Brock named membership director at Dyersburg/Dyer Co. Chamber

Wendy Brock, who currently serves as the regional business account representative for CableOne, has been named the new membership director for the Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber of Commerce. She will begin her new job at the Chamber on July 16.

"We are excited and pleased to have Wendy join our team," said Chamber President and CEO Allen Hester. "Her knowledge of the local and regional business environment, her experience in direct sales and her enthusiasm for the Chamber will serve our members and the community well. She will be an asset to our organization. We look forward to working with her and supporting her efforts to grow our membership base and serve our members."

Brock currently hires and trains other sales reps as part of her duties at CableOne. As the regional business account representative, she also covers a region that includes Dyersburg, Cleveland, Miss., Clarksdale, Miss., Batesville, Miss. and Grenada, Miss.

Prior to her position at CableOne, Brock was a marketing account executive at Burks Broadcasting Group, where she was a consistently high-performing member of the sales and marketing team.

"I am very excited and thankful for the opportunity to serve as the new membership director. I am looking forward to serving and supporting the staff and members of this wonderful organization," said Brock.

During her sales career at Burks Beverage, Brock was also very active in the community, working on such projects as the flood-relief bake sale, Reason for the Season food drive, Relay for Life, and the Chamber Business Expo.

A 1995 honors graduate of Dyersburg High School, she attended the University of Tennessee-Martin, majoring in business and accounting, and was a member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority.

Brock, a native of Dyer County, also currently serves as the director of music for the Dyersburg Church of God. She and her family live in Finley, Tenn.
Wilson chosen as vice chancellor for UTM university advancement

Andrew Wilson, associate vice president for university development at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, is the new vice chancellor for university advancement for the University of Tennessee at Martin. His appointment follows a national search for the position.

"Andrew will be a great addition to the UT Martin family and UT Foundation," said Johnnie Ray, president of the University of Tennessee Foundation. "He brings extensive background in both fundraising and alumni relations to this role and has a real understanding of the university and its aspirations."

Wilson, who has a bachelor's degree from Campbellsville University in Kentucky, has worked in higher education for 22 years. His fundraising efforts have involved campaigns in excess of $60 million, including the most successful single-year total of $8.7 million raised in fiscal year 2011 at Tennessee Tech. He and his wife, Ani, have two children, Emily and David.

"I am excited about the opportunity to join the UT Martin community and become part of such a special institution," Wilson said. "I look forward to working with the chancellor, alumni, faculty, students and staff as we actively seek philanthropic support. Despite the current economic climate, there is tremendous opportunity to engage with those who care about Martin and are committed to its future success."

Wilson succeeds Len Solomons who will become a senior major gifts officer for the university July 31. Solomons led UT Martin in the recent seven-year Campaign for Tennessee during which a record $88 million was raised for the university.

UT Martin serves almost 8,000 students through the Martin campus and centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley and Selmer.

"We had four excellent finalists for the position, and we're fortunate to have Mr. Wilson as UT Martin's vice chancellor for university advancement," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. "He brings many years of experience in philanthropy at a time when private support for the university is more important than ever."

The UT Foundation is an independent not-for-profit created in 2001 to support the University of Tennessee's educational, research and public activities. As the preferred channel for all private contributions that benefit UT students and faculty, foundation staff members work with alumni and other prospective donors to secure funds for scholarships, professorships, research, outreach programs and other university initiatives.

Dodd named branch manager at Regions

Regions Bank recently announced the addition of Brandi Dodd as branch manager for the bank's branches in Martin.

Ms. Dodd brings several years of banking experience to the Weakley County market, according to a press release. A graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin with a degree in Business Administration, Ms. Dodd said she is looking forward to making sure Regions is visible in the community.

Already an active supporter of Relay for Life in the area, Ms. Dodd said she hopes to become more involved with the Chamber and other community organizations. She is married with three children.

"We are delighted to add someone with Brandi's skill set to our team. She has a great reputation as a banker who delivers incredible customer service to her clients," said James Dunberrry, city president, Regions Bank West Tennessee Community Market.

Ms. Dodd will be focusing on Small Business growth in the Martin area, while also helping the Consumer segment leverage the full array of products and services offered by Regions.
KIWANIS SCHOLARSHIP — The Martin Kiwanis Club congratulated its 2012 UT Martin $1,000 Scholarship Award Winner Mason Wortham (center), son of Joe and Zann Wortham of Martin (left) and David and Paige Spencer of Martin (right). Mason is a 2012 Westview honors graduate and will be an Ag Business major at UTM this fall. He recently attended the weekly Kiwanis luncheon to accept his award. For more information on membership with the Martin Kiwanis Club, visit www.martinskiwanisclub and fill out a membership application, or find Martin Kiwanis on Facebook. Membership in open to men and women of all ages who have an interest in making a positive difference in the lives of children in the Martin community. (Photo submitted)

UTM partners for public education

Public education throughout the state of Tennessee is facing numerous challenges as it responds to a variety of reform initiatives that are aimed at the continuous improvement of student outcomes.

A new partnership between the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences and area school districts hopes to respond to these challenges and the needs of Northwest Tennessee rural school districts.

On June 13, Cliff Sturdivant, field services director for the Tennessee State Department of Education, along with Warner Pace, from the Tennessee Department of Education, and Dr. Mary Lee Hall, dean of the College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, met with UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes to secure his signature on a formal memorandum of understanding to establish the Northwest Tennessee Rural Education Collaborative (NWTREC).

The NWTREC serves the purpose of meeting the mutual needs of its members as they strive to continually improve student outcomes and meet the educational needs of their communities. Membership is open to school districts in the following Tennessee counties: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley.

The UT Martin College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, will serve as an ex-officio member. Twenty-three school directors from the nine counties also signed the memorandum.

Members will work together to advance education in their respective school districts by collaborating on projects of mutual interest.

The NWTREC completed work on its first project by partnering with the Upper Cumberland Region Collaborative, Southeast Tennessee Education Collaborative and Southwest Tennessee Education Collaborative to submit an i3 (Investing in Innovation) validation grant proposal.

If funded, the grant will provide the opportunity for school districts to focus on strategies to increase ACT scores for high school students to assure readiness to attend college.
Robilio takes helm of WCPC

Representatives of the Weakley County Prevention Coalition said they are pleased to announce Catherine Robilio has joined the coalition as its new program coordinator.

Ms. Robilio earned a Bachelor of Science in social work from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a Master of Science in social work with a concentration in management, leadership, and community practice from the University of Tennessee.

As former editor of the Hickman County Gazette in Clinton, Ky., Ms. Robilio said she is looking forward to using her unique combination of social work and media experience in an effort to connect with local residents, organizations and associations who share the common goal of building the Weakley County community into a healthier and safer place to live.

She said she plans to continue the hard work of the WCPC, formerly the Weakley County Alliance for a Safe and Drug Free Tennessee, and is dedicated to helping serve the county by promoting programs that keep your community safe and drug free.

“We are working to bring the community together in an effort to strategically and comprehensively address one of the largest issues facing our county today,” said Ms. Robilio.

Substance abuse is a noted problem in Weakley County and is a contributing factor to the county’s crime rate. Illegal drug use is also reported to be a contributing factor to violence, higher health care premiums, child abuse/neglect, mental illness, and poverty.

“By addressing factors in the community that increase the risk of substance abuse — and promoting the factors that minimize it — substance abuse by youth and, over time, adults, will be reduced, creating a healthier and safer environment for us all,” she continued.

“The coalition is uniquely positioned to identify and bring about needed changes with help from the community. If you care about the future of our community, you are encouraged to get involved with the WCPC. Your involvement and input could help change the lives of our youth,” Ms. Robilio added.

Anyone and everyone in Weakley County is encouraged to contact the coalition to learn more about ways to help.

It’s time to get involved. Find WCPC on Facebook at www.facebook.com/weakleyprevention. Follow it on Twitter @WCPCalition. For more information, contact Ms. Robilio at 514-7951 or by email at weakleyprevention@gmail.com.

Visit WCPC online at www.weakleycountyprevention.com.

UT-Martin forms public education partnership

Published: 7/05 10:26 am
Updated: 7/05 10:26 am

MARTIN, Tenn. (AP) — The University of Tennessee at Martin has formed a partnership designed to improve public education in West Tennessee.

The Northwest Tennessee Rural Education Collaborative is open for the counties of Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley. Twenty-three school directors from the nine counties have signed the memorandum. The UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences will be an ex-officio member.

According to a news release from the university, members will work together to advance education in their respective school districts by collaborating on projects of mutual interest.

The partnership has completed its first project by submitting a validation grant proposal. If funded, the grant would help districts find ways to increase ACT scores.
Martin native to lead state legal organization

Jackson – Jackson attorney and Martin native Kristi Robbins Rezabek was recently sworn in as President of Tennessee Lawyers Association for Women ("TLAW") for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

On June 8, Tennessee Supreme Court Chief Justice Cornelia A. Clark administered the oath of office to Ms. Rezabek and the organization’s other officers at TLAW’s Annual Meeting, which was conducted at The Peabody Hotel in Memphis in conjunction with the annual conference of the Tennessee Bar Association.

TLAW is a state-wide legal organization and membership is open to any person who is a member in good standing of a State or Federal Bar of the United States and supports the purposes of TLAW.

TLAW’s purposes include:
1) Achieving the full participation of women lawyers in the rights, privileges and benefits of the legal profession;
2) Increasing the number of women serving on the bench;
3) Providing opportunities for mutual support and fellowship;
4) Supporting the status and progress of women in society; and,
5) Providing a source for continuing legal education.

Ms. Rezabek is employed as the staff attorney for the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Western Section in Jackson. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin and her J.D. from the University of Memphis. In addition to her active involvement in TLAW, Ms. Rezabek is a member of the Jackson-Madison County Bar Association, Lawyer’s Association for Women – Anne Schneider Chapter, and the Tennessee Bar Association. Ms. Rezabek is also a Master of the American Inn of Court, Howell Edmunds Chapter in Jackson and currently serves that organization as co-chair of the Program Committee. As current president of TLAW, Ms. Rezabek holds ex-officio positions on the Tennessee Bar Association Board of Governors and the Executive Committee of the Tennessee Judicial Conference.

Ms. Rezabek lives in the Huntersville community near Jackson with her husband Kendall Rezabek and their daughter, Kylie.

She is an active member of Lambuth Memorial United Methodist Church in Jackson and serves on the Board of Trustees of Hannah’s Hope Adoption & Pregnancy Counseling, an agency of the Memphis Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

She is the daughter of Guy and Sandra Robbins of Martin.
Our View: Public education collaborative can help rural school systems

The recently formed Northwest Tennessee Rural Education Collaborative involving the University of Tennessee Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences and 23 rural school districts is a good way to spur innovation in public education by sharing information and resources. The challenges faced by Tennessee public schools are enormous, and smaller rural school districts can benefit by working together with others to implement projects they would have a difficult time attempting on their own.

Education reforms under way in Tennessee are raising standards and placing more emphasis on education outcomes in areas such as increasing ACT scores, graduation rates and teacher performance data. Such efforts can best be accomplished when school districts focus on innovation and adopting best practices from successful public education programs across the state and the nation. But that is a tall order for a small rural school district. Tapping into a collaborative effort such as the NTREC makes sense. The program is being supported by the Tennessee Department of Education and the UT Martin school of education. The program is available to school districts in Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley counties.

Where does a small rural school district turn for ideas, innovation and help? By joining a collaborative such as NTREC, school districts immediately gain access to a wide variety of ideas, programs and people willing to share their thinking. Gaining ready access to successful programs in other school systems can save time and resources for communities.

Another important aspect of such a collaborative is that school districts can look for new ideas that are a good fit for their community. What works in Memphis or Nashville might not be a good approach in Humboldt. But a successful program in rural Carroll County could be just what Humboldt or another small school system needs.

The first project of the new collaborative was to join with two other similar efforts in the upper Cumberland region and rural Southeast Tennessee to apply for an Investing in Innovation grant. If successful, funds will be used to implement strategies to increase ACT scores for high school students, thus helping assure they are prepared for post-secondary education opportunities. Obtaining such a grant is something a small district would have a hard time doing on its own. Once the group begins achieving results, new ideas can spread among school systems much faster.

