ogg Jr., interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, University of Tennessee at Martin, 2007-present; and
- Dr. W. Harold Ornes, dean, College of Science, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah, July 1999-present.

The interview schedule is as follows: Ogg, Monday and Tuesday; Burgraf, Tuesday and Wednesday; Ornes, Wednesday and Thursday; and Beck, Thursday and Friday.

Other members of the search advisory committee include Brandy Cartmell, director of academic records and registrar; Cynthia West, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice interim chair; Dr. Darrell Ray, associate professor of biology; Doug Cook, Department of Visual and Theatre Arts chair; Grayson Uldrich, Student Government Association vice president; Dr. John Overby, Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science chair; Dr. Kathy Evans, associate professor of education; Keith Carver, assistant vice chancellor for development; Dr. Nancy Warren, Department of Nursing chair; Phil Bright, Office of Human Resources director; Sam S. Richardson, assistant professor of library science; and Shannon Burgin, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Dr. Ogg will continue to serve as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs until the new vice chancellor is named.

For more information, visit the Web site www.utm.edu/vcaa_search.php.

Area choirs to perform during event

The Dixie Carter Performing Arts and Academic Enrichment Center in Huntingdon will host the Festival of Choirs Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m.

This will feature choirs from West Tennessee colleges and universities. Each choir will perform two songs and will unite as a mass choir to perform a grand finale.

Festival of Choirs, produced by the West Tennessee Higher Education Consortium, is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Tickets are available at the Dixie. For tickets, visit or call the Dixie box office during regular hours Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis. Phone reservations will be accepted at (731) 986-2100, but tickets will be held at will-call. None will be mailed.

Schools participating in the Festival of Choirs will include Bethel College, the University of Tennessee at Martin, Lane College, Lambuth University, Jackson State Community College, Freed-Hardeman University, Dyersburg State Community College and the University of Memphis.

Business consultant available for advice

If you are a budding entrepreneur or a business owner who needs advice to grow a company, Ron Acree wants to help.

The Tennessee Small Business Development Center consultant is available each month at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center. His next visit will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday.

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

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

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free.

Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at (731) 587-REEED (7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St. in Martin.

For additional services offered by the REED Center, go to www.utm.edu/reed.
State of Civil Rights since Dr. King's death highlighted at annual Civil Rights Conference

"Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King's Death" is the theme of the University of Tennessee at Martin Eighth Annual Civil Rights Conference slated for Feb. 25-March 1.

Kathleen Cleaver, law professor and former member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and Black Panthers, will be the conference keynote speaker and present a lecture, "Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King's Death," 7 p.m., Feb. 28, in Watkins Auditorium at Boling University Center. Cleaver began her work with the Civil Rights movement working with the SNCC as campus program secretary in 1967. She became communications secretary for the Black Panther Party in 1968, and went on to co-found the Black Panther Party International wing in 1970. In 1983, Cleaver returned for her bachelor's degree at Yale University and received a law degree from Yale in 1989. In 1991, Cleaver clerked for U.S. Court of Appeals Justice A. Leon Higginbotham. She is currently a senior research associate at the Yale Law School and a senior lecturer in the African American Studies department at Yale University. Cleaver is also a senior lecturer in law at Emory University in Atlanta.

Scheduled during the conference are Native American Civil Rights Day, Feb. 26, and Minority Affairs Day, Feb. 27.

Opening ceremonies will be at 4 p.m., Feb. 25, in Watkins Auditorium, with a discussion of "Greek Organizations and the Civil Rights Movement." A video, "Amazing Grace," will follow at 7 p.m., in Norman Campbell Lecture Hall in Holt Humanities Building. This movie chronicles William Wilberforce, a member of Parliament in 18th century England, and his efforts to end slavery and the slave trade in the British Empire.

Native American Day will begin at 11 a.m., Feb. 26, with "Caps of Distinction," led by Dr. Jennifer Levy, Counseling Center interim director, in Room 206AB, of the university center. Caps of Distinction is an exercise to increase student awareness of racial and gender privileges and stereotyping.

A Native American Dinner will begin at 5 p.m., in the student cafeteria of the university center, and will be followed by a music and PowerPoint presentation on Native American civil rights in Watkins Auditorium.

Native American keynote speaker of the evening is Lynn King Lissiah. Lissiah is a longtime activist on behalf of civil rights for Native Americans, an artist and writer. Her most recent book is a collection of spiritual and cultural stories of the Cherokee, "Cherokee Little People: The Secrets and Mysteries of the Yunwi Tsunsi." A book and art print signing will follow the presentation in Watkins Auditorium lobby.

"Honoring Black Writers: A Literary Reading" will usher in Minority Affairs Day, at noon, in the Hortense Parrish Writing Center, Room 209, in the Humanities building. Students and faculty will share short excerpts from their favorite black authors. Light refreshments will be served.

Chris Saunders, president of The Tennessee Equality Project, will present a talk on the Civil Rights Movement's impact upon the civil rights struggles of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. The talk, co-sponsored by UT Martin Allies, will take place at 1 p.m., in the Student Life Center.

Dr. Mark Simmons, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities, will present a lecture titled, "The Music of the Civil Rights Movement," at 3 p.m., Room 204, Humanities Building.

The Harold Conner Scholars Civil Rights Dinner, featuring the Boys and Girls Club Choir of Union City, is scheduled for 6 p.m., in Student Life Center.

"Black Student Struggles of 1968 and 1969" will kick off the first of three panel discussions for Thursday from 9:30-10:45 a.m., in Watkins Auditorium, led by Thulani Davis. Davis is a poet, novelist, journalist, playwright, and librettist. Among her works are two novels, "1959" and "Maker of Saints," a family social history, "My Confederate Kinfolks," several plays, including "Everybody's Ruby," which premiered at the New York Shakespeare Festival; and the librettos for "Amistad" and "Malcolm X." She is also the author of two collections of poetry and two PBS documentaries. Davis has been published in numerous magazines and journals. She lives in New York City.

Next, panelists Diane Nash and Cynthia Griggs Fleming will discuss, "Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement," from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in Watkins Auditorium. Nash became the unofficial leader of the Nashville sit-ins in 1960 and helped to found the SNCC. In 1961, she took over responsibility for the Freedom Rides from Birmingham, Ala., to Jackson, Miss. She worked for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference under Martin Luther King Jr. from 1961 to 1965 and served as an organizer, strategist, field staff person, race-relations staff person and workshop instructor. In 1965, King gave the SCLC's
highest award, the Rosa Parks Award, to Diane Nash and James Bevel. In 2003, Nash received the “Distinguished American Award” from the John F. Kennedy Library and Foundation and the LBJ Award for Leadership in Civil Rights from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in 2004.

Fleming is a noted historian of the black freedom movement at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Fleming has written a biography of SNCC leader, Ruby Doris Smith Robinson, “Soon We Will Not Cry,” and, most recently, “In the Shadow of Selma,” a history of the civil rights movement in Wilcox County, Ala. She is currently working on a book on contemporary black leadership.

Earlene Moore, assistant professor of library science and collection development and interlibrary loan librarian, will moderate the discussion.

The final panel discussion, “40 Years Later: Desegregating or Resegregating?” will begin at 1 p.m. and be led by Ray Stevenson, a mediation specialist, an associate minister at Martin’s Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church and a UT Martin adjunct professor. Other panelists include David Belote, assistant vice chancellor and director of student life, Dr. Henry Parker, professor of philosophy, and Gloria Sweet-Love, former state president of the Tennessee NAACP.

The evening will conclude with the conference keynote address, “Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King’s Death,” by Kathleen Cleaver. The UT Martin Collegiate Gospel Choir, led by the Rev. Alvin Summers of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church, in Martin, will introduce the speaker at 7 p.m.

“The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till” will be shown Feb. 29 at 7 p.m., in Campbell Auditorium, followed by a panel discussion. The film is a documentary investigating the murder of Emmett Louis Till. Many considered this case to be the catalyst of the Civil Rights Movement.

A field trip on March 1 to the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis concludes the conference. The museum is located at the site of the old Lorraine Motel, where Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968. The Rev. Samuel Kyles, one of the last men to see Dr. King alive, will meet with and talk to students at the outset of their tour of the museum.

For information, complete schedule or reservations, call 881-7465 or e-mail Dr. David Barber, conference director, at dbarber@utm.edu.

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Ribbon-cutting and open house mark move

An open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned on Feb. 19 to mark the relocation of the UT Martin Jackson Center to the Jackson State Community College campus, beginning this semester. The public is invited to attend the 2 p.m. event in the McWherter Building at JSACC and tour the facility.

Classes offered at the UT Martin Jackson Center include selected programming in agriculture, education, counseling, nursing, ROTC and other areas. Additional courses/programs may be offered as needed. Previously, the center was located at the Tennessee Technology Center (TTC) in Jackson, and evening classes will continue to be offered at the TTC.

For more information about UT Martin Jackson Center classes beginning in January, call (731) 425-9277 or (888) UTM-GRAD toll free.

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Facility Women’s Club plans luncheon

The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty Women’s Club will have its Women’s History Month luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 3, in Room 206, Boling University Center. A panel of speakers, Dr. Nell Gullett, Bettye Giles, Gina McClure and Dimphy Sasse, will discuss “The Changing World for Women in Collegiate Athletics.” The event is open to the public.

Tickets for the luncheon are $10 and may be purchased before the Feb. 25 deadline at the Information Desk at the university center, at Vickie’s Designer Touch, or from the following board members: Mary Beard (587-5547), Annie Schommer (588-0794), Catherine Carithers (587-6689), Lynn Patterson (587-0714), Carla Field (587-3522), Penny Moser (588-5766) and Mary Prather (588-1131). Reservations for free childcare can be made by calling Schommer by Feb. 28.
Four candidates to interview for vice chancellor for academic affairs

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The interview process will include meetings with faculty, staff and students and an open forum. The search advisory committee is chaired by Dr. Jim Byford, UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean. Finalists will be recommended to Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, for consideration.

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- Dr. Donna L. Burgraff, dean, College of Business, Education and Professional Studies, Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall, Minn., 2005-present;
- Dr. E. Jerald Ogg Jr., interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, 2007-present; and
- Dr. W. Harold Ornes, dean, College of Science, Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah, July 1999-present.

The interview schedule is as follows: Ogg, Feb. 11-12; Burgraff, Feb. 12-13; Ornes, Feb. 13-14; and Beck, Feb. 14-15.

Other members of the search advisory committee include: Brandy Cartmell, director of academic records and registrar; Cynthia West, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice interim chair; Dr. Darrell Ray, associate professor of biology; Doug Cook, Department of Visual and Theatre Arts chair; Grayson Uldrich, Student Government Association vice president; Dr. John Overby, Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science chair; Dr. Kathy Evans, associate professor of education; Keith Carver, assistant vice chancellor for development; Dr. Nancy Warren, Department of Nursing chair; Phil Bright, Office of Human Resources director; Sam S. Richardson, assistant professor of library science; and Shannon Burgin, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Dr. E. Jerald Ogg will continue to serve as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs until the new vice chancellor is named.

For more information, visit www.utm.edu/vcaa_search.php.

Ribbon-cutting, Open House mark UT-Martin Jackson Center’s move to JSCC

An open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned on February 19 to mark the relocation of the UT-Martin Jackson Center to the Jackson State Community College campus, beginning this semester. The public is invited to attend the 2:00 p.m. event in the McWherter Building at JSCC and tour the facility.

Classes offered at the UT-Martin Jackson Center include selected programming in agriculture, education, counseling, nursing, ROTC and other areas. Additional courses/programs may be offered as needed.

GRAD, toll free.
Jimmy Landrum Croom

Jimmy Landrum Croom is the son of Jimmy and Diane Croom of Greenfield. Jimmy's leadership skills have been displayed through participation in Youth for Christ, FFA, Beta Club, student council, Spanish Club, and yearbook staff. Academically, he is ranked 2nd in the Senior Class; he represented GHS at Boy's State. Jimmy has achieved the distinguished Eagle Scout Award of the Boy Scouts of America; he holds the position of Junior Assistant Scout Master.

Jimmy states that through the Boy Scouts he has grown to have a deeper respect for his country. The following quote is taken from a letter of reference: "Jimmy exemplifies a willingness to always serve in local and nationwide volunteer projects. Within the past two years, Jimmy has volunteered with tornado relief efforts, AGAPE House repairs, repairing the homes for the less fortunate in the (Greenfield) community, as well as giving up a week during the summer of 2006 to help Hurricane Katrina victims and a week during the summer of 2007 to help lower income families in the Evansville, Indiana, area." Jimmy plans to major in pre-medicine at the University of Tennessee at Martin and then to obtain a degree in radiology at Vanderbilt or Memphis.

Abbey Brooks Stoker

Wanda Powell, chairperson of the DAR Good Citizen Committee for the James Buckley Chapter, states that Abbey Brooks Stoker, daughter of Bobby and Stacey W. Stoker, is the inclusive Weakley County DAR Good Citizen.

Abbey has been actively involved in many extracurricular activities at Dresden High School that have afforded her opportunities to develop and utilize her leadership skills. As a senior, she is class president, student council president, FCA secretary, and yearbook editor. During her first three years of high school, she served as class president twice, student council vice-president and secretary, and FCA president. Among the awards Abbey has received are chemistry, biology, algebra, and English. She represented DHS at Girl's State, where she was elected mayor of her city; she is a graduate of First State Bank Youth Leadership Class of Weakley County. Abbey has attained the highest cumulative academic average of her class. Volunteering in her church and community, she leads devotions in her youth group, is involved in the Iris Festival at several levels including the Planning Committee this year, and helps with the Lifeline Blood Drive and Santa's Helpers. She is a student of the fiddle and plays at various events in the community. Abbey made this statement about patriotism, "To pledge allegiance to the flag, support the military, honor the veterans, and love this country is my duty and privilege. I am thankful to be a citizen of the United States of America."

Abbey plans to study at the University of Tennessee, Martin; she feels her calling to be in some area of medicine.
State of Civil Rights since Dr. King’s death highlighted at UT Martin 8th Annual Civil Rights Conference

“Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King’s Death” is the theme of the University of Tennessee at Martin Eighth Annual Civil Rights Conference slated for February 25-March 1.

Kathleen Cleaver, law professor and former member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and Black Panthers, will be the conference keynote speaker and present a lecture, “Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King’s Death,” 7 p.m., Feb. 28, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center. Cleaver began her work with the Civil Rights movement working with the SNCC as campus program secretary in 1967. She became communications secretary for the Black Panther Party in 1968, and went on to co-found the Black Panther Party International wing in 1970. In 1983, Cleaver returned to her bachelor’s degree at Yale University and received a law degree from Yale in 1989. In 1991, Cleaver clerked for U.S. Court of Appeals Justice A. Leon Higginbotham. She is currently a senior research associate at the Yale Law School and a senior lecturer in the African American Studies department at Yale University. Cleaver is also a senior lecturer in law at Emory University in Atlanta.

Scheduled during the conference are Native American Civil Rights Day, February 26, and Minority Affairs Days, February 27.

Opening ceremonies will be at 4:00 p.m., February 25, in Watkins Auditorium, with a discussion of “Greek Organizations and the Civil Rights Movement.” A video, “Amazing Grace,” will follow at 7:00 p.m., in Norman Campbell Lecture Hall in Holt Humanities Building. This video chronicles William Wilberforce, a member of Parliament in 18th century England, and his efforts to end slavery and the slave trade in the British Empire.

Native American Day will begin at 11:00 a.m., February 26, with “Caps of Distinction,” led by Dr. Jennifer Levy, Counseling Center interim director, in Room 206AB, of the university center. Caps of Distinction is an exercise to increase student awareness of racial and gender privileges and stereotyping.

A Native American Dinner will begin at 5:00 p.m., in the student cafeteria of the university center, and will be followed by a music and PowerPoint presentation on Native American civil rights in Watkins Auditorium.

Native American keynote speaker of the evening is Lynn King Lossiah. Lossiah is a long-time activist on behalf of civil rights for Native Americans, an artist and writer. Her most recent book is a collection of spiritual and cultural stories of the Cherokee, “Cherokee Little People: The Secrets and Mysteries of the Yunwi Tsunadi.” A book and art print signing will follow the presentation in Watkins Auditorium.

“Honoring Black Writers: A Literary Reading” will usher in Minority Affairs Day, at noon, in the Horseneck Parrish Writing Center, Room 209, in the Humanities building. Students and faculty will share short excerpts from their favorite black authors. Light refreshments will be served.

Chris Saunders, president of The Tennessee Equality Project, will present a talk on the Civil Rights Movement’s impact upon the civil rights struggles of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. The talk, co-sponsored by UT Martin Allies, will take place at 1:00 p.m., in the Student Life Center.

Dr. Mark Simmons, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities, will present a lecture titled, “The Music of the Civil Rights Movement,” at 3:00 p.m., Room 204, Humanities Building.

The Harold Conner Scholars Civil Rights Dinner, featuring the Boys and Girls Club Choir of Union City, is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., in Student Life Center.

“Black Student Struggles of 1968 and 1969” will kick off the first of three panel discussions for Thursday from 9:30-10:45 a.m., in Watkins Auditorium, led by Thulani Davis. Davis is a poet, novelist, journalist, playwright, and librettist. Among her works are two novels, “1959” and “Maker of Saints,” a family social history, “My Confederate Kinfolk,” several plays, including “Everybody’s Ruby,” which premiered at the New York Shakespeare Festival, and the libretto for “Amistad” and “Malcolm X.” She is also the author of two collections of poetry and two PBS documentaries. Davis has been published in numerous magazines and journals. She lives in New York City.

Next, panelists Diane Nash and Cynthia Griggs Fleming will discuss, “Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement,” from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., in Watkins Auditorium. Nash became the unofficial leader of the Nashville sit-ins in 1960 and helped to found the SNCC. In 1961, she took over responsibility for the Freedom Riders from Birmingham, Ala., to Jackson, Miss. She worked for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference under Martin Luther King Jr. from 1961 to 1965 and served as an organizer, strategist, field staff person, race-relations staff person and workshop instructor. In 1965, King gave the SCILC’s highest award, the Rosa Parks Award, to Diane Nash and James Bevel. In 2003, Nash received the “Distinguished African American Award” from the John F. Kennedy Library and Foundation and the LBJ Award for Leadership in Civil Rights from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in 2004.

Fleming is a noted historian of the black freedom movement at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Fleming has written a biography of SNCC leader, Ruby Doris Smith Robinson, “Soon We Will Not Cry,” and, most recently, “In the Shadow of Selma,” a history of the civil rights movement in Wilcox County, Ala. She is currently working on a book on contemporary black leadership.

Earlene Moore, assistant professor of library science and collection development and interlibrary loan librarian, will moderate the discussion.

The final panel discussion, “40 Years Later: Desegregating or Re-segregating?” will begin at 1:00 p.m. and be led by Ray Stevenson, a mediation specialist, an associate minister at Martin’s Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church and a UT-Martin adjunct professor. Other panelists include David Belote, assistant vice chancellor and director of student life, Dr. Henry Parker, professor of philosophy, and Gloria Sweet-Love, former state president of the Tennessee NAACP.

The evening will conclude with the conference keynote address, “Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King’s Death,” by Kathleen Cleaver. The UT Martin Collegiate Gospel Choir, led by the Rev. Alvin Sumners of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church, will introduce the speaker at 7:00 p.m.

The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till” will be shown February 29 at 7:00 p.m., in Campbell Auditorium, followed by a panel discussion. The film is a documentary investigating the murder of Emmett Louis Till. Many considered this case to be the catalyst of the Civil Rights Movement.

A field trip on March 1 to the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis concludes the conference. The museum is located at the site of the old Lorraine Motel, where Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968. The Rev. Samuel Kyles, one of the last men to see Dr. King alive, will meet with and talk to students at the outset of their tour of the museum.

For information, complete schedule or reservations, call 731-881-7465 or e-mail Dr. David Barber, conference director, at dbarber@utm.edu.
Sarbanes, former U.S. Senator, to speak February 18

Paul Sarbanes

Paul Sarbanes, former United States Senator from Maryland and co-author of the landmark Sarbanes-Oxley legislation, will speak at 7:30 p.m., February 18, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center. His speech, "Sarbanes-Oxley and the Future of American Business," is co-sponsored by BancorpSouth, UT Martin Honors Programs, the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the American Democracy Project. It is free and open to the public.

As chair of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, Sen. Sarbanes co-sponsored "The Public Company Accounting Reform and Investor Act," more widely known as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. With the savings of numerous Americans ruined, and public confidence in business shaken, by corporate scandals involving Enron, WorldCom, Tyco and other major corporations, Congress set out to fashion legislation that would reform accounting and corporate practices, as well as restore public and investor confidence in corporate America. The resulting Sarbanes-Oxley Act was signed into law in July 2002 and has been referred to as "the most far-reaching reforms of American business practices since the time of Franklin Delano Roosevelt." The act, which created stronger oversight boards, enacted stricter accounting standards and holds corporate leaders personally responsible for the accuracy of corporate financial reports, has proven controversial during the past five years, attracting numerous critics and supporters.

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"The Sarbanes-Oxley legislation is arguably the most important corporate legislation since the New Deal," said Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin Honors Programs director. "It is also one of the most controversial. While some hail the legislation as enforcing ethics upon American business and credit it with restoring the confidence of both citizens and investors, others criticize it as an expensive overreaction that has jeopardized the ability of American companies to compete in the global market."

The son of Greek immigrants, Sarbanes was born and raised on the eastern shore of Maryland. Taught from an early age the importance of hard work and public service, Sarbanes is the manifestation of the American Dream. After receiving a bachelor's degree from Princeton University in 1954, Sarbanes spent three years as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, from which he received a degree in 1957. Returning to the United States, Sarbanes entered Harvard University Law School and graduated in 1960.

After a few years in private law practice, Sarbanes entered public service in 1962, when he served as administrative assistant to Walter Heller, Council of Economic Advisors chair. He was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1966 and served there until he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1970. During his two terms in the House, Sarbanes participated in the Watergate hearings and, in 1974, introduced the first article of impeachment against President Richard Nixon. In 1976, Sarbanes was elected to the first of five terms in the United States Senate. In 2006, he announced that he would not seek re-election and, in 2007, he left the Senate after 30 years service, the longest serving senator in Maryland history.

Sarbanes' lecture is sponsored by BancorpSouth as part of the UT Martin Honors Program and Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking speaker series with support from the Hendrix Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise, the American Democracy Project, and the College of Business and Public Affairs Warren and Pat Carmichael Fund.