Such a collaborative is about more than increasing test scores. It also is about finding better ways to create a high quality workforce. If there is one thing that can limit rural community growth, it is an inadequate workforce. The new effort in Northwest Tennessee is a step in the right direction.
PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL: Catching up with area stars

Jackson’s Drew Sutton and Casey McGehee are helping the Pittsburgh Pirates contend for a National League Central Division title and a playoff berth, as well.

They are two of the area’s baseball players with local ties on Major League and Minor League rosters.

- Trey Karlen (UT Martin) is an infielder with the Rookie Gulf Coast League Nationals (Washington), but is yet to see any action since league play began June 18.

- Wes Alsup (UT Martin) is a right-handed pitcher with the Class A Advanced High Desert Mavericks, the California League affiliate of the Seattle Mariners.

Wes has appeared in three games and has allowed four hits, four runs (earned) and recorded seven strikeouts in 5.1 innings.

- Alec Mills (UT Martin) was selected by the Kansas City Royals in the 2012 Major League Draft. Alec, a right-handed pitcher is with the Idaho Falls Chukars in the Rookie Pioneer League. Alec (0-2, 3.00 ERA) has appeared in seven games and has three saves in 12 innings, allowing five runs (four earned) while striking out 13.

SMITH RECEIVES ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD AT REGIONAL ENTREPRENEUR CONFERENCE – Brian Smith, owner of The Sideline Physical Therapy and Fitness Center in Martin, Tenn., recently received the 2012 Entrepreneur of the Year award at the West Tennessee Regional Entrepreneur Conference held in Jackson, Tenn. The conference was sponsored by the WestStar leadership program and the University of Tennessee at Martin. Kathy Moore Cowan (left), WestStar Board of Trustees member, presented the award. The Sideline employees ten full-time and 43 part-time staff members and opened in 2003, relocating in 2005 to the town’s 1947 movie theatre. (Photo submitted)

DREDSEN ENTERPRISE, Dresden, Tennessee. Wednesday, July 4, 2012

UTM bass fishermen have best tournament

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s bass anglers team completed its best tournament this year, finishing sixth out of 43 teams at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Bass Fishing Pepsi Open at Lake Martin near Dover, Tenn.

The UT Martin team tallied a two-day total of 34.06 pounds, just behind UT Chattanooga’s team that weigh-in with 34.57 pounds.

The University of North Carolina-Charlotte won the tournament with a final weight of 41.07 pounds.

The tournament format included teams of up to two boats. Each boat’s best-three fish were combined daily and totaled for a two-day score. One-boat teams combined the top-three fish from the front and back angler Team members Grayson Smith (Clarksville) and Dylan Powley (Paris) contributed to the strong finish by landing some of their largest tournament fish.

Other UT Martin team members participating were Jason McGee (Big Rock), Alex Durry (Bradford), Eric Davidson (Greenfield) and Ryan Larky (Parsons).

“We put in five days of practice this week (before the tournament),” Smith said, crediting the additional preparation for the team’s success in the event. “We didn’t get a whole lot of bites, but the ones we did get we capitalized on.”
UT Martin partnership looks to improve public education in West Tennessee

Public education throughout the state of Tennessee is facing numerous challenges as it responds to a variety of reform initiatives that are aimed at the continuous improvement of student outcomes. A new partnership between the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences and area school districts hopes to respond to these challenges and the needs of Northwest Tennessee rural school districts.

On Wednesday, June 13, Cliff Sturdivant, field services director for the Tennessee State Department of Education, along with Warner Pace, from the Tennessee Department of Education, and Dr. Mary Lee Hall, dean of the College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, met with UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes to secure his signature on a formal memorandum of understanding to establish the Northwest Tennessee Rural Education Collaborative (NWTREC).

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Twenty-three school districts from the nine counties also signed the memorandum. Members will work together to advance education in their respective school districts by collaborating on projects of mutual interest. The NWTREC completed work on its first project by partnering with the Upper Cumberland Region Collaborative, Southeast Tennessee Education Collaborative and Southwest Tennessee Education Collaborative to submit an ID (Investing in Innovation) validation grant proposal. If funded, the grant will provide the opportunity for school districts to focus on strategies to increase ACT scores for high school students to assure readiness to attend college.

Local students practice writing at Summer Camp

The University of Tennessee at Martin West Tennessee Writing Project (WTWP) sponsored The Young Writers Summer Camp for grades 3-12 on June 18-22. Campers wrote poetry, short stories and persuasive essays, and shared their work with family and friends at a public reading on June 22. Participants are pictured, front row left to right: Anne Carithers of Martin, Jackson Griffey of Paris, Amber Weeks of Union City, and Zakaria Fallown Adams of Milan. Back row left to right: Alex Hoy of Martin, Kristy Dowden (teacher) of Union City, Benjamin Wade of Sharon, Lana Warren (teacher) of Union City, Kaitlyn Courtney of Dresden, Mary Perry (teacher) of Martin, Keely Stokes of Sharon, and Sam Anderson of Jackson. WTWP will host a Young Writers Clubhouse on November 3. For more information, visit www.utm.edu/wtwp.
The Martin Kiwanis Club has announced their 2012 UTM $1,000 Scholarship Award Winner Bryelle White of Martin. Bryelle is a 2012 Westview Honor graduate and will be a Nursing major at the University of Tennessee at Martin this fall. She recently attended the weekly Kiwanis Luncheon to accept her award. Pictured left to right are: Bryelle White and Martin Kiwanis Club President Lana Carpenter.

Students awarded for service

University of Tennessee at Martin students Trenton Woodley and Lindsay Bowman, received awards for their service from the UT Martin Institute for Civic Engagement (ICE).

Bowman, a junior pre-med student, received the Student Community Service Award. Bowman has been active in the Martin community since attending UT Martin and is involved with Habitat for Humanity, Red Fern Animal Shelter, Kari’4 Kritters Animal shelter, Relay for Life and other projects in the area. On campus she is in the Honors Program and participates in UTM Recycles! and the Green Energies and Renewables Society. Bowman’s nominators noted that he leads by example and has lobbied for U.S. senators and representatives’ support of UT Martin and green practices.

Woodley, a senior political science student, received the Student Civic Engagement Award. The award is granted to a student based on involvement in ICE’s civic engagement activities. Woodley has been involved in numerous campus activities and events including Times Talk.

Pictured (left to right): Trenton Woodley and Lindsay Bowman.
TSU hopes tuition cut increases enrollment

Tennessee State University is cutting out-of-state tuition in half for current and incoming students who take a full course load and post high grade-point averages.

All current out-of-state students with a 3.0 grade-point average automatically will receive the tuition discount, paying around $3,500 a semester — instead of about $7,000 — plus fees. In-state students pay about $3,200 in tuition and fees for 15 hours.

The reduced tuition rate, which the school calls the Scholar Tuition Rate, is part of a pilot program granted by the Tennessee Board of Regents. University officials are optimistic the program will attract higher-quality students and keep them on track to graduate on time.

Returning undergraduate students who have at least a 3.0 grade-point average and are enrolled in 15 credit hours a semester automatically will get the scholarship. Incoming students are eligible if they have an ACT score of at least 21 and a 3.0 GPA in high school.

Portia Shields, the interim president at TSU, said she expects around 500 students to receive the discounted tuition in the fall, and said she has heard from several students who are thrilled with the economic barriers it removes. The school enrolled 7,105 undergraduate students last year, and one in five of them was from outside Tennessee.

"The majority (of students) suffer with financial issues, as this is a bad economic time," Shields said. "Some of them have said to me they wouldn't be back if not for this."

The program requires students to keep a full-time schedule. Shields said this will help increase the school's graduation rate and keep it in line with the Complete College Tennessee Act, a 2010 law that ties some state funding to factors such as graduation rates instead of admission levels.

Recruiting aid

Also this fall, the University of Tennessee-Martin will allow out-of-state students with a 3.5 GPA and an ACT score of at least 25 to pay in-state tuition for the school's honors program.

Chancellor Tom Rakes expects the program to attract 20-25 students a year to UT-Martin and is optimistic about the effects it will have at the school.

"With high-level students, that will help with graduation rates and other parts of campus," Rakes said.
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Associated Press

Story Created: Thu Jul 5, 2012 5:55 AM
(Story Updated: Thu Jul 5, 2012 5:55 AM)

MARTIN, Tenn. (AP) - The University of Tennessee at Martin has formed a partnership designed to improve public education in west Tennessee.

The Northwest Tennessee Rural Education Collaborative is open for the counties of Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley. Twenty-three school directors from the nine counties have signed the memorandum. The UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences will be an ex-officio member.

According to a news release from the university, members will work together to advance education in their respective school districts by collaborating on projects of mutual interest.

The partnership has completed its first project by submitting a validation grant proposal. If funded, the grant would help districts find ways to increase ACT scores.
Henry County part of new UTM education initiative

MARTIN — The University of Tennessee at Martin has formed a partnership designed to improve public education in West Tennessee.

The Northwest Tennessee Rural Education Collaborative is open for the counties of Henry, Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Lake, Obion and Weakley. Twenty-three school directors from the nine counties have signed the memorandum. The UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences will be an ex-officio member.

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The partnership has completed its first project by submitting a validation grant proposal. If funded, the grant would help districts find ways to increase ACT scores.

UT-Martin forms public education partnership

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According to a news release from the university, members will work together to advance education in their respective school districts by collaborating on projects of mutual interest.

The partnership has completed its first project by submitting a validation grant proposal. If funded, the grant would help districts find ways to increase ACT scores.
UT-Martin Freshmen Orientation July 16-17
By Westky Star Staff

MARTIN, TN - Incoming freshmen who plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin during the fall semester can get prepared for college life by attending the final Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) program, scheduled July 16-17.

Students will get the opportunity to meet with academic advisers and register for classes; tour the campus, residence halls and University Village housing; receive information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and hear detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for freshmen the week before classes).

Students and parents will participate in a variety of informational sessions such as those on student health services, public safety, bookstore, student employment and other topics. Additional concurrent sessions are also scheduled for students and parents with topics including student activities, Greek life, housing and meal plans. Administrative offices will be open and students and parents will get additional time to visit with UT Martin personnel in housing, admissions and financial aid.

Advance SOAR registration is required, and in order to attend SOAR, students must have applied for admission and received a tentative or final acceptance letter.

For more information about SOAR or to register visit www.utm.edu/soarregister, or call 731-881-7027.

Published 10:06 AM, Saturday Jul. 07, 2012
Updated 10:31 AM, Friday Jul. 06, 2012

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS

The University of Tennessee Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to recognize the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Terry Goulker, UT Martin alumnus and co-executive producer at Oprah Winfrey’s Harpo Studios.

Katelyn Long, of Jackson, received the Freshman Scholarship. Dr.

Arthur Hunt, assistant professor of communications, presented the award. SUBMITTED PHOTO
Cancer battle guides Bells survivor's career path

Charles Turnage of Bells has a scar behind his right knee that serves as a reminder of the five surgeries and a year of chemotherapy he endured, beginning at the age of 6, to remove a solid tumor buried in the root of his muscle.

Yet above his scar is a tattoo that reads, "I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me."

Turnage, a former patient at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital of Memphis, risked having his leg amputated because of the tumor. He said he encourages children who are going through chemotherapy to never lose hope.

Turnage said he hopes to work at St. Jude to give back to the doctors and nurses who cared for him while he was being treated.

"The main thing I want to do is inspire others," he said.

Turnage, now 22, is cancer free and is a senior nursing major at the University of Tennessee Martin. He is the president of UT Martin's chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Turnage said his fraternity has worked to raise money for hospitals affiliated with the Children's Miracle Network, such as St. Jude.

"I never had one bad nurse there," he said. "They were so caring and nice. They would ask about me and my family and get to know us."

At 6 feet 6 inches tall, Turnage said the hardest part of his treatment was not being able to play football at school. He said he began golfing in the eighth grade.

"I'm grateful to still have my leg," he said. "But I always wondered what it would have been like to play sports. I loved football and always had to watch from the sidelines because I would always get sick."

Turnage's mother, Deborah Turnage, said her son's first surgery to remove the tumor was six and a half hours long. She said he underwent chemotherapy every other week for one year because the tumor kept returning.

Deborah said knowing of her son's courage

"The main thing I want to do is inspire others," he said.

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Turnage's mother, Deborah Turnage, said her son's first surgery to remove the tumor was six and a half hours long. She said he underwent chemotherapy every other week for one year because the tumor kept returning.

Deborah said knowing of her son's courage
as he endured his treatment made her into a stronger person.

"The first surgery was heartbreaking," she said. "There was the thought of letting go. But that child was so strong through every bit of it. He never complained."

Deborah said Turnage will graduate in the spring of 2013 with a bachelor's of science in nursing. She said it was her son's dream to work at St. Jude.

"It makes me smile that he wants to help others," she said. "He is so caring. Everybody at St. Jude was so wonderful to us. They are like a family. We are so very proud of him."

Turnage said a quote, "The night's always darkest before dawn," inspired him to stay strong.

"Even though things can get bad, they will get better," he said.

UT Martin forms partnership with rural school districts

The Jackson Sun - Jackson, Tn

Date: Jul 9, 2012

Section: Local News

Text Word Count: 275

Document Text

The University of Tennessee Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences has formed a new partnership with rural school districts to respond to the challenges that public education in Tennessee faces.

Cliff Sturdvant, field services director for the Tennessee Department of Education, Warner Pace, also of the Department of Education, and Dr. Mary Lee Hall, dean of the UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences, met with UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes last month to secure his signature on a formal understanding to establish the Northwest Tennessee Rural Education Collaborative.

The NWTREC aims to help its members as they strive to improve student outcomes and meet the educational needs of their communities, according to a news release from UT Martin.

NWTREC membership is open to school districts in the following Tennessee counties: Benton, Carroll, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley. The UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences serve as an ex-officio member. Twenty-three school districts from the nine counties have signed the agreement.

Members will work together to advance education in their respective school districts by collaborating on best practices.

The NWTREC recently completed work on its first project by partnering with the Upper Cumberland Region Southeast Tennessee Education Collaborative and Southwest Tennessee Education Collaborative to (Investing in Innovation) validation grant proposal, the release said. If funded, the grant will provide the school districts to focus on strategies to increase ACT scores for high school students to assure readiness for college.
UTM partners with rural school districts

The Jackson Sun

MARTIN — The University of Tennessee Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences has formed a partnership with Northwest Tennessee school districts to respond to the challenges that public education in Tennessee faces under a variety of reform initiatives aimed at improving student outcomes.

Cliff Sturdivant, field service director for the Tennessee Department of Education; Warner Pace, also of the Tennessee Department of Education; and Dr. Mary Lee Hall, dean of the UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences, met with UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes last month to secure his signature on a formal memorandum of understanding to establish the Northwest Tennessee Rural Education Collaborative.

The NWTREC aims to help its members as they strive to improve student outcomes and meet the educational needs of their communities, according to a news release from UT Martin.

NWTREC membership is open to school districts in the following Tennessee counties: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley. The UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences will serve as an ex-officio member. Twenty-three school directors from the nine counties have signed the memorandum.

Members will work together to advance education in their respective school districts by collaborating on projects of mutual interest.

The NWTREC recently completed work on its first project by partnering with the Upper Cumberland Region Collaborative, Southeast Tennessee Education Collaborative and Southwest Tennessee Education Collaborative to submit an i3 (Investing in Innovation) validation grant proposal, the release said. If funded, the grant will provide the opportunity for school districts to focus on strategies to increase ACT scores for high school students to assure readiness to attend college.

SCHOLARSHIP EARNED — The Martin Kiwanis Club congratulated its 2012 UT Martin $1,000 scholarship award winner, Bryelle White (left) of Martin. Miss White is a 2012 Westview honor graduate and will be a nursing major at UTM this fall. She recently attended the weekly Kiwanis luncheon to accept her award. Miss White is pictured with Martin Kiwanis Club president Lana Carpenter.
Final SOAR planned at UTM

Incoming freshmen who plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin during the fall semester can get prepared for college life by attending the final Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) program, scheduled July 16-17.

Students will get the opportunity to meet with academic advisors and register for classes; tour the campus, residence halls and University Village housing; receive information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and hear detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for freshmen the week before classes).

Students and parents will participate in a variety of informational sessions such as those on student health services, public safety, bookstore, student employment and other topics. Additional concurrent sessions are also scheduled for students and parents with topics including student activities, Greek life, housing and meal plans. Administrative offices will be open and students and parents will get additional time to visit with UT Martin personnel in housing, admissions and financial aid.

Advance SOAR registration is required, and in order to attend SOAR, students must have applied for admission and received a tentative or final acceptance letter.

For more information about SOAR or to register, visit www.utm.edu/soar-register or call 881-7027.

Teakwood Capital Appoints MD and CFO

Posted on July 10, 2012
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Teakwood Capital has appointed Vinse Davidson as managing director and chief financial officer. He has over 25 years of business experience, with significant roles in the financial and operational aspects of venture capital, real estate, computer systems management, and infrastructure construction.

PRESS RELEASE

Teakwood Capital is pleased to announce that Vinse Davidson has joined the firm as Managing Director, Chief Financial Officer. He has over 25 years of business experience with significant roles in the financial and operational aspects of venture capital, real estate, computer systems management, and infrastructure construction. Vinse will assist portfolio companies with finance and accounting, as well as perform fund-level financial duties. Previously, as a Partner and CFO with STARTech Early Ventures for twelve years, he was responsible for the finance, accounting, and administrative functions surrounding their venture investment funds and business acceleration initiatives in Richardson, Texas. His career also includes work for MasTec, Inc., a national construction company, as Division President and for TransNet Group Company, a commercial real estate developer and manager, as CFO of their Dallas Industrial Division. Between corporate careers, Vinse has provided CFO services for growth-stage companies on a consulting basis that included raising equity and loan capital and supporting mergers, operations and training. Vinse graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin in accounting and went on to receive a Master of Professional Accounting degree from The University of Texas at Austin. A licensed CPA, Vinse resides in Coppell, Texas.

About Teakwood Capital

Teakwood Capital is a Dallas, Texas private equity firm, that provides comprehensive equity financing in support of management teams aspiring to buy and grow companies. The firm’s Managing Directors bring over 160 years of combined operational and financial expertise to assist companies in realizing their full potential. Teakwood invests primarily in profitable businesses in Texas and neighboring states, with revenues under $25 Million.
The Dyer County School System has nine educators who earned the honor of being named Teacher of the Year by their peers for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Teachers selected for the honor included Robbie Eddings of Trimple Elementary School, Michelle Garner of Dyer County High School, Tina Greenlee of Dyer County High School, Lori Joyce of Holice Powell Elementary School, Crystal Lock of Finley Elementary School, Rhisonia Owsley of Newbern Elementary School, Torrye Palmer of Three Oaks Middle School, Jennifer Thompson of Northview Middle School and Emily Young of Fifth Consolidated Elementary School.

Three of those teachers went on to represent their district in the next step of the Tennessee Teacher of the Year competition: Greenlee, Palmer and Joyce earned the honor of representing their school system on the district level of the Teachers of the Year program.

Torrye Palmer

Torrye Palmer of Three Oaks Middle School earned systemwide Teacher of the Year for grades five through eight.

Palmer, who currently teaches special education in seventh and eighth grade at Three Oaks, holds a master's plus 30 hours, a Master of Science in Education - Elementary Education, Special Education K-12, and a Bachelor of Science in Education, all from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Palmer has served Three Oaks students since 2002. Prior to that, she served at Holice Powell and Halls Elementary School, a part-time contract employee for the state's Tennessee Infant Parent Services, and at the Northwest Counseling Center in the therapeutic nursery for at-risk or abused 3- to 5-year-olds.

Palmer's philosophy of teaching centers on the hope that one day all students with special needs will be accepted and included. The Three Oaks educator credits her inspiration for becoming an educator to her mother.

"Education started at home, was supported at school and was never expected to stop," said Palmer in her Teacher of the Year application. "All the necessary life skills and social behaviors were truly modeled appropriately by (my) mother. My goals and dreams were supported with the utmost confidence and encouragement. My mother was patient, kind and understanding at all times. She expected me to do my best and finish what I started. My mother (told me) to help others who were not as blessed. With joy in my heart for teaching and learning, I became a teacher - the 'mother' that so many children need."

Palmer has held membership in the parent-teacher organizations at Three Oaks, Holice Powell and Halls Elementary schools. She currently is a member of NEA, TEA, DECA, and the Tennessee, Northwest Tennessee and Memphis area councils of the Mathematics Teachers Association.

She was also honored as Teacher of the Year by Holice Powell in the 2001-2002 academic year, and has achieved Career Ladder Level One.

Palmer is involved in her church and her community, reaching those around her through Lake Road Baptist Church. Walk Across Tennessee, Relay for Life, Dyersburg/Dyer County Special Olympics, Agricultural Extension Service/Family Community Education, Dyer County Fair, "Friends" of TIPS, Dyersburg State Community College Booster Club, DSCC Alumni, DSCC College for Kids, Dyersburg High School Baseball Booster Club, DSHS Basketball Booster Club, DSHS Project Graduation, DCHS Project Graduation, Cotillion Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and various community fundraisers.

Lori Joyce

Lori Joyce of Holice Powell Elementary School earned systemwide Teacher of the Year for grades pre-K through fourth.

Joyce, who currently teaches fourth grade at Holice Powell, holds a master's in education with an emphasis on advanced elementary education K-8 and a Bachelor of Science in Education with a K-8 emphasis, both from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Joyce has served Holice Powell students since 2006. Prior to that, she served at Martin Primary School and Gleason School.

Palmer's philosophy of teaching lies within her firm belief that every child has the ability to learn.

"It is my job to help light the fire for the love of learning," said Joyce in the Teacher of the Year application. "Students must be taught to believe in themselves, to constantly strive to become better and to apply their knowledge to real-world situations."

The educator, who was also honored with the Holice Powell Blue Ribbon School Teacher Award in 2009, holds membership in the Christian Educators Association International, and the Character Counts committee.

Joyce is involved in her church and her community, teaching those around her through Harvest Baptist Church, after-school tutoring at Holice Powell, letters to the Armed Forces, the YMCA, daycare fundraisers and judging for pageants.

Other educators earning Teacher of the Year distinction at schools within the Dyer County School System:

Robbie Eddings

Robbie Eddings earned Teacher of the Year for Trimple Elementary School.

Eddings, who currently teaches third grade at Trimple, holds a pre-K through Grade 5 master's degree in curriculum and instruction, and a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education, all from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Eddings has served students at Trimple Elementary since 1999. She has also taught at Yorkville Elementary School.

She held membership in the Gibson County Education Association from 1992 to 1996, serving as president of the GCEA from 1997 until 1999.

Also named Trimple Teacher of the Year in 2006, Eddings also describes what may be the most priceless praise of all - many handwritten notes from her students declaring her the "best teacher ever."

She serves her church and her community as church pianist, Sunday School teacher, VBS teacher and director, served on several committees, five Upward Basketball teams and organized a community "Holly Day Tour of Homes" that raised over $3,000 for overseas missions.

Michelle Garner

Michelle Garner earned Teacher of the Year for Dyer County High School.

Garner, who currently teaches Spanish I and II for freshmen through seniors, holds a bachelor's degree in teaching English as a second language from Grand Canyon University and a degree in secondary education from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Garner has served students at DCHS since 2004. She has also taught at Crockett County High School and served as teacher mentor to new teachers in both systems.

She is a member of the Dyer County Education Association and the Tennessee Education Association. She has also served as a representative of the West Tennessee Teacher Study Council and as co-chair on various SACs and School Improvement committees.

She is active in her church and her community as a Vacation Bible School teacher, nursery worker, fill-in Sunday school teacher, director of the children's music program, ACH pre-K instructor and after-school tutor.
Barry Kendall

Barry Kendall earned Teacher of the Year for Dyer County High School.

Kendall, who currently teaches economics to DCHS students, holds a master's degree in administration from Trevecca University, and a Bachelor of Science in Business/Marketing from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a Bachelor of Science in Education, also from UT Martin.