For more information, contact McDonough at 731-881-7436.
Shovels symbolize more than new construction

UTM Parsons Center holds promise for future

By Danny Haynes

"A defining moment", "a huge step forward", "a historic event". These were just a few expressions used by speakers on Friday in an attempt to capture the significance of the day. Many community leaders along with representatives from the University of Tennessee gathered at the Parsons Municipal Building on Friday, Feb 8 to commemorate the soon-to-be constructed UT Martin Parsons Center.

The project began over three years ago, but its impact is expected to change the landscape of Parsons and Decatur County for generations to come. "I am willing to wager that in 25, 50, or even 100 years from now, people will look back on this event and say this was a big, defining moment to make our community the great success that I feel it's going to be," stated Parsons Mayor Tim David Boaz. These sentiments were shared by Dr. John Petersen, President of the University of Tennessee, who spoke to the changing job climate and the need for higher education in rural areas. "Changing the culture requires community involvement," said Petersen. He praised Jim Ayers, noting he was a pioneer for his efforts in establishing the Ayers Scholarship Program which has paid great dividends since its inception in 1999. When the Ayers Scholarship Program was first established, only 21% of Riverside High School graduates were attending college or technology centers.

Today the number has grown to 57%, and that type commitment has helped pave the way for the University of Tennessee to locate in our community. "We're happy to be here, because you're committed," added Petersen.

No other word may better describe the spearhead behind the project than committed. Jim Ayers has not only personally pledged $1,000,000 toward the effort, but has organized a fundraising effort that continues to amaze. Although the project would probably not exist without him, Ayers took his time at the podium to thank the many groups of people who have made the project a reality. "I want to say thank you, thank you for what you've done... this community is a special place... I'm proud to say this is still my home... this is where I vote, where I have my legal residence, and that's not by accident." stated Ayers. He continued by saying that he knew of no other county of 10,000 residents that could have undertook such a project. "I believe one of the biggest shortcomings we have is that we don't know what a special county we have and the people we have here, and I am proud to be a part of this county," added Ayers.

By standing with Parsons Mayor Tim David Boaz, County Judge Jason Scott reinforced this by publicly acknowledging the county commission and the support he had received from them on this issue. "Not one time did any of them express anything but total support of this project," added Scott.

Various contributors were recognized by Dr. Tom Rakes, Chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin. He noted that much of the needed money has been raised, but naming opportunities are still available. "The investment made will return many times over for this community," said Rakes.

See "UTM Parsons" on 2 >>

Ayers  Petersen

Rakes  Rushing

Boaz  Scott
Local and state officials along with representatives of the University of Tennessee gathered Friday, Feb. 8 at the future site of the University of Tennessee at Martin Parsons Center to hold a groundbreaking ceremony. Taking part in the ceremony was (L-R) Frank Wagster, TLM architect, Senator Roy Herron, Representative Steve McDaniel, Representative Randy Rinks, UTM Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes, UT President Dr. John Petersen, Community leader/philanthropist Jim Ayers, Parsons Mayor Tim David Boaz, Decatur County Mayor Jason Scott, UTM Parsons Center Director Jason Rushing, Building Committee members Jon Ayers, Melvin Taylor and Tom Leitch.

New health care programs being offered at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering health care programs on the UT Martin campus to prepare participants to become phlebotomy, EKG and pharmacy technicians.

"Pharmacy Technician Program" is scheduled from 6-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 26-April 24. The cost of this course is $899, including textbooks. This course will prepare students to enter the pharmacy field and to take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board exam. Technicians will work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings under the supervision of a registered pharmacist. Course content includes medical terminology, dosage calculations, drug compounding and dispensing of prescriptions.

"Phlebotomy Technician Program" is planned from 6-9:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, March 17-28, and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays, April 5, 26 and May 17. The cost of this course is $1,599, including textbooks. This program prepares professionals to collect blood specimens from clients for the purpose of laboratory analysis. Classroom and lab work include terminology, anatomy and physiology, blood collection procedures, hands-on practice and training in skills and techniques to perform puncture methods.

"EKG Technician Certification Program" will be taught from 6-9:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, March 17-May 5. The cost of the course is $999, including textbooks. This program prepares students to function as EKG technicians and take the American Society of Phlebotomy Technician-Electrocardiograph Technician exam, as well as other national certification exams. This course includes practice and background information on anatomy of the heart and physiology, medical terminology and ethics and laboratory assisting. Additionally, students will practice with equipment and perform hands-on labs.

Advanced registration is required. To register, call ECCE at 800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.
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“The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till” will be shown Feb. 29 at 7 p.m., in Campbell Auditorium, followed by a panel discussion. The film is a documentary investigating the murder of Emmett Louis Till. Many considered this case to be the catalyst of the Civil Rights Movement.
UTM offers Scouts opportunity to earn badge

The Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SAACS) chapter at the University of Tennessee at Martin will sponsor a clinic, Feb. 23, to help area Boy Scouts earn the chemistry merit badge.

SAACS members will have all the materials ready for the Boy Scouts to perform the experiments needed to meet the merit badge requirements. The clinic gets under way at 8:30 a.m. in the Joseph E. Johnson Engineering and Physical Sciences Building on the UT Martin campus. The clinic will conclude at noon.

Scoutmasters and/or parents may register their Boy Scouts by calling 731-881-7454/7450. Registration also is available by fax at 731-881-7443; e-mail at saacs@utm.edu. To register include the name of each Boy Scout, his scoutmaster's name and his troop number.

Under the leadership of UT Martin SAACS students, scouts will perform experiments related to: pollution, chromatography, determining vitamin C in juices, determining household acids and bases, corrosion and its prevention and more.

A field trip on March 1 to the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis concludes the conference. The museum is located at the site of the old Lorraine Motel, where Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968. The Rev. Samuel Kyles, one of the last men to see Dr. King alive, will meet with and talk to students at the outset of their tour of the museum.

For information, complete schedule or reservations, call 731-881-7465 or e-mail Dr. David Barber, conference director, at dbarber@utm.edu.

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Thursday, February 14, 2008

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ON DISPLAY — Artwork by Tony Little, a Union City High School senior, was recently accepted into the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Art Competition. His collage-type artwork was completed with colored pencil and art markers.
European art may be studied as online class

Art lovers will have the opportunity to take "Enjoying European Art" as an online class to be offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education.

The art and architecture of Europe offers an overwhelming array of choices sure to exhaust even the most dedicated art lover. People who are planning a trip to Europe or just want a better understanding of European art will find this course is an introduction to the most important works of European art on a personal and familiar level.

Participants will learn where to find the works, how to get the most out of the viewing experience and will receive a wealth of commentary and historical information based on the instructor's knowledge of art and culture and extensive travel experiences.

Requirements include Internet access, e-mail, Internet Explorer, Netscape or Firefox Web browser. The fee is $95.

A new section of this course starts monthly (Feb. 20, March 19, April 16, and May 21). Two lessons are released each week for the six-week duration of the course. Participants will have access to all the released lessons until the course ends and do not have to be present when lessons are released. An interactive discussion area accompanies each lesson and automatically closes two weeks after the lesson is released.

The final exam is released the same day as the last lesson. Once the final exam has been released, participants have two weeks to complete all course work, including the final exam. A 10-day extension is available.

The course will be facilitated by Diane Scott, art historian and world traveler. She has more than 15 years of teaching experience, both in the classroom and on television. She earned degrees from the University of California in art history and art studio, the practice of art. Her master's degree is in the field of art history. In 1997, she received a full grant from the Great Teachers Program, as well as funding from the International Studies Program at Sacramento City College, to pursue her interests in transdisciplinary approaches to global art.

Besides European art, she enjoys the arts of non-western cultures, such as the Maya. She is a certified instructor with the Cuyamungue Institute in New Mexico, an anthropological research and teaching institution. She is also a writer and editor.

To register, visit the Online Instruction Center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/online-courses.php. Select Education To Go.

ARTIST FEATURED — Union City High School senior Dexter Hopson was recently accepted into the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Art Competition. His pencil drawing of musician "Lil Wayne" was displayed at the UTM Fine Arts Gallery during the competition.

UNION CITY PARTICIPATES — Students from Union City High School teacher Hilary Webb's Visual Art 2 course recently attended College Art Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The students spent the day taking art courses with UTM professors and advanced level students. They attended courses in fibers, art critiquing, typography, drawing, sculpture, 2-D design, ceramics and computer design. The annual event includes a high school art competition and is attended by hundreds of regional high school art students. Among the participants from UCHS were (from left, front row) Ryan Thomas Chapman, Heather Dragg, Jessica Felton, Ana Hart, Tynisha Lee, Kelly Rider, (middle row) C.J. Bass, Mina Burton, Dexter Hopson, Bobby Rice, Ricardo Ware, Chris Easley, Wayne Sturdivant, Athena Knight, (back row) Emma Adams, Jimmy Ballog, Lavan Mosley, Edgar Camarillo and Tony Little.
FOR THE RECORD — Congressman John Tanner presents Dr. Richard Chestone of Union City a copy of the Dec. 19, 2007, Congressional Record in which Tanner, in a House speech, memorializes Chestone’s career as a teacher of history and political science. “His career and service to this area are worthy of notice in the Congressional Record,” Tanner said. Chestone began teaching at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1969 and retired in December 2007. His teaching career began almost 50 years ago. “He earned his associate’s degree from Holmes Junior College, his bachelor’s degree from Delta State University and his master’s degree and doctoral degree in political science at the University of Mississippi,” Tanner said. “We are fortunate to have had him as a professor and faculty leader at UT-Martin.” Chestone said he’s still teaching part-time and that retired people don’t always retire. “(My wife) Gloria and I have been trying to get to Paducah (Ky.) the last two weeks but we can’t find a day when we don’t have something to do,” he said. “The last 45 days have been about as busy as I can stand.”

Former U.S. senator to speak Monday

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"The Sarbanes-Oxley legislation is arguably the most important corporate legislation since the New Deal," said Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin Honors Programs director. "It is also one of the most controversial. While some hail the legislation as enforcing ethics upon American business and credit it with restoring the confidence of both citizens and investors, others criticize it as an expensive overreaction that has jeopardized the ability of American companies to compete in the global market."

The son of Greek immigrants, Sarbanes was born and raised on the eastern shore of Maryland. Taught from an early age the importance of hard work and public service, Sarbanes is the manifestation of the American Dream. After receiving a bachelor's degree from Princeton University in 1954, Sarbanes spent three years as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, from which he received a degree in 1957. Returning to the United States, Sarbanes entered Harvard University Law School and graduated in 1960.

After a few years in private law practice, Sarbanes entered public service in 1962, when he served as administrative assistant to Walter Heller, Council of Economic Advisors chair. He was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1966 and served there until he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1970. During his two terms in the House, Sarbanes participated in the Watergate hearings and, in 1974, introduced the first article of impeachment against President Richard Nixon. In 1976, Sarbanes was elected to the first of five terms in the U.S. Senate. In 2006, he announced that he would not seek re-election and, in 2007, he left the Senate after 30 years service, the longest serving senator in Maryland history.

Sarbanes' lecture is sponsored by BancorpSouth as part of the UT Martin Honors Program and Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking speaker series with support from the Hendrix Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise, the American Democracy Project, and the College of Business and Public Affairs Warren and Pat Carmichael Fund.

For more information, contact McDonough at 881-7436.
HONORED - Con. John Tanner presents University of Tennessee at Martin Professor Dr. Richard Chesteen with a copy of remarks Tanner recently made in the Congressional Record honoring Chesteen as "an esteemed educator, a dedicated public servant, a tireless community leader and my friend." As he looks to retirement, Chesteen has helped found the Richard Chesteen Endowment for Government Internships at UTM.