Kendall just completed his sixth year at DCHS and his 26th year as an educator. He has been involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes for the past 15 years, has coached football for the past 10 years, and served as DCHS defensive coordinator for the past five years. Kendall was just named the DCHS football team's new head coach in April.

He also taught 10 years at Obion County High School.

Kendall is closely involved in his church, Mt. Ararat Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Troy, where he has been a member for 15 years. He has served as the youth leader and taught Sunday school, serving in one capacity or the other over his tenure there.

"I come from a family of school teachers," said Kendall. "My grandfather, grandmother, and sister were, and are, all teachers. I love being around kids and coaching and trying to help them be better citizens."

Crystal Lock

Crystal Lock earned Teacher of the Year for Finley Elementary School.

Lock, who currently teaches fourth grade at Finley, holds a master's degree in the art of teaching from Grand Canyon University, a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from the University of Tennessee at Martin and an associate degree from Dyer County State Community College.

She has served students at Finley Elementary since 2004.

Also named the Finley Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2009, Lock has held leadership positions with the School Leadership Team, the RTE team, as a member of the Superintendent's Teacher Advisory Board, and the Principal's Teacher Advisory Board, as Data Chair of the School Improvement Plan Committee and as Renaissance Administrator for FEES.

She runs her church and her community as a Sunday-school teacher and the leader of her church's puppet team, a volunteer to organize packages for soldiers in Afghanistan and Kuwait and as a volunteer for several holiday programs at local nursing homes.

Rhianne Owsley

Rhianne Owsley earned Teacher of the Year for Newbern Elementary School.

Owsley, who currently teaches pre-K students at Newbern Elementary, holds a degree in early education from Jackson State Community College and a degree in human learning pre-K through 8 from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Owsley has served Newbern Elementary students since 2005.

She is a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Owsley has served her community as a mentor during a job-shadowing program with Dyer County High School. She has also volunteered in food drives, drives for Charity and fundraising for community organizations through the J-Cribs.

Emily Young

Emily Young earned Teacher of the Year for Fifth Consolidated Elementary School.

Young, who currently teaches fourth grade at Fifth Consolidated, holds a master's degree in advanced elementary education and a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Tennessee at Martin. She plans to attend the University of Tennessee to obtain a principal certificate in the future.

She has served students at Fifth Consolidated since 2006.

A previous member of the Tennessee Education Association, Young has led her school as a member of its Instructional Leadership Team, the coordinator of the school's 504 Plan, a member of the Superintendent's Advisory Board, fourth-grade representative on the RTE team, a member of the Honor's Day committee and as an organizer of the first ICAAP in Dyer County.

She serves her church and her community as a nursery and children's church teacher, and a pastor's problem relations committee member. Her heavy involvement in Dyer County Relay for Life is in honor of her best friend's daughter, who lost her battle with medulloblastoma at just 20 months old.
Westview students place at UTM Foreign Languages Day

Nick Hart and Samantha Bell, both students at Westview High School, won second place in the Spanish Video category during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day on April 19. Pictured are (left to right) Dr. Randy Garza, associate professor of Spanish; Hart; Bell; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

(Pictured on the left): Frankie Whitman (right), a student at Westview High School, won first place in the French Posters category during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day on April 19. Whitman is pictured with (left to right) Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; Dr. Bob Peckham, professor of French; and Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.
Alyssa Arnold, Sarah Wade, Heather Peckham and Georgina Brown, all students at Westview High School, won third place in the French Language Bowl during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day on April 19. Pictured are (left to right) Dr. Rob Peckham, professor of French; Arnold; Wade; Heather Peckham; Brown; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

Jeff King, Yvie Garcia, Leah Owen and Chase Thweat, all students at Westview High School, won first place in the French Language Bowl during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day on April 19. Pictured are (left to right) Dr. Bob Peckham, professor of French; King; Garcia; Owen; Thweat; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.
Georgia Brown, Sarah Wade, Heather Peckham and Jeff King, all students at Westview High School, won first place in the French Video category during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day on April 19. Pictured are (left to right) Dr. Bob Peckham, professor of French; Brown; Wade; Heather Peckham; King; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

Rachel DeVaughn and Jessica Fowler, both students at Westview High School, won second place in the French Posters category during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day on April 19. Pictured are (left to right) Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; Dr. Bob Peckham, professor of French; and Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; DeVaughn; and Fowler.

Final SOAR for incoming freshmen scheduled July 16-17 at UT Martin

Incoming freshmen who plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin during the fall semester can get prepared for college life by attending the final Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) program, scheduled July 16-17.

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Students and parents will participate in a variety of informational sessions such as those on student health services, public safety, bookstore, student employment and other topics. Additional concurrent sessions are also scheduled for students and parents with topics including student activities, Greek life, housing and meal plans. Administrative offices will be open and students and parents will get additional time to visit with UT Martin personnel in housing, admissions and financial aid.

Advance SOAR registration is required, and in order to attend SOAR, students must have applied for admission and received a tentative or final acceptance letter.

For more information about SOAR or to register visit www.utm.edu/soarregister, or call 731-881-7027.
Local students recognized at UT Martin Communications Day

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. Chad Brewer, of Sharon, received the TAB Award. Rodney Freed, instructor of communications, presented the award. Brewer also received the WLJTV Scholarship.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. Kara Kidwell, of Dresden, received the University Public Relations Workshop Award. Bud Grimes, director of university relations, presented the award. Kidwell also received the Faculty Preps Award and the Senior Scholarship.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. Casey Hazlewood, of Martin, received the Dr. Jerald Ogg Communication/Public Relations Award. Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice-chancellor for academic affairs, presented the award.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. Natalie Medling, of Greenfield, received the Virgil Warren Hoyer Memorial Award. Dr. Jeff Hoyer, associate professor of communications, presented the award.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. Kristen Harrington, of Martin, and Jennifer Nichols, of Union City, received the Wayne Tansil Scholarship. Tomi Parrish, instructor of communications, presented the awards.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. Leah McWhorter, of Gleason, received the Darrin Devault PR Scholarship. Dr. Jeff Hoyer, associate professor of communications, presented the award.

TSU, UTM offering reduced tuition

NASHVILLE (AP) — Tennessee State University hopes to boost its graduation rate with high-achieving students from out of state. A similar initiative is being offered at University of Tennessee-Martin.

TSU will discount tuition for out-of-state students next semester by 50 percent, providing they have a 3.0 grade point average. The Tennessean reported Interim University President Portia Shields expects about 500 students will receive the discounted rate in the fall.

The cost for tuition and fees for 15 credit hours will be about $3,500 per semester — only slightly above the in-state rate. Returning out-of-state students will automatically receive the discount if they meet the grade requirement.

At the University of Tennessee-Martin, out-of-state students with a 3.5 GPA and an ACT score of at least 25 will pay the in-state tuition rate.
UT Martin names Andrew Wilson to fill vice chancellor’s position

Andrew Wilson, associate vice president for university development at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, is the new vice chancellor for university advancement for the University of Tennessee at Martin.

His appointment follows a national search for the position.

“Andrew will be a great addition to the UT Martin family and UT Foundation,” said Johnnie Ray, president of the University of Tennessee Foundation. “He brings an extensive background in both fundraising and alumni relations to this role and has a real understanding of the university and its aspirations.”

Wilson, who has a bachelor’s degree from Campbellsville University in Kentucky, has worked in higher education for 22 years. His fundraising efforts have involved campaigns in excess of $60 million, including the most successful single-year total of $87.4 million raised in fiscal year 2011 at Tennessee Tech.

He and his wife, Ami, have two children, Emily and David.

“I am excited about the opportunity to join the UT Martin community and become part of such a special institution,” Wilson said. “I look forward to working with the chancellor, alumni, faculty, students and staff as we actively seek philanthropic support. Despite the current economic climate, there is tremendous opportunity to engage with those who care about Martin and are committed to its future success.”

Wilson succeeds Len Solomon, who will become a senior major gifts officer for the university July 31. Solomon led UT Martin in the recent seven-year Campaign for Tennessee during which a record $58 million was raised for the university.

UT Martin serves almost 8,000 students through the Martin campus and centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley and Selmer.

“We had four excellent finalists for the position and we’re fortunate to have Mr. Wilson as UT Martin’s vice chancellor for university advancement,” said Dr. Tom Hakes, UT Martin chancellor. “He brings many years of experience in philanthropy at a time when private support for the university is more important than ever.”

The UT Foundation is an independent not-for-profit created in 2001 to support the University of Tennessee’s educational, research and public activities. As the preferred channel for all private contributions that benefit UT students and faculty, foundation staff members work with alumni and other prospective donors to secure funds for scholarships, professorships, research, outreach programs and other university initiatives.

Final SOAR program set at UTM

Incoming freshmen who plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin during the fall semester can get prepared for college life by attending the final Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) program, set for July 16-17.

Students will get the opportunity to meet with academic advisers and register for classes; tour the campus, residence halls and University Village housing; receive information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and hear detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for freshmen the week before classes).

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Administrative offices will be open and students and parents will get additional time to visit with UT Martin personnel in housing, admissions and financial aid.

Advance SOAR registration is required and, in order to attend SOAR, students must have applied for admission and received a tentative or final acceptance letter.

For more information about SOAR or to register, visit www.utk.edu/soar-register or call (731) 881-7027.
WRITE ON — The University of Tennessee at Martin West Tennessee Writing Project (WTWP) recently sponsored the Young Writers Summer Camp for grades 3-12. Campers wrote poetry, short stories and persuasive essays and shared their work with family and friends in a public read. Participants included (from left, front row) Anne Carothers of Martin, Jackson Griffey of Paris, Amber Weak of Union City, Zakaria Fallon Adams of Milan, (back row) Alex Hoy of Martin, teacher Kristy Dowden of Union City, Benjamin Wade of Sharon, teacher Lena Warren of Union City, Kaitlyn Courtney of Dresden, teacher Mary Perry of Martin, Keely Stokes of Sharon and Sam Anderson of Jackson. WTWP will host a Young Writers Clubhouse Nov. 3. For more information, visit www.utm.edu/wtp.

24 criminal justice majors begin hands-on forensics

Twenty-four students from 10 universities descended upon Oak Ridge Monday for the National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program. The program is a joint venture between the University of Tennessee at Martin and the University of Tennessee Law Enforcement Innovation Center. The students will spend three weeks at the LEIC facility in Oak Ridge in an abbreviated version of the center’s well-known 10-week, in-residence crime scene investigator training. They will study basic crime scene management, forensic digital photography, latent fingerprint processing, bloodstain analysis and forensic anthropology under the same instructors who teach at the 10-week academy.

“We are extremely pleased with the amount of interest we received in this first-time program,” said Don Green, LEIC executive director. “Our staff and the staff of the UT Martin criminal justice department have done a great job preparing this program and making sure that the students will receive the same top-notch instruction that we provide to crime scene investigators from around the country.”

UT Martin will have 16 students attending the academy, while UT Knoxville, East Tennessee State University, Bethel University, Tennessee Technological University and Dyersburg State Community College each have one student at the academy. Other students are enrolled at Regis University, the University of North Alabama, Whittier College in California and Wichita State University in Kansas.

“In response to the increasing demand for higher education to produce graduates with real workforce skills, our partnership with LEIC enables us to provide an unparalleled practical experience for our students and demonstrates the strength of the state-wide UT System,” said Dr. Brian Donavant, assistant director of the UT Martin criminal justice program. The tremendous response to this innovative program and the number of applications already coming in for next year’s class testify to our students’ drive to become more competitive as they seek jobs in this growing area of criminal justice.”
Final SOAR for freshmen scheduled at UT Martin

Orientation scheduled
July 16 - 17

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UTM final SOAR July 16-17

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UTM teacher ed grads highly rated

University of Tennessee at Martin teacher education graduates are highly rated by the schools that employ them, based on results of a recent employer survey conducted by the university.

The survey is required every two years by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The UT Martin teacher education program is both NCATE accredited and approved by the state of Tennessee.