German film to be shown at UT Martin

"Das Leben der Anderen (The Lives of Others)," the first movie in the 2008 Modern Foreign Languages Foreign Film Series, is set for 7 p.m. Friday in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The Oscar-winning "The Lives of Others" is an emotionally-charged experience Lisa Schwarzbaum of Entertainment Weekly calls "a nail-biter of a thriller!"

Before the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the State Secret Police closely monitored East Germany's population. Only a few citizens above suspicion, like renowned pro-Socialist playwright Georg Dreyman, were permitted to lead private lives. But when a corrupt government official falls for Georg's stunning actress-girlfriend, Christa, an ambitious Stasi policeman is ordered to bug the writer's apartment to gain incriminating evidence against the rival. Now, what the officer discovers is about to dramatically change their lives, as well as his, in this seductive political thriller.

Dr. Charles Hammond, assistant professor of German at UT Martin, will introduce the film.

Each foreign film is in its original foreign language and contains English subtitles. All foreign film series movies are free and open to the public.

The film series is funded by the College of Humanities and Fine Arts and the Student Activities Council.
The needs of northwest Tennesseans discussed at Legislative Breakfast

Almost one-third of students in Weakley County are predicted to not graduate high school. One half of children in grades kindergarten through 12 across the county qualify for free or reduced lunches. College tuition and fees have increased “well beyond inflation” in the last decade in Tennessee. Education was only one of the issues discussed during a legislative breakfast held on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin Friday morning.

Elected officials, appointed board members, retired teachers, business leaders and UTM representatives were on hand that morning to weigh in on the county’s progression as well as regression. Those statistics are not as doomsday as they appear, as there is “good news,” according to State Sen. Roy Herron.

“Our children are competing with children in China and India. This changing world has hit warp speed in the last decade,” Herron stated.

“The reality is that if these children are going to have a chance, they need to have a good start,” the senator added. Currently, the state legislature is evaluating a budget that has apparently fallen short of expectations, but funding for education before kindergarten and after high school are two topics Herron and State Rep. Mark Maddox said they will continue to bring attention to among their constituents.

As of Friday, there was a reserve of $400 million in the state lottery scholarship fund. “One of the proposals is to take the money and divide it among the counties and hand the money out. I would be against that because once you do that, the money is gone,” Maddox announced. His hope, he said is to help provide a safety net for school districts across the state as a revolving fund for construction needs.

In the world of economic development for the area, Maddox emphasized the need for high skill and high wage jobs and that begins with education. The state House member plans to encourage students to take more college-bound courses in high school.

For More: See candid shots from the breakfast at www.nwintoday.com

Sabrina Bates
Chief Staff Writer

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Legislators
From Page 1

With nearly 75 percent of college students unable to keep their lottery scholarships throughout the duration of college, Maddox said the state is considering lowering the GPA from 3.0 to 2.75.

Another project under Maddox’s belt is the push for affordable, accessible broadband Internet access in rural areas across the state.

The state representative has played a key role in Connected TN, an organization responsible for researching the effectiveness and accessibility of broadband Internet in Tennessee.

While Herron and Maddox focused on state-level obstacles and future goals, local community leaders provided the audience with regional and county-level achievements as well as limitations in the form of economic development.

Weakley County Economic Development Board Chairman Jimmy Westbrook reviewed last year’s state legislation.

While the increase in the tobacco tax to provide additional funding for education and a one-half percent reduction in sales tax on food were praised by Westbrook as beneficial acts, the competitive market for generating new industry is not deemed as a level playing field with neighboring states because of Tennessee’s lack of a state income tax and low taxes.

Westbrook said he is also hoping Hwy. 22 will be designated for Interstate access.

Since his inaugural inception as Weakley County Economic Development Director two years ago, Ronnie Price announced during the legislative breakfast that the county has a list of achievements that are appealing to prospective companies.

Price reported the City of Dresden will be home to a company known as Calpaco, which could potentially provide at least 300 jobs.

There has also been funding assistance by the state for completion of a rail spur near the company in Dresden.

The city is also in line to construct a second county spec building.

The construction of the first county spec building located in Martin was completed in August of last year.

Price announced there have been several visits by industries to the 100,000 square feet building that can be expanded to 300,000 square feet. He added that 80 percent of potential industries are looking for existing buildings.

Education and Internet access are two other key components for potential industry, according to Price.

Joe Brasher, Weakley County Chamber of Commerce President, announced during the session that an appointed nine-member board will be responsible for studying “the implications of formal land use plans” in the county.

The committee was appointed during the Weakley County Commission meeting earlier this month.

It is made up of land owners, one for each district in the county.

As a requirement to participate in a portion of the governor’s three-star program, three-star counties must adopt a formal land use plan.

County commissioners chose to appoint a committee to study the effects of a formal land use plan before actually adopting a plan.

Brasher announced land used for agriculture is excluded from any formal land use plan and that most of the county consists of farmland.

With goals in sight, discussion concerning help needed in certain areas and a co census established among county, city and state legislators for growth of the rural West Tennessee county, the road ahead seems paved with deeds as well as intentions.

Prep for ACT, learn intermediate PowerPoint

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering ACT preparation and intermediate PowerPoint courses in March.

“Making Sense of the ACT” will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, March 1-22. Ron Ramage will be the instructor, and the fee will be $50. This course will help participants plan strategies to make the highest score they can make on this test. The course is designed for first-time test takers as well as seasoned veterans. Students will use The Real ACT Prep Guide and should bring the book to the first class meeting. The cost of the text is not included in the registration fee. The book may be purchased on the UT Martin campus at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore by calling 881-7760. This class is limited to 20.

“Intermediate Microsoft PowerPoint” will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, March 25 and 27. Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin programmer and analyst, will instruct the course, and the fee will be $85. Participants will learn more about how to effectively use PowerPoint. Topics include learning techniques to reduce the development time in creating presentations and tips in preparing and executing the overall presentation.

Advanced registration is required. To register for a workshop, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7940 or visit the Web at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

SAACS Chapter to help Scouts earn merit badge

The Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SAACS) chapter at the University of Tennessee at Martin will sponsor a clinic, Feb. 23, to help area Boy Scouts earn the chemistry merit badge.

SAACS members will have all the materials ready for the Boy Scouts to perform the experiments needed to meet the merit badge requirements. The clinic gets under way at 8:30 a.m. in the Joseph F. Johnson Engineering and Physical Sciences Building on the UT Martin campus. The clinic will conclude at noon.

Scoutmasters and/or parents may register their Boy Scouts by calling 881-7454/7450. Registration also is available by fax at 881-7443; e-mail at saacs@utm.edu. To register include the name of each Boy Scout, his scoutmaster’s name and his troop number.

Under the leadership of UT Martin SAACS students, scouts will perform experiments related to pollution, chromatography, determining vitamin C in juices, determining household acids and bases, corrosion and its prevention and more.
Dr. Margaret Y. Toston has been named University of Tennessee at Martin vice chancellor for student affairs effective July 1. Toston, Central Connecticut State University vice president for student affairs, was named by Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, following the completion of a national search and from a field of 32 applicants. She will assume her responsibilities from Steve Vantrease, who has served as interim vice chancellor.

"Dr. Toston has broad leadership experience in student affairs, and I am pleased to have her join our senior leadership team," said Rakes.

"I had many options for new opportunities, but it was UT Martin’s hospitality that won my affection," said Toston. "Additionally, as I spoke with members of the community, scheduled and impromptu, everybody had one goal and that is student success. I felt as though I was among friends and family during the interview process, and that is very important to me. I am pleased that UT Martin invited me to become part of its leadership team. I have long awaited the opportunity to both return to my Southern roots and to continue the work that I love to do."

Toston received a bachelor’s degree in speech education at Grambling State University, a master of education in guidance/counseling at University of Louisiana at Monroe and a doctorate in higher education leadership at the University of Mississippi. She holds a certificate from Harvard University Institute for Management and Leadership in Education, and she has training from the University of Florida in targeted communications in enrollment management. She continues training in emergency management, safety and security.

Previously, Toston has served as dean of Student Life and Development at Maryville University of Saint Louis. She also served in three positions at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, coordinator for Minority Student Retention/Academic Enrichment, academic adviser and director for Disabled Student Services.

The new vice chancellor sees her strengths as advocating for students; assessing, evaluating and improving programs and services; reallocating resources to support new initiatives; and managing competing priorities. She also is adept at incorporating knowledge of higher education law into day-to-day decision making; shaping, reviewing and revising policies/procedures; and assembling and leading high-impact teams to support university goals.

"I am very excited about the announcement of Dr. Toston as vice chancellor for student affairs," said Vantrease. "She has a background and experiences that would appear to fit well. I think UT Martin and UT Martin’s student affairs division will continue to grow and thrive under her leadership."

He added, "We are very fortunate to have a student affairs staff that is talented and truly devoted to serving students. We are ready to rally behind a new leader and welcome Dr. Toston to UT Martin."

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**UT Martin offers ACT preparation course**

The University of Tennessee Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer ACT preparation and intermediate PowerPoint courses in March.

"Making Sense of the ACT" will be offered from 9 a.m. to noon, Saturdays, March 1-22. Ron Ramey will be the instructor, and the fee will be $50. This course will help participants plan strategies to make the highest score they can make on this test. The course is designed for first-time test takers as well as seasoned veterans.

Students will use "The Real ACT Prep Guide" and should bring the book to the first class meeting. The cost of the text is not included in the registration fee. The book may be purchased on the UT Martin campus at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore by calling (731) 881-7780. This class is limited to 20.

"Intermediate Microsoft PowerPoint" will be offered from 9 a.m. to noon March 25 and 27. Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin programmer and analyst, will instruct the course, and the fee will be $85. Participants will learn more about how to effectively use PowerPoint. Topics include learning techniques to reduce the development time in creating presentations and tips in preparing and executing the overall presentation.

Advanced registration is required. To register for a workshop, call ECC.E at (800) 482-5199 or (731) 881-7940, or visit the Web site at www.utc.edu/departments/edce/non_credit_registration.php.
Milan teacher...........(Cont. from pg. 1)

Tennessee Dept. of Education Division of Career and Technical Education. Also participating was Terry Webb, President of the Tenn. Directors of Career and Technical Education Assoc. (TDCTE).

The state CTE Directors Assoc. nominates one director from each grand division in the state who exemplifies professional leadership and has shown program successes and community involvement.

The state Trailblazer Award honors a CTE director in Tennessee with six or more years of experience who has shown leadership at the local, county, state and national level. Finalists for the award are judged on community activities, participation in state and national CTE events, implementation of new programs, the amount of grants received and other honors.

Jerry Renner, principal of the Greeneville-Greene Co. Center for Technology, won this year's "Career and Technical Education (CTE) Director of the Year" award.

Ms. Jones has been the Career-Technical Director for the Milan Special School District for nine years.

She said as a teacher of Family and Consumer Science, she promotes education, personal wellness, life skills and workplace readiness within FACS and CTE curriculum.

Ms. Jones works closely with area businesses, industry and legislative professionals throughout West Tennessee and is one of twenty-five members of the state Perkins IV Planning Committee, which monitors Career Technical Education according to academic and No Child Left Behind standards.

Jones has also been successful in writing grants that have procured funding for special programs at Milan High School. Under her guidance, the Milan High School Career Technical Education Dept. has been awarded approximately $150,000 over the past three years for emerging programs and innovations in "best teaching" practices. Through participation in regional, state and national conferences, Milan High School has been showcased in collaborative projects that promoted Career-Technical Education.