Employers were asked to compare UT Martin teacher education graduates with teachers in their schools who possessed similar experience. Twenty-five percent of respondents ranked the University's teacher education graduates in the top-10 percent, while 38 percent ranked them in the top 30 percent.

"Eighty percent of the respondents stated that UT Martin teacher education graduates possess 'in-depth content knowledge,'" said Dr. Mary Lee Hall, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences dean. Hall added that teacher education graduates ranked a four (out of five) on "designing units of instruction that focus on state standards," a 4.2 on using technology to enhance and extend learning tasks, and a four on exhibiting and promoting ethical and professional behavior as a teacher.

"There were a total of 68 respondents to the survey, which was sent to approximately 120 administrators," Hall said. "A return rate of 57 percent is phenomenal."

Of those responding to the survey, Hall said that 50 percent were principals, 7.1 percent assistant principals, 10.7 percent school directors, 30.4 percent supervisors and 1.8 percent board office employees. The majority of school-level administrators responding were in the elementary and high school settings.

"The results indicate that school districts across West Tennessee are very satisfied with the quality of teacher education graduates produced by the UT Martin teacher education program," Hall added.

Some of Tennessee's best and brightest high school juniors and seniors attended the four-week long Governor's School for the Humanities (GSH) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. UT Martin has hosted the GSH program since 1985, and this was the ninth year students were able to earn college credit. Pictured is Jed Finley, a resident of Dyersburg and student at Dyersburg High School.
Road signs are tribute to Summitt's legacy

A local business owner has created a way to publicly honor legendary Coach Pat Head Summitt.

Paul Tinkle, owner and general manager of Thunderbolt Broadcasting (WCMT), said after Summitt publicly announced her retirement this spring, he wanted to do his part to show the coach how proud the community was of her success.

"I felt this was a way for the City of Martin to recognize her and let people know that for four years, Martin, Tennessee, was home to one of the winningest coaches in history. This is where she got her secondary education and these signs are a way to say we are proud you chose Martin," Tinkle said.

With the blessing of the City of Martin, Tinkle commissioned the funds to have four highway signs bearing "Martin TN College Home of Coach Pat Head Summitt, sponsored by WCMT Sports" stampled to be located at the four entrances into the City of Martin.

One sign is placed on East Main Street near the Weakley Farmer's Co-op; a second is located near the Martin Recreation Complex; the third is placed in between South Fulton and Martin on Highway 45 North; and a fourth sign is located near Highway 431 and Walmart.

The only cost to the taxpayers was in the form of labor to place the signs at the four locations.

Tinkle lauded the efforts of Martin Public Works Director Billy Wagster in securing the signs' locations.

With gas lines, electrical and telephone lines as factors in their locations, Tinkle said Wagster took the project very personal to ensure the signs were prominently and safely located around Martin.

"After she announced her retirement I went to the city asking for their blessing and I was overwhelmed with their support. I like it when the community can give back to the city and it is nice for us to be a part of it. It also puts a spin on when people are traveling through Martin. It might prompt people to stop and want to take a tour of UT Martin or see where she played basketball at Pat head Summitt Court," Tinkle added.

Long-time friend Donna Wilson said she spoke with Summitt after she was sent pictures of the signs and Summitt said she was absolutely honored by the gesture and looked forward to seeing them in the fall when she plans to return to her Alma mater.

Tinkle and Summitt were classmates at UTM.

The business owner also commissioned signs in Dresden in honor of basketball legends and natives Popeye Jones and Coach Lin Dunn.
Criminal justice majors to get hands-on experience

Twenty-four students from 10 universities descended upon Oak Ridge Monday for the National Forensic Academy College Program. The program is a joint venture between the University of Tennessee at Martin and the University of Tennessee Law Enforcement Innovation Center. The students will spend three weeks at the LEIC facility in Oak Ridge in an abbreviated version of the center’s well-known 10-week, in-residence crime scene investigator training. They will study basic crime scene management, forensic digital photography, latent fingerprint processing, bloodstain analysis and forensic anthropology under the same instructors who teach at the 10-week academy.

“We are extremely pleased with the amount of interest we received in this first-time program,” said Don Greer, LEIC executive director. “Our staff and the staff of the UT Martin criminal justice department have done a great job preparing this program and making sure that the students will receive the same top-notch instruction that we provide to crime scene investigators from around the country.”

UT Martin has 16 students attending the academy, while UT Knoxville, East Tennessee State University, Bethel University, Tennessee Technological University and Dyerburg State Community College each have one student at the academy. Several other students are enrolled at Regis University, the University of North Alabama, Whittier College in California and Wichita State University in Kansas.

“In response to the increasing demand for higher education to produce graduates with real workforce skills, our partnership with LEIC enables us to provide an unparalleled practical experience for our students and demonstrates the strength of the statewide UT System,” said Dr. Brian Donavan, assistant director of the UT Martin criminal justice program.

“The tremendous response to this innovative program and the number of applications already coming in for next year’s class testify to our students’ drive to become more competitive as they seek jobs in this growing area of criminal justice.”

FirstBank associate promoted

A member of FirstBank’s local staff of banking professionals has recently moved up to a new position with the company.

Justin Muller is now serving as relationship manager and loan officer at FirstBank’s downtown Paris branch.

A three-year associate with FirstBank, Muller is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin with a degree in accounting.

“I am excited to have Justin join our lending team,” Troy Buttrey, president of the FirstBank in Paris, said. “Justin’s accounting background and analytical skills will assist FirstBank to expand our commercial and small business opportunities going forward in Henry County.”

Muller is the son of Mary Gail and Herb Muller and the grandson of Hannah Crosser and the late Bill Crosser.

Justin Muller lives in Paris with his wife, Whitney. “Justin will be an outstanding banker because of his willingness and desire to listen and understand customer needs,” Buttrey said.

Headquartered in Lexington with 54 locations across the southeastern USA, FirstBank is the third largest Tennessee-based banking company and boasts more than $2 billion in total assets.

Hurt finishes UTM degree

Christina Hurt, who is the daughter of Daniel and Nancy Hurt of Paris, graduated magna cum laude from the University of Tennessee at Martin during commencement this spring.

While at the university, she was a member of Phi Kappa Phi.

She now plans to attend the Academy of Art in San Francisco to pursue a master’s degree in graphic design.
Buckelew joins local law office

BY BILL McCUTCHEON
POST-INTELLIGENCER

Henry County native Jeremy Buckelew has joined the law office of Shon Johnson as an associate attorney. The office is located at 809 E. Wood St. in Paris.

Buckelew worked as a probation and parole officer for the Tennessee Board of Probation and Parole. A 1997 graduate of Henry County High School, he also attended the University of Tennessee at Martin and was a graduate of the Nashville School of Law in December 2011. He was licensed to practice law beginning in April.

His general practice will include family law, juvenile law, probate, civil litigation, wills and estates.

He and his wife, Whitney, a licensed speech therapist, have three children: Cade, Kenna and Case.

Contact Buckelew at the office by calling 731-407-7272.
Buckelew joins local law office
BY BILL McCUTCHEON
POST-INTELLIGENCER
Published: Thursday, July 12, 2012 11:44 AM CDT

Henry County native Jeremy Buckelew has joined the law office of Shin Johnson as an associate attorney. The office is located at 809 E. Wood St. in Paris.

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He was licensed to practice law beginning in April. His general practice will include family law, juvenile law, probate, civil litigation, wills and estates.

He and his wife, Whitney, a licensed speech therapist, have three children: Code, Kenna and Case.

Buckelew has been on road board for 18 years

Bobby Milam is a candidate to become Henry County road board chairman.

Milam grew up in Buchanan, where his parents, Bob and Ina Milam, still live. He graduated from Henry County High School in 1982 and attended the University of Tennessee at Martin. He's married to the former Donna Owens and they have two children, Sarah and Russell, both of whom will be attending UT Martin this fall.

The Milams live in the Elkhorn community, where Milam makes his living raising beef cattle.

Prior to moving into farming, he worked for Midland-Brake (now Haldex) for four years, Emerson Electric for 11 years and Dana Corp. for 10 years. Most of those years were spent in the supervisory or technical management capacity.

Milam said he left the manufacturing business in 2009 and assumed full responsibility of the family's farming operation following the death of his father-in-law, Joel Owens.

He has served in the Navy Reserves and the Tennessee Army National Guard and was discharged honorably from both branches. He is vice president of the Henry County Farm Bureau board of directors, past president and still a member of the Henry County Fair Board, a deacon at Sulphur Well Church of Christ, and past master of the Buchanan Masonic Lodge.

"I have had the honor of representing the citizens of the Third District for the past eighteen years on the Henry County road board," Milam said. "I have served as co-chairman of this board for the past twelve years. I have always tried to be open-minded, fair and honest in the decision-making process while conducting the business of the county pertaining to the road system.

"As a taxpayer, I understand that our money must be used in the most effective way to benefit all the citizens of the county. I am very focused on trying to avoid wasteful spending and will use the business knowledge that I have obtained over time, along with some common sense thinking to continue to help guide the decisions we must make to manage the budget we have to work with. I have enjoyed working with the current board and look forward to continuing my service if elected as chairman."
Aditya Thota, a University School of Jackson student, won third place in the eighth-grade competition at the 2012 Middle School/Upper School Mathematics Contest. The competition was held at the University of Tennessee Martin and was sponsored by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Dr. Richard Helgeson, dean of the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, presented the trophy.

The WestStar African-American Leadership Conference Outstanding Emerging Leader Award (for people over age 40) was presented at this year's 14th annual conference in Jackson to Nell Huntspon, left, of Jackson. The award was presented by Harold Nance, president of Nance Investments in Alamo. He is a member of the WestStar Board of Trustees and WestStar Class of 2002.

Devin Parker, of Jackson, received the Outstanding Environmental Management Student Award from the University of Tennessee Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Pictured are, from left, Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Parker; and Dr. Timothy Burnham, professor and interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources.
The following area undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2012 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls. To be eligible for this recognition, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit and achieve a 3.2 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor’s Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

ARLINGTON

**Highest Honors:** James G. Allen, Sara N. Christopher, Kristi L. Edwards, Casey A. Haynes, Malorie S. Lullof, Jeremy W. Meister, Rachel A. Riales

**High Honors:** Brittany M. Balderama, Justin J. Barnes, William H. Edwards, Kathleen A. McCullough, Hannah K. Northam, Kristen N. Watts

**Honors:** Chelsea L. Cross, Jessica L. Drum, Disante K. Johnson, Alexander L. McLemore, Brittany R. Napa, Julie T. Phan, Brian M. Rose, Amanda M. Slinker, Ryan D. Williams

BARTLETT

**Highest Honors:** Neil B. Allen, Jamie R. Arnett, Elizabeth E. Baucue, Christopher G. Bell, Jason F. Bennett, Robert T. Cox, Katrina Hansen, Paul J. Jones, Lindsey E. Miles, Sarah K. Saunders

**High Honors:** Joseph C. Fish, Nathan D. Hutchinson, Catherine R. Jarvis, Stephanie M. Klink, Jessica P. McLean, Lauren B. Moore, Joshua A. Myers, Jocillic D. Nickellberry, Aaron Rowberry

**Honors:** Brandon P. Barnes, Stephen B. Borodkin, Jake P. Deason, Nathan B. Reynolds, Folasayo D. Salami, Amanda M. Sutter, Emily G. Ward, Klaree White

COLLIERSVILLE

**Highest Honors:** Arden T. Brannon, Matthew D. Brooks, Charlotte D. Davis, Payton R. Mink, Joseph A. Moore, Katherine G. Sutherland, Ashley M. Taylor

**High Honors:** Grace E. Benefiel, Jonathan E. Bergmark, Krista E. Beyer, Sean S. Boers, Sarah K. Bowser, Bethany L. Burkeen, Kimberly A. Hall, Nataela Q. McGhee, Catherine E. Person, Devlin V. Smith

**Honors:** Lauren G. Briggs, David H. Britcliffe, Kimberly M. Bryant, Ashley L. Burkeen, David M. Giles, Johanna L. Jackson, Michael J. Mancini, Brittnie C. Meskimen, Cody S. Miller, Courtney R. Morrison, Mark A. Robinson, Sarah K. Sutton