Ms. Jones is a member of several professional organizations, including the National Education Assoc., National Education Association, state and national Career and Technical Association, and state Family and Consumer Sciences association.

She is a Tennessee Education Representative, serves on the American School Health Assoc. Committee and is active in assisting the Carl Perkins Child Abuse Center, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Ronald McDonald House, United Way, March of Dimes and Right Choices of West Tennessee.

Her many awards include the 1997 American Vocational Association "National Teacher of the Year," the Association for Career and Technical Education Region II and Tenn. Education Assoc. "Teacher of the Year," and Univ. of Tenn. Martin 1996 "Outstanding Alumni" honoree.

Prep for ACT and more at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering ACT preparation and intermediate PowerPoint courses in March.

"Making Sense of the ACT" will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, March 1-22. Ron Ramage will be the instructor, and the fee will be $50. This course will help participants plan strategies to make the highest score they can make on this test. The course is designed for first-time test takers as well as seasoned veterans. Students will use The Real ACT Prep Guide and should bring the book to the first class meeting.

The cost of the text is not included in the registration fee. The book may be purchased on the UT Martin campus at the Barnes & Noble Bookstore by calling 731-881-7760. This class is limited to 20.

"Intermediate Microsoft PowerPoint" will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, March 25 and 27. Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin programmer and analyst, will instruct the course, and the fee will be $85. Participants will learn more about how to effectively use PowerPoint. Topics include learning techniques to reduce the development time in creating presentations and tips in preparing and executing the overall presentation.

Advanced registration is required. To register for a workshop, contact CCCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7940 or visit the Web at www.utm.edu/departments/cecc/non_credit_registration.php.
Seminar to be held at UTM

The Joe and Pat Johnson Nutrition Symposium, offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education and the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, is slated from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., March 7, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center on the UT Martin campus.

The symposium is a one-day seminar to inform participants of up-to-date research findings and information on various nutrition topics as well as new strategies for counseling in the health field will be presented.

This program is sponsored by private gift funds. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. From 8:30-8:50 a.m., Whitney Angel, BS, will present "Oral Health and Nutrition: Put Your Health Where Your Mouth Is." From 8:50-9:10 a.m., Polly Harris, EdD, will present "Diabulimia: New Eating Disorder Among Diabetics." From 9:10-9:30 a.m., Lisa Lovett, BS, will present "Food Allergies: What You Should Know." Lesley Orlansky, BS, will discuss "Bariatric Surgery" from 9:30-9:50 a.m. Rebecca Reasons, BS, will present "Nutrition and Its Relation to Autistic Children," scheduled for 9:50-10:10 a.m. Chris Teslava-Hayden will present "Pressure Ulcers: What the RD Should Know," from 10:10-10:30 a.m. Angel, Harris, Lovett, Orlansky, Reasons and Teslava-Hayden are dietetic interns.

A break is scheduled from 10:30-10:45 a.m. Keynote speaker, Elizabeth Choate, RD, LD, of Jackson Purchase Medical Center in Mayfield, Ky., will begin her presentation, "What Do I Get to Eat After Surgery? Feeding the Bariatric Surgery Patient," at 10:45 a.m. At 11:45 a.m., lunch will be provided. From 1-2 p.m., Terezie Mosby, RD, LDN, IBCLC, of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, will discuss "The Art of Breastfeeding." From 2-2:15 p.m., a break is planned.

Dr. Jennifer Levy-Peck, UT Martin Counseling Center director, will present "Counseling for Behavior Change: Fresh Strategies for Health," from 2:15-3:15 p.m. to conclude the seminar.

The UT Martin Department of Family and Consumer Sciences is the program provider. The program coordinator is Lori H. Littleton, MS, RD, director, dietetic internship program. Littleton is a UT Martin assistant professor of nutrition/food systems management.

This workshop conforms to guidelines for Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credits. A certificate of completion from UT Martin and CEUs will be awarded at the conclusion of the program, and attendance at the entire workshop earns .5 CEUs.

Registration fee is $25. This fee includes material handouts, refreshments at breaks and lunch. To register, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.

HELPING TENNESSEE — Dr. David Pitts (right), University of Tennessee at Martin professor of biology, was recently recognized at a faculty meeting by UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. Pitts received a certificate of appreciation from Gov. Phil Bredesen for contributing a photo that was used to create special Tennessee license plates.

Photo ultimately benefits wildlife fund

A photo shot by a University of Tennessee at Martin professor of biology more than a decade ago turned into artwork that has adorned special Tennessee license plates.

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of those plates since 1995 has benefited the Watchable Wildlife Endowment Fund, according to state officials.

Dr. David Pitts recently received a certificate of appreciation from Gov. Phil Bredesen for contributing the photo that was used to create the plate.

Pitts also was recognized at a UT Martin faculty meeting by Chancellor Tom Rakes.

The bluebird plate went on sale 13 years ago at an additional cost of $25.

A total of $22 from the sale of each plate was earmarked for the Watchable Wildlife Endowment Fund. Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency began using the earnings in 1999 to fund various projects such as several observation towers, including the Black Bayou (Reelfoot Lake) Refuge Observation Tower, Blythe Ferry Crane Day Activities, Wildside Television Show, Bowmanton Wetland Walkway and Trail and the Interior Low Plateau Bird Project.

In excess of 150,000 bluebird plates have been sold so far, producing $4.9 million for the fund. The money placed in the fund is to remain in perpetuity, with the earnings available to fund non-game, endangered species and other watchable wildlife programs as determined by the TWRA.
Clinic scheduled for local Boy Scouts

The Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SAACS) chapter at the University of Tennessee at Martin will sponsor a clinic Saturday to help area Boy Scouts earn the chemistry merit badge.

SAACS members will have all the materials ready for the Boy Scouts to perform the experiments needed to meet the merit badge requirements.

The clinic gets under way at 8:30 a.m. in the Joseph E. Johnson Engineering and Physical Sciences Building on the UT Martin campus. The clinic will conclude at noon.

Scoutmasters and/or parents may register their Boy Scouts by calling (731) 881-7454 or 881-7450. Registration also is available by fax at (731) 881-7443 or by e-mail at saacs@utm.edu. To register, include the name of each Boy Scout, the scoutmaster's name and the troop number.

March 7 marks nutrition seminar at UT Martin

The Joe and Pat Johnson Nutrition Symposium, offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education and the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, is slated from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., March 7, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center on the UT Martin campus.

The symposium is a one-day seminar to inform participants of up-to-date research findings and information on various nutrition topics as well as new strategies for counseling in the health field will be presented.

This program is sponsored by private gift funds. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. From 8:30 a.m.-8:50 a.m., Whitney Angel, BS, will present "Oral Health and Nutrition: Put Your Health Where Your Mouth Is." From 8:50 a.m.-9:10 a.m., Polly Harris, EdD, will present "Diabulimia: New Eating Disorder Among Diabetics." From 9:10-9:30 a.m., Lisa Lovett, BS, will present "Food Allergies: What You Should Know." Lesley Orlansky, BS, will discuss "Bariatric Surgery" from 9:30-9:50 a.m. Rebecca Reasons, BS, will present "Nutrition and Its Relation to Autistic Children," scheduled for 9:50-10:10 a.m. Chris Tesla-Hayden will present "Pressure Ulcers: What the RD Should Know," from 10:10-10:30 a.m. Angel, Harris, Lovett, Orlansky, Reasons and Tesla-Hayden are dietetic interns.

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UTM Recycles sponsors events

UTM Recycles, the new University of Tennessee at Martin group of faculty and students promoting recycling on campus and in the community, recently sponsored a recycling event at the Hardy Graham Stadium parking lot on campus. The group collected various materials including everything from plastics and glass to cell phones and ink cartridges. A total of 6,000 pounds of material was recycled.

Pictured from left are Dr. David Coffey, co-interim dean of College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Dennis Kosta, supervisor of custodial services, and Will Baker of Williamsport.

Get Out! • Feb. 21, 2008

UT Martin to host Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave

The University of Tennessee at Martin Wildlife Program is hosting the Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave, March 13-16, at Paris Landing State Park. The event is the annual meeting of approximately two dozen college and university wildlife biology programs throughout the southeastern United States. Approximately 400 students are expected to attend.

Conclave is typified by two days of field trips, competitions, speakers and socials, and is instrumental in helping wildlife biology majors make contacts and solidify career plans. Teams will compete in the annual quiz bowl, a competitive double-elimination tournament in which students answer questions covering a wide variety of natural resources-related topics. Skill competitions include an obstacle course, archery, trap, orienteering, canoeing, radio telemetry and dendrology. Creative and talent competitions include wildlife calling, photography, art and an essay contest. Students will also have the opportunity to take field trips. Trips include wildlife forensics, non-game surveys, West Tennessee wetlands, bat ecology and wildlife law enforcement, led by wildlife biologists with universities, state and federal government agencies and the private sector.

The event is being hosted by the UT Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, with assistance from the Department of Biological Sciences and The Wildlife Society, Inc.

According to Dr. Eric Pelren, faculty adviser of the UT Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society, "Several dozen students have been working hard for the past year to make this the best wildlife conclave in history."

Sponsors for the event include The Wildlife Society, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Tennessee Valley Authority, National Wild Turkey Federation, Wildlife Management Institute and others.

For more information, contact Pelren, conclave coordinator, at 731-881-7263 or epelren@utm.edu.
Area colleges, universities to perform at The Dixie in Huntingdon Feb. 26

The University of Tennessee at Martin New Pacer Singers, under the direction of Dr. Mark Simmons, will join choirs from area colleges and universities at The Dixie Carter Performing Arts and Academic Enrichment Center, in Huntingdon, for the "Festival of Choirs." The event is slated for 7:30 p.m., February 26. Each choir will perform two songs and all will unite as a mass choir to perform a grand finale. "Festival of Choirs," produced by the West Tennessee Higher Education Consortium and coordinated by Dr. Jeremy Kolwinski, UT Martin Department of Music chair, is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Tickets are available at The Dixie. For tickets, visit or call the box office between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Phone reservations will be accepted at 731-986-2100, but tickets will be held at will call - none will be mailed.

Other schools participating in "Festival of Choirs" include: Bethel College, Lane College, Lambuth University, Jackson State Community College, Dyersburg State Community College and University of Memphis.

For more information, contact The Dixie at 731-986-2100.

ACT prep course at UTM Saturdays

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering ACT preparation and intermediate PowerPoint courses in March. "Making Sense of the ACT" will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, March 1-22. Ron Ramage will be the instructor, and the fee will be $50. This course will help participants plan strategies to make the highest score they can make on this test. The course is designed for first-time test takers as well as seasoned veterans. Students will use The Real ACT Prep Guide and should bring the book to the first class meeting. The cost of the text is not included in the registration fee. The book may be purchased on the UT Martin campus at the Barnes and Noble Bookstore by calling 731-881-7760. This class is limited to 20.

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Agatha Christie mystery takes stage at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee Martin Vanguard Theatre will present "A Murder is Announced" at 8 p.m. Thursday on the main stage in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. Performances will also be at 8 p.m. Feb. 29 and March 1, and 3 p.m. March 2.

The announcement in the local gazette of a murder on Friday the 13th at Little Paddocks, the Blacklock's Victorian home, is published before it happens. So begins the story written by Agatha Christie and adapted for the stage by Leslie Darbon. This classic Christie mystery involves all the twists and turns, and Miss Marple on hand to provide the final solution.