CORDOVA

**Highest Honors:** Laura C. McFall, Lara Payne, Kelsey Regen, Joseph W. Zirnyar

**High Honors:** Joseph M. Cook, Zach M. Morphis, Justine J. Steele, Joshua G. Stonecipher, Xiuli Zhou

**Honors:** Rachel N. Dunphy, Alexandria C. Mulvaney, Lindsey N. Northcott

EADS

**Highest Honors:** Amanda R. Daniel, Jamie L. Presley

GERMANTOWN

**Highest Honors:** Brittni A. Brewer, Jessica E. Couch, Matthew H. Nickell, Robert C. Smalley, Anna L. Tankersley, Joshua R. Weiss, Sarah B. Weiss

**High Honors:** Greer B. Crocker, Kelsey B. Lavelle, Sarah E. Martin, Christine A. Pick, Tegan T. Thomas, Christopher C. Wiggins, Kenneth R. Williams

**Honors:** Amy E. Guenther, Nathan D. Jolley, Victoria R. Taylor

MEMPHIS

**Highest Honors:** Elizabeth C. Anderson, Jada A. Brandon, Angelica S. Butler, Lauren E. Conley, Jarmesha K. Gladney, Anthony J. Hollister, Donielle A. Hubbard, Celeste S. Johnson, LaQuita L. Johnson, Symphony R. Johnson, April N. Kizer, Kirsten J. McKnight, Marshae N. Meeks, Tekia R. Rainey, Tandrea D. Sain, Lawanda N. Virgoes, Dwayne Westbrook


MILLINGTON

**Highest Honors:** Thomas T. Bowen, William P. Woodard

**High Honors:** Mark G. Harris, Amanda J. Ridley, Chanekqua J. Watson, Jacob D. Wilson

**Honors:** Leann F. Albert, Arlisa N. Hopkins, Deborah L. Long, Wilson G. Prestage, James V. Smith, Mary E. Wilson
Cancer battle guides survivor’s career path

Bells native hopes to be nurse at hospital where he was treated

By Priya Narapareddy

Charles Turnage of Bells has a scar behind his right knee that serves as a reminder of the five surgeries and a year of chemotherapy he endured, beginning at the age of 6, to remove a solid tumor buried in the root of his muscle.

Yet above his scar is a tattoo that reads, “I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me.”

Turnage, a former patient at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital of Memphis, risked having his leg amputated because of the tumor. He said he encourages children who are going through chemotherapy to never lose hope.

Turnage said he hopes to work at St. Jude to give back to the doctors and nurses who cared for him while he was being treated.

“The main thing I want to do is inspire others,” he said.

Turnage, now 22, is cancer free and is a senior nursing major at the University of Tennessee Martin. He is the president of UT Martin’s chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Turnage said his fraternity has worked to raise money for hospitals affiliated with the Children’s Miracle Network, such as St. Jude.

“I never had one bad nurse there,” he said. “They were so caring and nice. They would ask about me and my family and get to know us.”

At 6 feet 6 inches tall, Turnage said the hardest part of his treatment was not being able to play football at school.

See TURNAGE, Page A4

Charles Turnage is thankful for the care he received as a patient and now wants a career in health care. MICHELLE GACHET/THE JACKSON SUN

Turnage

Continued from Page A1

He said he began golfing in the eighth grade.

“Tum grateful to still have my leg,” he said. “I always wondered what it would have been like to play sports. I loved football and always had to watch from the sidelines because I would always get sick.”

Turnage’s mother, Deborah Turnage, said her son’s first surgery to remove the tumor was six and a half hours long. She said he underwent chemotherapy every other week for one year because the tumor kept returning.

Deborah said knowing of her son’s courage as he endured his treatment made her into a stronger person.

“The first surgery was heartbreaking,” she said. “There was the thought of letting go. But that child was so strong through every bit of it. He never complained.”

Deborah said Turnage will graduate in the spring of 2013 with a bachelor’s of science in nursing. She said it was her son’s
Charles Turnage poses for a portrait at his home on July 11 in Bells. Turnage started playing golf when he was 12 years old. As a child, he risked having his leg amputated because of a tumor. He is now cancer free.

Michele Gach | THE JACKSON SUN

Charles Turnage said a quote, “The night’s always darkest before dawn,” inspired him to stay strong. “Even though things can get bad, they will get better,” he said.

Priya Narapareddy, 425-5616

dream to work at St. Jude. “It makes me smile that he wants to help others,” she said. “He is so caring. Everybody at St. Jude was so wonderful to us. They are like a family. We are so very proud of him.”
The University of Tennessee Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to recognize the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Terry Goulder, UT Martin alumnus and co-executive producer at Oprah Winfrey's Harpo Studios. Katelyn Long, of Jackson, received the Freshman Scholarship. Dr. Arthur Hunt, assistant professor of communications, presented the award.

Some of Tennessee's best and brightest high school juniors and seniors attended the four-week Governor's School for the Humanities at the University of Tennessee at Martin. UT Martin has hosted the GSH program since 1985, and this was the ninth year students were able to earn college credit. Shelby County students attending included (front row, left to right) Alycia Gilbert, Collierville High School; Tyler Huss, Houston High School; Amanda Lewellyn, Arlington High School; Elline Cai, Collierville High School; (back row, from left) Kaitlyn Singleton, Germantown High School; Victoria Gray, Germantown High School; Hayley Roth, St. Mary's Episcopal School; Anderson Spearman, Millington Central High.
VISIT TO THE FARM — Recently, students from the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin visited the farm of U.S. Rep. Stephen Fincher in Frog Jump.

While Fincher did discuss his activities as a member of Congress, mostly he shared his passion for farming and agriculture. Fincher grew up on the family farm and continues the business.

Stines named ED for West TN ACS

Donna Stines has been named executive director for the West Tennessee market of the American Cancer Society. She will oversee ACS development and mission-related activities in Madison, Carroll, Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Dyet, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Lake, Lauderdale, McNairy and Weakley counties.

She replaces Melody Harper, who has taken a position with the American Cancer Society in the Knoxville area.

Stines, of Jackson, has worked with the Society for 10 years. She previously served as a development representative, Relay For Life training director and most recently, as West Tennessee Relay For Life field director.

For information about the American Cancer Society, connections to programs and services or volunteer opportunities, call 1-800-227-2345 or visit online at www.cancer.org.

Donna Stines

“I am excited about this new opportunity to continue the fight in the West Tennessee area to eradicate cancer,” she said.

The American Cancer Society works to save lives and create a world with less cancer and more birthdays by helping people stay well through early detection and prevention efforts and get well by offering information, support and programs and services to cancer patients and caregivers. The Society also works to find cures through research to better detect, treat and prevent cancer, plus rallies communities together to fight back against the disease through advocacy, awareness and events like Relay For Life, Runway For A Cure and Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.

Stines is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is married to Jeremy Stines and the couple has two children, Drew and Hailey.
UTM students earn national honors

Cayce Gilmore of Pigeon Forge; Marilauren Anderson of Friendship; and Chris Martin of Hermitage, recently attended the National Education Association (NEA) Conference in Washington, D.C. and received national honors.

Gilmore, an elementary education (K-6) major, was named a State Student Leader and was one of only three students in the nation elected to the NEA Board of Directors by the NEA Student Program delegates at the Student Leadership Conference. She will serve a one-year term.

Anderson, also an elementary education (K-6) major, represented the Tennessee Education Association at the NEA Representative Assembly by supporting a business item concerning bankruptcy and student loans. She negotiated an amendment with the maker of the motion and presented that amendment to 9,000 delegates. Her leadership resulted in a change of position by the Tennessee state delegation from “no position” to “support.” The item passed by vote of the national delegation.

Martin, a special education (K-12) major, was publicly recognized for his work on the NEA Committee for Human and Civil Rights throughout the 2011-12 academic year.

All three students serve as state officers for the Tennessee Student Teacher Education Association (STEa) and as local officers for the University of Tennessee at Martin chapter. At the conference, the UT Martin chapter of STEa also received an award for “Local Excellence” for chapters with 201 members or more. This is a national award equivalent to “Outstanding Chapter of the Year.”

This award is presented to three local student chapters that have achieved excellence throughout the year by providing members with leadership and development opportunities in the areas of teacher quality, community outreach and political action. Chapters are categorized based on membership size. For more information, contact Beth Quick, chair of the Department of Educational Studies, at 881-7210 or by email at bquick@utm.edu.

Students earn UTM scholarships

Two local students have been awarded scholarships for the 2012-13 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

- Brittany Lyell of Rives, daughter of Barry and Sharron Lyell, will be a junior, She received the Rehabilitation Corporation Scholarship.
- Laura Gullett of Martin, daughter of Jacky and Nell Gullett, will be a senior, Ms. Gullett was awarded three scholarships for the upcoming academic year. She received the Alpha Omicron Pi Mother’s Club Scholarship, Aspiring Women Scholarship and Wilson UJJC Scholarship.

UTM communications tower coming down

A 320-foot communications tower, a University of Tennessee at Martin campus landmark for more than four decades, will come down Thursday in a scheduled demolition.

The tower is located near the intersection of Moody and Hurt streets across from the university’s steam plant. Preparation work by All State Tower of Henderson, Ky., began Monday, followed by the closing of the adjacent parking lot and street parking Wednesday. All work will proceed weather permitting.

A new communications tower, located just south of the old tower, was completed in 2011. The new tower and equipment building offer improved features, including updated tower lighting, backup emergency power and security.

The new tower and equipment building ensure that public safety communications equipment, WUTM-FM and WLJJ-DT public television station can stay on the air during emergency situations or power outages, according to a press release issued by UTM.

WUTM is the university’s student-operated radio station.
Writing Project at UT Martin

Eight teachers earned 52 Renewal Points at UT Martin by participating in the 20th Invitational Summer Institute of the West Tennessee Writing Project (WTWP), May 12 and June 4-June 14. Teachers shared demonstrations on using writing across the curriculum, learned how to incorporate more technology in their teaching, and honed their writing skills in small peer groups. Pictured (front row, left to right): Shannon Shelton, Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Middle School; Angela Murray, Lauderdale Middle School; Jamie Babb, Dresden Middle School; Megan Barker, Three Oaks Middle School; Erica Ashby-Kennedy, West Carroll Elementary School; Darla Davidson, Three Oaks Middle School. (back row, left to right): Dr. David Carithers, associate professor of English and director of the West Tennessee Writing Project; Donna Martin, Jackson Careers and Technology Magnet Elementary; Gwen Hardy, Dresden Elementary School; Doug Billings, Lauderdale Middle School and Summer Institute facilitator.

Local student receives scholarships to attend UTM

A Weakley County student has been awarded three scholarships for the 2012-2013 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions. Laura Gullott, daughter of Jacky and Nell Gullott, will be a senior. She received the Alpha Omicron Pi Mother's Club Scholarship, Aspiring Women Scholarship and Wilson UTJC Scholarship.
Summitt’s courage lauded at ESPYS

UT Sports Information

LOS ANGELES – Joining an incredibly-distinguished list of honorees, Tennessee Women’s Basketball Head Coach Emeritus Pat Summitt became the latest recipient of the Arthur Ashe Courage Award Wednesday night at the ESPYS.

The Arthur Ashe Courage Award is presented to individuals whose contributions transcend sports. Summitt not only has done that during her coaching career, but she displayed amazing courage in coaching the Lady Vols during the 2011-12 season despite being diagnosed last August with early onset dementia, Alzheimer’s type.

After legendary Volunteer and NFL quarterback Peyton Manning set the stage by sharing about the influence that Summitt has had on so many, Tennessee-raised actress Reese Witherspoon narrated a poignant video tribute that traced the footprints of Summitt’s impactful life and how she has been an example to others through dealing with the challenge that has come her way.

Following a lengthy standing ovation from the star-studded audience, Manning presented the Ashe Award to Summitt. She was joined on stage by son Tyler, a former Vol basketball player and now an assistant women’s basketball coach at Marquette University.

“I’ve always said, you win in life with people,” Summitt said as she addressed the crowd.

“And I have been so blessed to have great people in my life. My son, Tyler, and I appreciate all of your support.

“It is time to fight, and I ask all of you to join together with me, so we will win. I can tell you, tonight I am deeply touched as all of you heard my story. I’m going to keep on keeping on. I promise you that.”

We Back Pat car in Bristol field

2011 Daytona 500 winner Trevor Bayne will pilot an orange-themed car at the NASCAR Nationwide Series’ Food City 250 at Bristol Motor Speedway on Aug. 24 for a very special Tennessee fan who will drive a “We Back Pat”-themed Roush Fenway Ford sponsored by YourChoiceCar.com in honor of UT Martin alum and Lady Vols’ head coach emeritus Pat Summitt.

The promotion is designed to raise national awareness of The Pat Summitt Foundation’s mission and contribution to the fight against Alzheimer’s disease. Summitt, the all-time winningest coach in NCAA basketball history who won eight NCAA national championships while coaching the Vols, was diagnosed in August of 2011 with early onset Alzheimer’s disease. She retired in April of this year and now serves as head coach emeritus for the Lady Vols.

The all-time winningest coach in NCAA men’s or women’s basketball with 1,098 victories, Summitt stepped away from head coaching duties in April after 38 seasons. She led the Lady Vols to eight national championships, 18 NCAA Final Fours and a combined 32 SEC regular season and tournament titles during that time before handing over her whistle to long-time assistant and former Lady Vol All-American Holly Warlick.

The Arthur Ashe Courage Award is presented each year to individuals whose contributions transcend sports.

UTC communications tower to be demolished

A 320-foot communications tower, a University of Tennessee at Martin campus landmark for more than four decades, will come down Thursday in a scheduled demolition. The tower is located near the intersection of Moody and Hurt streets across from the university’s steam plant, according to a news release from UT Martin.

Preparation work by All State Tower of Hendersonville, Ky., began Monday, to be followed by the closing of the adjacent parking lot and street parking today. All work will proceed weather permitting, UTC officials said in the release.

A new communications tower, located just south of the old tower, was completed in 2011. The new tower and equipment building offer improved features, including updated tower lighting, backup emergency power and security, the release said.

The new tower and equipment building ensure that public safety communications equipment, WUTM-FM and WLJT-DT public television station can stay on the air during emergency situations or power outages, officials said. WUTM is the university’s student-operated radio station.
UT Martin teacher education grads highly rated

University of Tennessee at Martin teacher education graduates are highly rated by the schools that employ them, based on results of a recent employer survey conducted by the university.

The survey is required every two years by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The UTM teacher education program is both NCATE accredited and approved by the state.

Employers were asked to compare UT Martin teacher education graduates with teachers in their schools who possessed similar experience. Twenty-five percent of respondents ranked the university’s teacher education graduates in the top 10 percent, while 38 percent ranked them in the top 50 percent.

“Eighty percent of the respondents stated that UT Martin teacher education graduates possess ‘in-depth content knowledge,’” said Dr. Mary Lee Hall, dean of the College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Hall added that teacher education graduates ranked a four (out of five) on “designing units of instruction that focus on state standards,” a 4.2 on using technology to enhance and extend learning tasks and a four on exhibiting and promoting ethical and professional behavior as a teacher.

“There were a total of 68 respondents to the survey, which was sent to approximately 120 administrators,” Dr. Hall said. “A return rate of 57 percent is phenomenal.”

Of those responding to the survey, Dr. Hall said 30 percent were principals, 71 percent assistant principals, 10.7 percent school directors, 30.4 percent supervisors and 1.8 percent board office employees. The majority of school-level administrators responding were in the elementary and high school settings.

“The results indicate that school districts across West Tennessee are very satisfied with the quality of teacher education graduates produced by the UT Martin teacher education program,” Dr. Hall added.

Five Obion County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2012-13 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The recipients include:
- Jessica Baker of South Fulton, daughter of Bobby and Tina Baker, who will be a junior. She received the UT Martin Transfer Scholarship.
- Denise Bell of Union City, daughter of Willie and Mary Bell, who will be a senior. She received the Fred and Marie Colvett Family and Consumer Sciences Scholarship.
- Thomas Elam of Hornbeak, son of Amanda Hamm and Tom Elam, who will be a freshman. He received the Dean’s Scholarship.
- Brittany Lyell of Rives, daughter of Barry and Sharron Lyell, who will be a junior. She received the Rehabilitation Corporation Scholarship.
- Holly McClanahan of South Fulton, daughter of Mike and Barbara McClanahan, who will be a senior. She received the Robert G. and Elizabeth Latimer Scholarship.

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The new tower and equipment building ensure that public safety communications equipment, WUTM-FM and WLJT-DT public television station can stay on the air during emergency situations or power outages. WUTM is the university’s student-operated radio station.
McClanahan, Baker among scholarship recipients at UTM

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Jessica Baker, of South Fulton, daughter of Bobby and Tina Baker, will be a junior. She received the UT Martin Transfer Scholarship.

Holly McClanahan, of South Fulton, daughter of Mike and Barbara McClanahan, will be a senior. She received the Robert G. and Elizabeth Latimer Scholarship.

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

WBBJ TV West Tennessee’s News Channel

UT Martin Takes Down Campus Landmark

By Joe Sullivan
by jsullivan@wbbjtv.com
Story Created: Jul 16, 2012 at 3:27 PM CDT
Story Updated: Jul 16, 2012 at 7:50 PM CDT

MARTIN, Tenn. — A landmark at the University of Tennessee at Martin has come down.

The campus communications tower was demolished Thursday. It was built in 1966 and cost $1 million.

Robin Wood worked at the tower. He said “This tower was the center point. The main transmitter was here and operated on a 21 frequency microwave which was real new technology for the period.”

The tower was designed so that college courses such as physics, science and math could be taught and beamed to classrooms all over Northwest Tennessee.

The old tower has been replaced by a new smaller tower. It has improved features including new technology and the ability to keep working in emergencies and power outages.

With the temperature close to 100 degrees, Mark Lowery scaled the 320-foot tower. He admits sometimes he does get a little scared up there, but it’s just part of the job.

Mark Lowery said, “It takes a special breed if everybody don’t do it we wouldn’t have a job probably.”

The new tower was completed in 2011.
FREE TICKETS — Several local youngsters won free tickets to a UT Martin basketball game during the UTM Fundamental Camp recently. Receiving tickets from Skyhawk assistant Dylan Dudley (center) are (from left) Jackson Crouse of Greenfield, Matt McMillan of Martin, Garrett Byrd of Martin and Beau Brit of South Fulton.

HOT SHOT — Garner Anderson was one of more than 45 boys who participated in the UT Martin Fundamental Basketball Camp recently. Anderson was the Hot Shot champion in his age division and won tickets to a UT Martin basketball game. He is being presented his prizes by UTM assistant Dylan Dudley as members of the Skyhawk team look on. The camp was held recently in the Elam Center.
Old communications tower at UT Martin torn down

WARTON, TN (KFVS) - Crews began demolishing a 350-foot communications tower on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus on Thursday.

The tower had been a campus landmark for more than 40 years. It's near the intersection of Moody and Hunt streets, across from the University's steam plant.

The university constructed a new communications tower in 2011.

Final power of lights was disconnected and upper sections of the tower were removed Thursday. Lower sections of the tower are scheduled to be deconstructed Friday morning.

The new communications tower offers upgraded features, including updated tower lighting, backup emergency power and security. It also ensures that public safety communications equipment, the student-run WUTM-FM and WLJT-DT, stay on the air during emergency situations or power outages.

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Stone working in accounting firm's Paris office

Jeremy Stone has been named a partner with the Cowart Reese Sargent certified public accounting firm and is operating from the company's Paris office.

Cowart Reese Sargent, formerly Perry, McCain & Cowart, added Stone and two other new partners for their Martin and Brownsville offices.

Cowart Reese Sargent is a West Tennessee-based business advisory and accounting firm that also has an office in Jackson.

Stone is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin and has been with the firm since 2007. He and his wife Heather are expecting their second daughter.

David Horrier is serving in the Martin office and Joey Geter in the Brownsville office.

"We are very excited to announce the addition of Joey, David and Jeremy to partner status and look forward to providing continued service to our clients," Clark Cowart, managing partner of the firm, said.
Math refresher class offered to high-schoolers

High school students needing assistance with Algebra I may register for a math refresher course offered at the University of Tennessee Martin Jackson Center from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday through July 27.

The course taught by Shay Young, instructor of math at the University School of Jackson, will focus on the basic concepts of Algebra I, including expressions, equations, real numbers, exponents, polynomials, graphing linear equations and systems of equations.

The class is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies, and there is a $100 registration fee.

To register for the course, call ECOS at (731) 881-7083 or register online at utm.edu/departments/ece/mondegree/home.php.

UTM TOWER DEMOLISHED

The demolition of the 350-foot old communications tower (pictured right) on the University of Tennessee Martin campus began Thursday morning.

A crane from the General Steel Crane Company arrived early Thursday, and the disconnection of final power to lights was completed by the Weakley County Municipal Electric System. Workers with Allstate Tower Inc., a tower contracting firm based in Henderson, Ky., began removing upper sections of the tower around noon. The tower had been a campus landmark for more than four decades, but the university constructed a new communications tower (pictured left), located just south of the old tower in 2011, that offered new and improved features, putting the old tower out of use.

PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Terry Goulder, UT Martin alumnus and co-executive producer at Oprah Winfrey’s Harpo Studios. Jasmine Brooks of Memphis (left) received the Pacer/SPJ Award. Tomi Parrish, Instructor of Communications (right), presented the award.

Jodi Woods Memorial Award

By Casey Curlin Scarbrough Special to My Life

http://www.commercialappeal.com/news

Tayler Brannon of Collierville is the spring semester recipient of the Jodi Woods Memorial Award.

The award was established at the University of Tennessee at Martin in memory of Jodi Woods, a special education major, who died June 24, 2006.

It is given each semester to one graduating special education major who excels in student teaching by including and building self-esteem in students with special needs.

The funds from the award are given to assist the graduating teacher in stocking his/her new classroom.

Casey Curlin Scarbrough is with the office of university relations for the University of Tennessee at Martin.
KID COLLEGE

Student Aubrey Hill stands with Diane Bell, UT Martin Jackson Center Director Bethany Worley and Marlie Richardson at Kid College.

Garrett Moore rolls play-dough that he made out of salt, flour, oil, water and Kool-Aid mix.

Aiden Morton builds a Lego tower Friday at Kid College at the University of Tennessee Martin Jackson Center. Children from kindergarten through second grade participated in the program. PHOTOS BY KENNETH CUMMINGS/THE JACKSON SUN
**Dyer County residents graduate WestStar program**

Special to the State Gazette

Margaret Prater and Patrick Williams, both of Dyer County, were recently honored for completing the WestStar Leadership Program sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In its 23rd year, UT Martin's WestStar program, created in 1989 to serve the 21 counties of West Tennessee by providing leadership development and training for selected participants, now has more than 649 graduates. The program identifies and educates people to assume leadership responsibilities in the economic and social development of West Tennessee. Class members participate in a series of seminars designed to provide information about major issues facing West Tennessee. Seminars feature different speakers who focus on subjects that go hand in hand with leadership and community progress issues such as education, health care, community and resource development.

**WestStar**

Continued from Page 7

development and leadership skills. WestStar graduates already hold key leadership positions throughout the state in every West Tennessee county.

Prater is the vice president for Workforce Development at Dyersburg State Community College. She is a member of the Dyersburg State Community College Alumni and the Trimble Area Women's Club, and is active in fundraising for Relay for Life.

Williams is the funeral director of the Johnson-Williams Funeral Home in Newbern. He is currently a member of the Newbern Rotary Club, Newbern Lion's Club and Newbern Depot Days. He is on the board of the directors for the YMCA and is a graduate of Leadership Dyer County.