UT Martin cast members include: Hadi Alrajhi of Martin, Jay Campbell of Martin, Robert Crockett of Hollday, Mary Beth French of Paris, Megan Hollis of Martin and Natalie Horhelt of Cordova.

Also participating in the play are Ashlee Johnson of Dyer, John Mistric of Dyer, Nick Montgomery of Centerville, Karen Sadlana of Nashville, Kara Salyers of Huntington and Leighanna Sims of Dyer.

The box office will open at noon Monday. It will remain open from noon to 5 p.m. and two hours before performances. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students. To purchase tickets, call the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at (731) 881-7090.
Annual civil rights conference begins Monday at UT Martin

"Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King's Death" is the theme of the University of Tennessee at Martin Eighth Annual Civil Rights Conference, set for Monday through March 1.

Kathleen Cleaver, law professor and former member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and Black Panthers, will be the conference keynote speaker and present a lecture, "Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King's Death," 7 p.m. Thursday in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

Cleaver began her work with the civil rights movement, working with the SNCC as campus program secretary in 1967. She became communications secretary for the Black Panthers Party in 1968 and went on to co-found the Black Panther Party international wing in 1970.

In 1983, Cleaver returned for her bachelor's degree at Yale University and received a law degree from Yale in 1989. In 1991, Cleaver clerked for U.S. Court of Appeals Justice A. Leon Higginbotham. She is currently a senior research associate at the Yale Law School and a senior lecturer in the African American Studies department at Yale University.

Also set during the conference are Native American Civil Rights Day on Tuesday and Minority Affairs Day on Wednesday. Opening ceremonies will be at 4 p.m. Monday in Watkins Auditorium with a discussion of "Greek Organizations and the Civil Rights Movement." The showing of the movie "Amazing Grace" will follow at 5 p.m. in Norman Campbell Lecture Hall in Holt Humanities Building. This movie chronicles William Wilberforce, a member of Parliament in 18th century England, and his efforts to end slavery and the slave trade in the British Empire.

Native American Day will begin at 11 a.m. Tuesday with "Camps of Distinction," led by Dr. Jennifer Levy, Counseling Center interim director, in Room 206AB, of the university center.

A Native American Dinner will begin at 5 p.m. in the student cafeteria of the university center. It will be followed by a music and PowerPoint presentation on Native American civil rights in Watkins Auditorium.

Native American keynote speaker of the evening is King Lossiah, a longtime activist on behalf of civil rights for Native Americans, an artist and writer. Her most recent book is a collection of spiritual and cultural stories of the Cherokee, "Cherokee Little People: The Secrets and Mysteries of the Yunwi Tzunsdi." A book and art print signing will follow.

"Honoring Black Writers: A Literary Reading" will usher in Minority Affairs Day at noon Wednesday in the Hartense Parish Writing Center, Room 209, in the Humanities building. Students and faculty will share short excerpts from their favorite black authors. Light refreshments will be served.

Chris Saunders, president of The Tennessee Equality Project, will present a talk on the civil rights movement's impact upon gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. The talk, co-sponsored by UT Martin Allies, will take place at 1 p.m. in the Student Life Center.

Dr. Mark Simmons, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities, will present a lecture titled, "The Music of the Civil Rights Movement," at 3 p.m. in Room 204 of the Humanities Building.

The Harold Conner Scholars Civil Rights Dinner, featuring the choir from the Boys & Girls of Northwest Tennessee-Union City, is scheduled for 6 p.m. in Student Life Center.

"Black Student Struggles of 1968 and 1969" will kick off the first of three panel discussions for Thursday from 9:30-10:45 a.m. in Watkins Auditorium, led by Thulani Davis. Davis is a poet, novelist, journalist, playwright and librettist.

Next, panelists Diane Nash and Cynthia Griggs Fleming will discuss "Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement" from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in Watkins Auditorium. Nash became the unofficial leader of the Nashville sit-ins in 1960 and helped to found the SNCC. In 1961, she took over responsibility for the Freedom Rides from Birmingham, Ala., to Jackson, Miss. She worked for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference under Martin Luther King Jr. from 1961-65 and served as an organizer, strategist, field staff person, race-relations staff person and workshop instructor.

In 1965, King gave the SCILC's highest award, the Rosa Parks Award, to Nash and James Bevel. In 2003, Nash received the "Distinguished American Award" from the John F. Kennedy Library and Foundation and the LBJ Award for Leadership in Civil Rights from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in 2004.

Fleming is a noted historian of the black freedom movement at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Fleming has written a biography of another leader Ruby Doris Smith Robinson Earlene Moore, assistant professor of library science and collection development and interlibrary loan librarian, will moderate the discussion.

The final panel discussion, "40 Years Later: Desegregating or Resegregating?" will begin at 1 p.m. and be led by Ray Stevenson, a mediation specialist, associate minister at Martin's Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church and a UT Martin adjunct professor. Other panelists include David Belote, assistant vice chancellor and director of student life; Dr. Henry Parker, professor of philosophy; and Gloria Sweet-Love, former state president of the Tennessee NAACP.

The evening will conclude with the conference keynote address, "Civil Rights 40 Years After Dr. King's Death," by Kathleen Cleaver. The UT Martin Collegiate Gospel Choir, led by the Rev. Alvin Summers of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Martin, will introduce the speaker at 7 p.m.

"The Untold Story of Emmett Louis Till" will be shown Feb. 29 at 7 p.m. in Campbell Auditorium, followed by a panel discussion. The film is a documentary investigating the murder of Emmett Louis Till. Many considered the case to be the catalyst of the civil rights movement.

A field trip on March 1 to the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis concludes the conference. The museum is located at the site of the old Lorraine Motel, where Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968. The Rev. Samuel Kyles, one of the last men to see Dr. King alive, will meet with and talk to students at the outset of their tour of the museum.

For information, a complete schedule or reservations, call (731) 881-7465 or e-mail Dr. David Barber, conference director, at dbarber@utm.edu.
ECCE offers health care programs

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering health care programs on the UT Martin campus to prepare participants to become phlebotomy, EKG and pharmacy technicians.

"Pharmacy Technician Program" is scheduled from 6-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 26-April 24. The cost of the course is $999, including textbooks. This course will prepare students to enter the pharmacy field and to take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board exam. Technicians will work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings under the supervision of a registered pharmacist. Course content includes medical terminology, dosage calculations, drug compounding and dispensing of prescriptions.

"Phlebotomy Technician Program" is planned from 6-9:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, March 17-28, and from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays, April 5, 26 and May 17. The cost of this course is $1,599, including textbooks. This program prepares professionals to collect blood specimens from clients for the purpose of laboratory analysis. Classroom and lab work include terminology, anatomy and physiology, blood collection procedures, hands-on practice and training in skills and techniques to perform puncture methods.

"EKG Technician Certification Program" will be taught from 6-9:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, March 17-May 5. The cost of the course is $999, including textbooks. This program prepares students to function as EKG technicians and take the American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians-Electrocardiograph Technician exam, as well as other national certification exams. This course includes practice and background information on anatomy of the heart and physiology, medical terminology and ethics and laboratory assisting. Additionally, students will practice with equipment and perform hands-on labs.

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

Festival of Choirs features choirs from local universities

The Dixie Carter Performing Arts and Academic Enrichment Center, Home of the Hal Holbrook Theatre will host "Festival of Choirs" on Tuesday, February 26, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. This event will feature choirs from West Tennessee Colleges and Universities; each choir will perform two songs and at will unite as a mass choir to perform a grand finale.

"Festival of Choirs," produced be the West Tennessee Higher Education Consortium, is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Tickets will be available beginning Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at The Dixie. For tickets, visit or call The Dixie Box Office during the regular hours of Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Please note: tickets are available on a first come, first serve basis. Phone reservations will be accepted at 731-986-2100, but tickets will be held at will call—none will be mailed.

Schools participating in "Festival of Choirs" include: Bethel College, University of Tennessee at Martin, Lane College, Lambuth University, Jackson State Community College, Freed-Hardeman University, Dyersburg State Community College, and University of Memphis.

For more information, please contact The Dixie at 731-986-2100.
Leadership program helps to shape future of West Tennessee

By Sherri Onorati, sherrio@covingtonleader.com

WestStar participants on the second day of their Brownsville/Covington session, learn about the fundamentals of economic development and what it takes to build a community from the ground up.

The future of West Tennessee lies in the heart and hands of her people, and WestStar is an organization dedicated to fulfilling the destiny they believe that is West Tennessee's legacy. Their mission is to enable community visionaries to become more involved in their community and to accept decisive and enterprising leadership roles.

In most communities across America, residents don't have the opportunity to get to know their community leaders. When the cities and towns in West TN were being developed, the town leaders were men from the same socio-economic class - a few business leaders banding together to decide amongst themselves what they felt was good for their community without any input from those who lived there.

Community leadership in the 21st century stands in stark contrast to those earlier days. Today's community leaders of West TN come from a multiplicity of individuals representing a cross-section of their county's demographics.

WestStar is a premier, forward-thinking leadership program for citizens who have a shared vision for the betterment of West TN and her people and the tenacity to accomplish that goal. Sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin, WestStar began in 1989 and stresses the importance of regional and community responsibility for creating progress.

Through a series of classes and seminars, WestStar students are introduced to new leadership skills and strategies for assisting their communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Course participants also become part of a growing network of over 500 other leaders who share the commitment to realize the educational, economic and social development of West TN.

"Our focus is the theme of regionalism, working together and also our need to keep up with the rest of the world," stated David Belote, WestStar Executive Director and Assistant Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs at UT Martin. "We go beyond our boundaries and get a birds-eye view if you will, a grassroots understanding of how communities in West Tennessee work together."
Since only one class is held each year, selection to participate in WestStar is competitive. Class size is limited to approximately 30 students from the 21 counties that make up West TN. Applications are reviewed by the Board of Trustees and selection often proves difficult. Each applicant is a proven professional, both in their business and community. Before they are eligible to participate in WestStar, they must be a graduate of their local county leadership program.

Virginia Grimes, WestStar program coordinator remarked, "[Students] are not selected based on what their title is, but rather what do they do for the community. They all have a vision for their communities."

"These are very talented people before they even get into the program," added Belote, a 2003 graduate of the program. "Since we focus on the 21 counties of West TN, we try to have at least one representative of each county. WestStar is a springboard for them to make some good things happen in their communities."

Due to generous program sponsors, the actual tuition cost of the program is a reasonable $650 and covers the cost of meals during the sessions and program materials. Participants are responsible for their own transportation and lodging expenses.

Each program starts in January and continues through June in a series of seven, two-day sessions, held about every three weeks. Each session addresses various themes viable to the prosperity of West TN. The course concludes with a graduation banquet held at UT Martin.

"We use alumni to help plan the sessions and select the course topics, depending on what issues are currently making an impact on the region," stated Grimes, a 2004 graduate of the program.

The first session attended by participants comprised of a combination orientation and building leadership skills seminar.

"We did some introspective work and had participants take a hard look at themselves as leaders," said Belote.

Each session takes place in a different community in West TN and will cover themes such as economic development, public policy issues, health, welfare and social consequences, community strengths, education partnerships and agriculture.

"We had a great session in Brownsville with Mayor Webb Banks where we focused on regionalism and cooperation," continued Belote. "In March we'll be in Nashville to meet with state legislature and commissioners to get presentations of what's happening in West TN and an understanding of how that process functions."