**The Weakley County Press**

**Tuesday, July 24, 2012**

PIKES GIVE TO READING RAILROAD — The brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha from UT Martin recently made a $5,000 donation to the Weakley County Reading Railroad with proceeds from the Pike Fights that were held earlier this year. The Weakley County Reading Railroad is the local affiliate for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Children who enroll in Reading Railroad will receive free books from birth until age five. To register a child or change an address, contact the local library. To make a donation to the Reading Railroad, send a check to C. E. Weldon Public Library, 100 Main Street, Martin, TN 38237.
The Henry County High School cheerleaders came away from the July 10-13 Universal Cheerleading Association Camp at the University of Tennessee at Martin with several awards. The awards include: first place in cheer, third place in dance, Superior Squad award, two Spirit Sticks, first place in the Dance Off and the Top Banana award, which is a best overall squad award for the entire week. Chesney Buttrey and Grace Hassell were name All-American Cheerleaders. Shannon Evans was presented the Dance Diva award while Patriot mascot, Savannah Walker, won Superior, Spirit and Camp Champ awards. The squad includes (front row, from left) Jessica Lieberman, Shelby Prosser, Erica Little, Darian French, Alyssa Wayne, Kaitie Maupin, Kristen Chenoweth, Evans, Brooke Johnson; (second row) Keely Gregory, Hassell, Camille Ridley, Gabby Clark, Jenny Grace Reed, Buttrey, Lexi Bond, Madison Lovelace and Walker. They are coached by (not pictured) Kristy Buttrey and Kaylee Clark. The squad is preparing for the football opener Aug. 17 at Liberty Tech in Jackson.
UT Martin hosts 2012 State Tax Seminar

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science (AFEPS) will be co-sponsoring the 2012 State Tax Seminar with the Tennessee Department of Revenue on August 16.

The conference is scheduled to begin at 8:15 a.m. in the Boling University Center, room 111, on the UT Martin campus. Sign-in will begin at 7:30 a.m.

Participants will have the opportunity to hear sessions focusing on the update of state tax-related decisions made in the recent legislative session, as well as current state tax audit issues and other topics of interest to tax preparers. Speakers will include experts from the Tennessee Department of Revenue.

For more information and to register, visit www.utm.edu/wtnacct, or contact Janell McConkey at 731-881-7226. Early registration for the conference costs $175 with lunch or $155 without. Early registration closes August 9, and afterward all registrations are $185. Eight hours of CPE credits are also available.

Gibson County residents become WestStar graduates

Julie Allen Burke, Chad Lowery and Tom Witherspoon, all of Gibson County, were recently honored for completing the WestStar Leadership Program sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In its 23rd year, UT Martin's WestStar program, created in 1989 to serve the 21 counties of West Tennessee by providing leadership development and training for selected participants, now has more than 649 graduates. The program identifies and educates people to assume leadership responsibilities in the economic and social development of West Tennessee.

Class members participate in a series of seminars designed to provide information about major issues facing West Tennessee.

Seminars feature different speakers who focus on subjects that go hand-in-hand with leadership and community progress issues such as education, health care, community and resource development and leadership skills. WestStar graduates already hold key leadership positions throughout the state in every West Tennessee county.

Burke is the director and executive vice president of the Milan Chamber of Commerce. She is also an independent fashion consultant with CAabi. She is the current vice president and president-elect for the Milan High School Alumni Association and serves on the executive committee for Cub Scouts Pack 50.

Lowery is the chief of police for the city of Medina. He is a board member of the Jackson Area American Red Cross and the WRAP (Women's/Men's Rape Assistance Program) and is a member of the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police.

Witherspoon is the mayor of Gibson County and joins WestStar as a political leader hoping to gain knowledge and experience from other West Tennessee communities.
Martin honored at UT Martin campus

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of its students. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Terry Gould, UT Martin alumnus and co-executive producer at Oprah Winfrey's Harpo Studios. Kelly Martin of Memphis received the National Association of Black Journalists President's Award. Dr. Arthur Hunt, assistant professor of communications, presented the award.

Hodge receives scholarship to UTM

A Dyer County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

- Cody Hodge, of Newbern, son of David and Sylvia Hodge, will be a junior. He received the UT Martin Transfer Scholarship.

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

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Area college anglers among those fishing in tourney this weekend

This week, a record 71 colleges and universities from across the United States sent teams of anglers to compete in the 2012 Carhartt Bassmaster College National Championship Wednesday through today in Little Rock.

Competition continues Saturday and Sunday as members of the Top 4 teams battle individually for a lone berth in the 2013 Bassmaster Classic.

Competition began with a full field fishing the Arkansas River Wednesday, followed by another contest with all of the anglers yesterday on Lake Maumelle. Today, the field will be cut to the Top 5 teams, which will fish a mystery location. Saturday and Sunday, the members of the Top 4 teams compete individually in a bracket format on unknown waters as they vie for the one available Bassmaster Classic berth.

The reason I made mention of this event is we have two universities from right here in West Tennessee that are fishing. The University of Tennessee at Martin has the team of Alex Derry and Ryan Lackey fishing, while Bethel University in McKenzie has Dewey Swims and Cody Ross fishing. This is a big honor.

To follow this tournament or any tournament on the B.A.S.S. trail, you can go to www.bassmaster.com to follow the action.
Discover Historic gristmill featured at Discovery

KEVIN BOWDEN
Special to The Press

Like a giant puzzle, the pieces are finally coming together for Union City’s $100 million Discovery Park of America. One significant piece of the puzzle is nearly completed at the park site—a working gristmill with grinding stones and a water wheel that date back to the late 1700s or early 1800s. The historic gristmill is being pieced together through the combined efforts of volunteers Wil Brewer of Dresden and Bill Austin of Martin.

Together, the two Weakley County volunteers have been working for the past five years on their project.

Brewer and Austin first met in 2007 when ideas and plans were discussed for the Discovery Park project.

Brewer retired from Pitney Bowes after working for the company for 37 years. Austin is a retired math professor who worked at the University of Tennessee at Martin for 42 years.

TEAMWORK – An old-fashioned gristmill is being built at Discovery Park of America this summer, thanks to the efforts of Weakley County volunteers Bill Austin (left) and Wil Brewer. Together, they have been working on the gristmill project for the past five years. Now, the structure is nearing completion and the partners hope to have the mill operational by the time the park opens early next year.

Photo by Kevin Bowden
WC residents join Westar graduates

Randy Huffstetler and Joey Mehlhorn, both of Weakley County, were recently honored for completing the WestStar Leadership Program sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin. In its 23rd year, UT Martin's WestStar program, created in 1989 to serve the 21 counties of West Tennessee by providing leadership development and training for selected participants, now has more than 649 graduates.

The program identifies and educates people to assume leadership responsibilities in the economic and social development of West Tennessee. Class members participate in a series of seminars designed to provide information about major issues facing West Tennessee.

Seminars feature different speakers who focus on subjects that go hand-in-hand with leadership and community progress issues such as education, health care, community and resource development and leadership skills. WestStar graduates already hold key leadership positions throughout the state in every West Tennessee county.

Huffstetler is the vice president of Greenfield Banking Company. He is involved in many organizations, including the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce, the Weakley County Board of Equalization, the Weakley County Economic Development Board and the Greenfield Rotary Club.

Mehlhorn is a professor and interim Parker Chair of Excellence for the University of Tennessee at Martin.

He is the director of the Tennessee Governor's School for Agriculture, a volunteer for Santa's Village and is involved with the Future Farmers of America and the UTM Farm Festival.

Matthew Robinson (center) of Collierville was inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to University of Tennessee Martin commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. The awards were presented by (left) Dr. Ed Wheeler, Department of Engineering interim chair, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean.
Course focuses on treating football injuries

By Priya Narapareddy

With football season approaching, emergency responders from all over West Tennessee attended the Sideline Emergency Management Course Saturday in Jackson to refresh their knowledge of techniques that prevent life-threatening injuries on the field.

About 40 physicians, athletic trainers and EMS personnel attended the Sideline Emergency Management Course Saturday morning at the Jackson-Madison County Health Department. The course was led by Dr. Scott Johnson of Sports Orthopedic and Spine.

Bart Belew, head athletic trainer at the University of Tennessee Martin, and Jonathan Wood of the Jackson-Madison County EMS assisted, teaching groups how to identify the severity of players’ injuries and care for them as they are being transported to the hospital.

Football players from UT Martin and Lane College also served as volunteers.

Blew advised emergency responders to remove a player’s helmet if he is lifted onto a spine board because it is difficult to remove in an ambulance. Belew said responders should be comfortable in their surroundings before putting a player on the board.

“(Try to) imagine an athlete’s spine as a metal rod,” he said.

Johnson said the emphasis of the course was on football-related injuries because of the upcoming football season. He said the techniques taught in the course can be applied to all sports and all injuries.

“The same principles we teach here can translate to soccer or basketball injuries,” Johnson said.

Johnson said the most common areas where a football player is injured include the shoulders and knees.

“Always be on surveillance for a concussion,” he said. “Guys that get hit in a football game can’t always tell you where they have been hit.”

D’Anna Kyle, an athletic trainer at Lane, said she works directly with athletes in all sports. She said the Sideline Emergency Management Course helped her to practice techniques on players in order to be prepared for real-life situations on the field.

Kyle said the most common sports injuries she sees include ankle sprains and concussions. She said football players also must be able to know what it feels like to be hit so that they can accurately identify their symptoms to EMS personnel when injured on the field.

“With football, you’re always going to have at least one torn ACL during the season,” she said.

UTM hosting tax seminar

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics and Political Science will be co-sponsoring the 2012 State Tax Seminar with the Tennessee Department of Revenue on Aug. 16.

The conference is scheduled to begin at 8:15 a.m. in Room 111 of Boling University Center on the UT Martin campus. Sign-in will begin at 7:30.

Participants will have the opportunity to hear sessions focusing on the update of state tax-related decisions made in the recent legislative session, as well as current state tax audit issues and other topics of interest to tax preparers.

Speakers will include experts from the Tennessee Department of Revenue.

For more information and to register, visit www.utm.edu/wmacct or contact Janell McConkey at (731) 881-7220.

Early registration for the conference costs $175 with lunch or $155 without lunch. Early registration closes Aug. 9, and afterward all registrations are $185.

See COURSE, Page B2

Course

Continued from Page B1

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Priya Narapareddy, 425-9616
Three CPAs join firm, Cowart Reese Sargent

Cowart Reese Sargent CPAs recently announced the addition of Jeremy Stone, CPA; David Horner, CPA; and Joey Geter, CPA, as partners in the firm. Cowart Reese Sargent CPAs is a West Tennessee-based business advisory and accounting firm with offices in Jackson, Martin, Paris and Brownsville.

Stone is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin and has been with the firm since 2007. He is currently the partner in the firm’s Paris office. He and his wife, Heather, have two children.

Horner is a graduate of Union University. Prior to joining the firm in 2007, he spent several years with a national firm and brings that experience and commitment of service to the Martin office. He has one son.

Geter joined the firm in 2011, when he and his wife, Sue, and son relocated to Brownsville from Natchez, Miss. He is a graduate of the University of Mississippi.

“We are very excited to announce the addition of Horner, Stone and Geter to partner status and look forward to providing continued service to our clients. The Cowart Reese Sargent team is built on a tradition of client service since 1974 and the addition of these individuals will help ensure we continue to bring excellence and experience to every client we serve,” Jack Reese, partner in charge of the Martin office, said.

Elam Center to host FCA sporting event

The second annual Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Youth Sports Extravaganza is set for 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center and UT Martin.

The event is for children in kindergarten through ninth grade, and the cost is free. Registration gets underway at 8:30 a.m., in the Elam Center. Children can choose from football, boys’ basketball, girls’ basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, tennis, rodeo, equestrian, golf and volleyball.

Each child will be given a T-shirt and the event will include motivational speakers. Lunch will be included.

For more information, call Jason Brisance at (731) 446-3198 or Todd Hampton at (731) 587-3160.

NEW STAFF MEMBER - Van’s Pharmacy in Martin recently introduced Zachary Delaney to its pharmacy staff. Delaney is a 2008 graduate of UT Martin and a 2012 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy in Memphis. He began working for Van’s June 27. He will begin to implement clinical pharmacy roles, such as Medication Therapy Management, fitting diabetic shoes and a broadened vaccination program this fall. "We are excited to add Zach to the pharmacist staff. He has many exciting healthcare ideas. We believe Zach will be an asset to all of our customer's health," a representative of Van’s Pharmacy said. Delaney and his wife, Melissa, will make their home in Milan.