WestStar graduates go on to fulfill a variety of roles in their home communities. A lot of them step into the political arena and others use the course to enhance the jobs they are doing and fill roles on community committees.

"It's made me grow as a person," said Grimes. "I didn't realize how rural West TN really is. It's open my eyes and showed me we need to get outside the county boundaries and work together as a group and as a region to bring jobs into our area for our people."
"We have some talented West Tennesseans who care tremendously about their communities," added Belote. "We provide them with a regional look and show them how they can tie that into their local needs. WestStar has success story after success story and your mayor is one of them."

WestStar alumni are professionals who care about the future of West TN and the direction it needs to take to stay competitive not only in a national market, but also in the global market.

"WestStar gives them a picture of what they need to do in West TN and how to do it. They get a good look at how to work together for the benefit of all West Tennesseans."

For more information on the WestStar program, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/weststar/index.php.

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The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Tuesday, February 26, 2008

UT Martin chancellor names Ogg vice chancellor for academic affairs

Dr. Jerald Ogg has been named University of Tennessee at Martin vice chancellor for academic affairs, effective July 1.

Ogg, who has been serving as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs since July 2007, was named by UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes following the completion of a national search and from a field of 32 applicants.

"Dr. Ogg brings his unique blend of professional, authentic manner in interacting with others," Rakes said. "He has the academic and administrative experience along with a personal touch that I believe will be an asset on our leadership team."

"This is a very special campus and I have been humbled throughout this process by the support of so many faculty, staff and students," Ogg said. "I look forward to working with Dr. Rakes and the academic leadership team to ensure we continue to provide the personal, rigorous education for which we have long been recognized."

Ogg received bachelor's degrees in political science and communications from UT Martin, a juris doctor from UT Knoxville College of Law, a master's in journalism from Louisiana State University and a doctorate in journalism from Southern Illinois University.

Ogg's employment at UT Martin began in 1987 when he joined the university as an instructor/assistant professor in the Department of Communications, in which he became department chair in 1997. He was named College of Humanities and Fine Arts dean in 2000, followed by his appointment as interim vice chancellor for student affairs in 2006. His appointment as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs began in 2007, following Rakes' appointment as chancellor. He has remained a professor in the Department of Communications.

Also at UT Martin, Ogg has served as a faculty member of the Governor's School for the Humanities since its inception in 1991 and was named director in 2000. He has held numerous university committee and board appointments and has an extensive list of scholarly activities. His honors include the UT National Alumni Association Outstanding Teaching Award, and multiple Air Force Meritorious Service Medals and three Air Force Reserve TOP-HAT (the Outstanding Performer-Headquarters Annual Tour) recognitions.

Since 1983, Ogg has served as a reservist/judge advocate with the U.S. Air Force. He is currently attached to the Judge Advocate General School (JAG) at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., with the rank of colonel.

In his campus interviews, Ogg noted as his strengths his reputation as an academic leader, two terminal degrees, experience as a classroom teacher at UT Martin and in leadership positions in the Air Force, communications and management skills, a 28-year career as a licensed attorney and an extensive record of public service.

"We have the opportunity every day to shape and improve lives and I appreciate the chancellor's confidence," Ogg said.
March 7 marks nutrition seminar at UTM

The Joe and Pat Johnson Nutrition Symposium, offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education and the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, is slated from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., March 7, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center on the UT Martin campus.

The symposium is a one-day seminar to inform participants of up-to-date research findings and information on various nutrition topics as well as new strategies for counseling in the health field will be presented.

This program is sponsored by private gift funds. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. From 8:30-8:50 a.m., Whitney Angel, BS, will present "Oral Health and Nutrition: Put Your Health Where Your Mouth Is." From 8:50-9:10 a.m., Polly Harris, EdD, will present "Diabulimia: New Eating Disorder Among Diabetics." From 9:10-9:30 a.m., Lisa Lovett, BS, will present "Food Allergies: What You Should Know." Lesley Orlansky, BS, will discuss "Bariatric Surgery" from 9:30-9:50 a.m. Rebecca Reasons, BS, will present "Nutrition and Its Relation to Autistic Children," scheduled for 9:50-10:10 a.m. Chris Tesla-Hayden will present "Pressure Ulcers: What the RD Should Know," from 10:10-10:30 a.m. Angel, Harris, Lovett, Orlansky, Reasons and Tesla-Hayden are dietetic interns.

A break is scheduled from 10:30-10:45 a.m. Keynote speaker, Elizabeth Choate, RD, LD, of Jackson Purchase Medical Center in Mayfield, Ky., will begin her presentation, "What Do I Get to Eat After Surgery? Feeding the Bariatric Surgery Patient," at 10:45 a.m. At 11:45 a.m., lunch will be provided. From 1-2 p.m., Terezie Mosby, RD, LDN, IBCLC, of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, will discuss "The Art of Breastfeeding." From 2-2:15 p.m., a break is planned. Dr. Jennifer Levy-Peck, UT Martin Counseling Center director, will present "Counseling for Behavior Change: Fresh Strategies for Health," from 2:15-3:15 p.m. to conclude the seminar.

The UT Martin Department of Family and Consumer Sciences is the program provider. The program coordinator is Lori H. Littleton, MS, RD, director, dietetic internship program. Littleton is a UT Martin assistant professor of nutrition/food systems management.

This workshop conforms to guidelines for Continuing Education Unit (CEU) credits. A certificate of completion from UT Martin and CEUs will be awarded at the conclusion of the program, and attendance at the entire workshop earns .5 CEUs.

Registration fee is $25. This fee includes material handouts, refreshments at breaks and lunch. To register, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.
Carberry is speaker for Academic Speaker Series

John Carberry, director of environmental technology at the E.I. DuPont Experimental Station in Wilmington, Del., will speak at 7:30 p.m., March 4, in Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His topic will be "Sustainable Industry in a Changing Society." Carberry will appear as part of the UT Martin Academic Speaker Series and as a Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer.

With bachelor’s and master’s degrees in chemical engineering from Cornell University and a master’s in business administration from the University of Delaware, Carberry has served as director since 1989. In this position, he has been responsible for recommendations about technical programs and product development based upon analysis of environment issues. A founding member of the Green Power Market Development Group, Carberry serves on the National Academy Committee on Strategic Advice to the U.S. Climate Change Science Program and the Academy's Roundtable on Science and Technology for Sustainability. He has served on numerous National Academy committees, most notably as chair of the committee on the Destruction of the Non-Stockpile Chemical Weapons.

Carberry has participated in numerous climate change activities, including the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Committee on Metrics for Global Change Research and the Committee on Novel Approaches to the Management of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Energy Systems.

"John Carberry is an industry leader in the area of industrial sustainability, an issue of particular importance as we create and implement new policies due to climate change and global warming," said Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin Honors Programs director. "His views will be of interest to anyone interested in the future of American industry."

For more information, contact McDonough at 881-7436 or danmc@utm.edu.

ECCE offers course

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering a program on civil mediation in March and April.

"General Civil Mediation Training Course for Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 31" will be offered from 6:30-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 11-27 and April 1-24. The course instructor is Raymond L. Stevenson, general civil case mediator for the Consultant and Mediation Association, and will cost $1,275, including training materials.

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

The participants will examine the current theory in conflict resolution -- legal, ethical and emotional issues that are common in disputes -- and the format by which employment disputes are resolved. This course is approved by the Tennessee Supreme Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission.

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

MURDER MYSTERY TO BE VANGUARD’S SPRING PRODUCTION — The University of Tennessee at Martin Vanguard Theatre will present its opening performance of “A Murder is Announced,” at 8 p.m., Feb. 28, on the main stage in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. Additional performances will be at 8 p.m., Feb. 29 and March 1, and 3 p.m., March 2. The box office opened Feb. 25. It will remain open from noon-5 p.m. and two hours before performances. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students. Pictured are (from left) Karen Saldana, of Nashville; Kara Salyers, of Huntington; and John Mistic, of Dyer.

Murder mystery to be Vanguard's production

The University of Tennessee at Martin Vanguard Theatre will present its opening performance of "A Murder is Announced," at 8 p.m., Feb. 28, on the main stage in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building.

Additional performances will be at 8 p.m., Feb. 29 and March 1, and 3 p.m., March 2.

The published announcement in the local gazette of a murder on Friday the thirteenth at Little Paddocks, the Blacklock’s Victorian home, before it happens, is just the beginning of this fiendishly ingenious murder mystery. This classic Christie puzzle of mixed motives, concealed identities, a second death, a determined Inspector grimly following all the twists and turns, and Miss Marple on hand to provide the final solution, at some risk to herself, in one of the greatest dramatic confrontation endings of all time can only mean one thing — whodunit heaven. This story was written by Agatha Christie and adapted for the stage by Leslie Darbon.

UT Martin cast members include Hadi Alradhi, of Martin; Jay Campbell, of Martin; Robert Crockett, of Holladay; Mary Beth French, of Paris; Megan Hollis, of Martin; and Natalie Horbelt, of Cordova.

Also participating in the play are Ashlee Johnson, of Dyer; John Mistic, of Dyer; Nick Mounts, of Centerville; Karen Saldana, of Nashville; Kara Salyers, of Huntington; and Leighanna Sims, of Dyer.

The box office is open from noon-5 p.m. and two hours before performances. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 881-7090.
Department of Music reaccredited by national association

The National Association of Schools of Music Commission on Accreditation recently reaccredited the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music. Degrees accredited include bachelor of arts in music, bachelor of music in music education and bachelor of music in performance.

"I am excited and pleased to have NASM affirm the quality of our music programs, faculty and students. We have a strong tradition of excellence in music, and our students and alumni should be particularly proud," said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes.

NASM, an organization of schools, conservatories, colleges and universities, establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials. Institutional membership is gained only through the peer review process of accreditation.

"Reaccreditation by NASM represents two and a half years of very hard work by our Department of Music faculty and staff," said Dr. Jeremy Kolwinski, department chair. "This is essentially a stamp of approval on what we are doing in the department. It also assures prospective students and their parents that students are receiving a top-notch education when they choose to study music at UT Martin. The crux of our department's mission is to train future music educators to teach in our region's public schools.

Reaccreditation by NASM will also secure a strong future for music education in West Tennessee."

As part of accreditation, an institution or disciplinary unit within an institution periodically evaluates its work and seeks an independent judgment by peers that it achieves substantially its own educational objectives and meets the established standards of the body from which it seeks accreditation. Typically, the accreditation process includes a self-evaluative description (self-study) of the institution or unit, an onsite review by a team of evaluators and judgment by an accreditation decision-making body. Accreditation reviews focus on educational quality, institutional integrity and educational improvements.

Institutional membership in NASM, founded in 1924 with approximately 615 current accredited institutional members, signifies a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between the work of individual institutions and the work of the entire community of institutions that prepare musicians at the collegiate level. Membership also signifies a pledge to continue what NASM has always done: seek optimum learning conditions for music students and develop the strength and quality of music in higher education by assisting institutional members and their faculties to do their best work.

For more information about the UT Martin Department of Music, call 881-7402.

ECCE offers piano, photography programs

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering programs on the UT Martin campus to teach piano for busy people and basic digital photography.

"Instant Piano for the Hopelessly Busy People" will be offered from 6-9:30 p.m., March 18, for a fee of $49, plus $25 supply fee. David Haynes, a former music director from Ringgold, Ga., will teach the course. This course is for those who want to experience the joy of playing the piano, but don't want years of weekly lessons. In one evening, participants will learn all the chords, not notes, needed to play any pop song, any style and any key. Topics include musicians' shortcuts, speed-reading and deriving chords.

This is a beginning class in chord piano techniques. If you can't find a middle C or tell the meaning of Every Good Boy Does Fine, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a free pamphlet to Music Masters, 90 Molly Lane, Ringgold, Ga. 30736.

"Introduction to Digital Photography" will be offered from 6:30-9 p.m., Thursdays, March 6-27. The fee for the course is $75, and Tom Gallien will be the instructor. This course is designed to make digital photography less intimidating. Proper photographic exposure, composition and use of the camera's histogram will be discussed. Each participant should take a notebook, digital camera and the camera's instruction manual (if available) to class. The instructor will provide printed and email handouts to supplement the presentations. Even though this course is primarily for novice digital photographers, solutions and ideas for photographers with intermediate skills can also be discussed.

Gallien will use email evaluation and critiques of images during the course. This introductory course is a springboard for the follow-up Intermediate/Advanced skills course. This course will be limited to four evenings, each class 2.5 hours in length.

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

To register for a workshop, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082 or visit the Web at www.utm.edu/department/ECCE/credit_registration.php.
ACT prep, PowerPoint courses offered

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is offering ACT preparation and intermediate PowerPoint courses in March.

"Making Sense of the ACT" will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays March 1-22. Ron Ramage will be the instructor, and the fee will be $50.

This course will help participants plan strategies to make the highest score they can make on this test. It is designed for first-time test takers, as well as seasoned veterans.

Students will use The Real ACT Prep Guide and should bring the book to the first class meeting.

The cost of the text is not included in the registration fee. The book may be purchased on the UT Martin campus at the Barnes & Noble bookstore by calling (731) 881-7760. This class is limited to 20.

"Intermediate Microsoft PowerPoint" will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon March 25 and 27. Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin programmer and analyst, will instruct the course and the fee will be $85.

Participants will learn more about how to effectively use PowerPoint. Topics include learning techniques to reduce the development time in creating presentations and tips in preparing and executing the overall presentation.

Advanced registration is required. To register for a workshop, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or (731) 881-7940 or edu/departments/ecce/non_cred_visit the Web site at www.utm. it_registration.php.

UT Martin to host wildlife student conclave

MARTIN — The University of Tennessee at Martin Wildlife Program is hosting the Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave, March 13-16, at Paris Landing State Park.

The event is the annual meeting of approximately two dozen college and university wildlife biology programs throughout the southeastern United States. About 400 students are expected to attend.

Conclave is typified by two days of field trips, competitions, speakers and socials, and is instrumental in helping wildlife biology majors make contacts and solidify career plans.

Teams will compete in the annual quiz bowl, a competitive double-elimination tournament in which students answer questions covering a wide variety of natural resource related topics. Skill competitions include an obstacle course, archery, trap, orienteering, canoeing, radio telemetry and dendrology. Creative and talent competitions include wildlife calling, photography, art and an essay contest. Students will also have the opportunity to take field trips. Trips include wildlife forensics, non-game surveys, West Tennessee wetlands, bat ecology and wildlife law enforcement, led by wildlife biologists with universities, state and federal government agencies and the private sector.

The event is being hosted by the UT Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, with assistance from the Department of Biological Sciences and The Wildlife Society, Inc.

According to Dr. Eric Pelten, faculty adviser of the UT Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society, "Several dozen students have been working hard for the past year to make this the best wildlife conclave in history.”

Sponsors for the event include The Wildlife Society, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Tennessee Valley Authority, National Wild Turkey Federation, Wildlife Management Institute and others.

For more information, contact Pelten, conclave coordinator, at 731-881-7263 or epelten@utm.edu.
Dyersburg Middle School students Shehla Yousuf, Maria Yousuf, Malikka Machra, and Zaid Baba take part in the third session of UTM's Young Writer's Clubhouse. The four-week program is a series of Saturday writing workshops for students in third through eighth grade. At right: Jim Heckethorn and Jed Finley work on 'Funky Fairy Tales' for clubhouse.

Students participate in 'writer's clubhouse'

Several students at Dyersburg Middle School are participating in the University of Tennessee at Martin's Young Writer's Clubhouse, a series of writing workshops offered at the college for students in third through eighth grade. The sessions, sponsored by the West Tennessee Writing Project, take place four Saturdays throughout the school year.

The third session, themed "Funky Fairy Tales," was presented by DMS teacher Becky Hasselle and Andi Neihoff, who teaches at St. Mary's in Jackson. The session took place at UTM on Feb. 2.

"The goal is to provide additional writing opportunities for students who enjoy writing," said Hasselle. "Students from Dyersburg have attended each session this year. I am very impressed with their commitment to improving their writing by taking a Saturday to go to Martin to write. They really enjoy the writing activities and usually continue writing their stories on the way home."

The final Writer's Clubhouse workshop will be held on April 12, with registration deadlines set for April 5.

Those interested in more information may view the brochure at http://www.utm.edu/organizations/wtwp/documents/Youn gWritersClubhouse0708brochure.pdf.
Youthful offenders gain credit for college

It's an opportunity they never thought they would have, but one that could prevent them from getting into trouble again. Several inmates at the Northwest Correctional Complex have become college students. A partnership between the Department of Correction and the University of Tennessee at Martin allows several youthful offenders to enroll in English and history college courses this semester.

The pilot program is paid for through a federal grant, "Grants to States for Workplace and Community Transition Training for Incarcerated Youth Offenders." Inmates under the age of 25 who are within five years of their release dates can participate. The students are also expected to have a history of good behavior. The credits they earn can be applied toward a degree upon their release from prison. Studies have shown that former inmates who have academic and vocational training are less likely to re-offend when they return home. Offenders who possess a post-secondary degree have the lowest recidivism rate.

"We are proud to be in this partnership with UT Martin," said TDOC Commissioner George Little. "We appreciate the staff and faculty who have taken the initiative to educate this sector of our society that, all too often, is forgotten and who will hopefully rejoin our society as productive and educated citizens."

UT Martin has been partnering with the Tennessee Department of Correction for three years by offering courses and training to staff using onsite facilities or via interactive video.

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

"The program is an excellent example of what can be accomplished when two state entities get together to forge new relationships and create new programs," said Katy Crapo, UT Martin director for degree programs and distance learning. Crapo said UT Martin is fortunate to have dedicated and capable faculty, such as Brent Cox and Leslie LeChance, to participate in this innovative federal grant.

"I think this is a great chance to make a difference in the lives of these students," said Cox. "The experience has been good, and the students have performed well. Their scores are above average, and their devotion to the subject matter is superb."

LeChance agreed. "I find the students at the Northwest Complex to be highly motivated and engaged in the English 100 course," she said. "They are well-prepared for each class meeting, arriving with the reading done and their essays written. They regard their presence in the class as privilege. It has been a pleasure to teach this group of students."

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'A Murder is Announced' in Martin

The University of Tennessee Martin Vanguard Theatre presents 'A Murder is Announced' at 8 p.m. today at the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre, Fine Arts Building. Performances are also at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students. From left: Karen Saldana of Nashville, Kara Salyers of Huntington and John Mistic of Dyer.
Ogg named vice chancellor at UT Martin

Dr. Jerald Ogg has been named University of Tennessee at Martin vice chancellor for academic affairs, effective July 1.

Ogg, who has been serving as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs since July 2007, was named by UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes following the completion of a national search and from a field of 32 applicants.

"Dr. Ogg brings his unique blend of professional, authentic manner in interacting with others," Rakes said. "He has the academic and administrative experience along with a personal touch that I believe will be an asset on our leadership team."

"This is a very special campus and I have been humbled throughout this process by the support of so many faculty, staff and students," Ogg said. "I look forward to working with Dr. Rakes and the academic leadership team to ensure we continue to provide the personal, rigorous education for which we have long been recognized."

Ogg received bachelor's degrees in political science and communications from UT Martin, a juris doctor from UT Knoxville College of Law, a master's in journalism from Louisiana State University and a doctorate in journalism from Southern Illinois University.

Ogg's employment at UT Martin began in 1987 when he joined the university as an instructor/assistant professor in the Department of Communications, in which he became department chair in 1997. He was named College of Humanities and Fine Arts dean in 2000, followed by his appointment as interim vice chancellor for student affairs in 2006. His appointment as interim vice chancellor for academic affairs began in 2007, following Rakes' appointment as chancellor. He has remained a professor in the Department of Communications.

Also at UT Martin, Ogg has served as a faculty member of the Governor's School for the Humanities since its inception in 1991 and was named director in 2000. He has held numerous university committee and board appointments and has an extensive list of scholarly activities. His honors include the UT National Alumni Association Outstanding Teaching Award, and multiple Air Force Meritorious Service Medals and three Air Force Reserve TOP-HAT (The Outstanding Performer-Headquarters Annual Tour) recognitions.

Since 1983, Ogg has served as a reservist/advocate with the U.S. Air Force. He is currently attached to the Judge See Ogg, Page 4

Ogg

Advocate General School (JAG) at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., with the rank of colonel.

In his campus interviews, Ogg noted as his strengths his reputation as an academic leader, two terminal degrees, experience as a classroom teacher at UT Martin and in leadership positions in the Air Force, communications and management skills, a 28-year career as a licensed attorney and an extensive record of public service.

"We have the opportunity every day to shape and improve lives and I appreciate the chancellor's confidence," Ogg said.

English Film Series offers 'Barton Fink' on March 4

The University of Tennessee at Martin English Society and Student Activities Council will present "Barton Fink" at 7 p.m., March 4, in the Legislative Chamber of Boiling University Center. This event is free and open to the public.

The Coen Brothers comedic murder mystery focuses on playwright Barton Fink, who gets entangled during a period of writer's block that he experiences at a strange hotel where he's attempting to write a screenplay about wrestling. If you think that sentence was confusing, you should see the movie. Barton Fink stars John Turturro, John Goodman and Tony Shaloub.

For more information, contact Dr. Lynn Alexander, co-interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, at lalexand@utm.edu or 881-7300.
UTM to host Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave

The University of Tennessee at Martin Wildlife Program is hosting the Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave, March 13-16, at Paris Landing State Park. The event is the annual meeting of approximately two dozen college and university wildlife biology programs throughout the southeastern United States. Approximately 400 students are expected to attend.

Conclave is typified by two days of field trips, competitions, speakers and socials, and is instrumental in helping wildlife biology majors make contacts and solidify career plans. Teams will compete in the annual quiz bowl, a competitive double-elimination tournament in which students answer questions covering a wide variety of natural resources-related topics. Skill competitions include an obstacle course, archery, trap, orienteering, canoeing, radio telemetry and dendrology. Creative and talent competitions include wildlife calling, photography, art and an essay contest. Students will also have the opportunity to take field trips. Trips include wildlife forensics, non-game surveys, West Tennessee wetlands, bat ecology and wildlife law enforcement, led by wildlife biologists with universities, state and federal government agencies and the private sector.

The event is being hosted by the UT Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, with assistance from the Department of Biological Sciences and The Wildlife Society Inc.

According to Dr. Eric Pelren, faculty adviser of the UT Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society, "Several dozen students have been working hard for the past year to make this the best wildlife conclave in history."

Sponsors for the event include The Wildlife Society, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Tennessee Valley Authority, National Wild Turkey Federation, Wildlife Management Institute and others.

For more information, contact Pelren, conclave coordinator, at 881-7263 or epelren@utm.edu.

"If you have the flu, you just have to ride it out,"
Shannon Deal
Student Health Center