Five HCHS seniors receive Michael D. Owens Scholarships

As a member of the school's track and field team, she was captain her senior year. She also was coach of a 7- to 8-year-old girls' basketball team in the Paris-Henry County Basketball League.

Bellow is the daughter of Monte and Beth Bellow. She plans to major in pre-medicine in college. She has been accepted to attend the universities of Tennessee at Knoxville and Martin and Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville.

While at HCHS, she was a member of the National Honor Society (two years); Student Council (three years); the Lady Patriot soccer team (four years), where she was All-District, District Goalie of the Year, captain and winner of the academic award.

She also was a four-year member of the Lady Patriot basketball team, serving as captain three years and being chosen for the All-District and All-Tournament teams, one year each. She was given the team's Hustle and Leadership awards.

In softball, she played for three years and was chosen Best Defensive Player once.

She was a member of the FCA, math, Interact and science clubs, each for two years; the Spanish Club, one year; an EFFORT Scholar four years and a Tennessee Scholar, two years.

In church, she is a member of the First Baptist Church youth group. In the community, she is the reigning Hostess Princess of the World's Biggest Fish Fry.

She has served as a Patriot Pals mentor for four years; is a member of the Commercial Bank Teen Advisory Board; and has served as a legislative page for Sen. Roy Herron, D-Dresden.

Church awards scholarships to 17 students

First United Methodist Church in Paris has awarded scholarships to 17 students who are either attending college or will be enrolling in college this year.

Recipients are:

- Jordan and Justin Reed, sons of Bruce and Rita Reed. They were given the Inez Irixon and Douglas and Pauline Anderson memorial scholarships, respectively. They will be attending the University of Tennessee at Martin. Jordan will be majoring in business and marketing and Justin will be majoring in pre-dentistry.

- Ben Edwards, who received the Charles Davis scholarship. He is enrolled at UTM.

- Megan Meketi, who received a Mildred Irixon scholarship. She is a student at UTM.

- Brandon Wimberley, who was awarded the Judy Hooper scholarship. He is attending UTM.
**UT Martin gets engineering grant**

NASHVILLE — Seven state universities — including UT Martin — will receive a share of $200,000 in grants from the Tennessee Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners. The money will be used to buy lab equipment, computers and other instructional materials for students studying architecture, engineering and interior design.

Grants also went to Middle Tennessee State, Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech, the University of Memphis and the University of Tennessee campuses in Knoxville and Chattanooga.

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**Cottage Grove group gives scholarship to Wheatley**

The Cottage Grove Alumni Association has awarded a $500 scholarship to Rachel Wheatley, who is the daughter of Karen and Terry Wheatley of Cottage Grove.

Wheatley is a 2009 Henry County High School graduate. She plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in English and minor in history. She hopes to eventually become a teacher.

At HCHS, she was a member of the Leo, Reading and Spanish clubs, DECA and served as president of the First Patriot Bank.

Wheatley attended Cottage Grove School from preschool through seventh grade, when the school closed.

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**Two Henry Countians inducted into honor society at UTM**

Christina Hurt and Charlotte Elaine Loines, both of Paris, were inducted this spring into Phi Kappa Phi honor society at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Membership is based on academic achievements and exemplary character. Graduate students and seniors, who rank in the upper 10 percent of their class and juniors, who are in the upper 7.5 percent of their classes are eligible for induction into the society.

Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education.

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**Area Resident Honored at UT Martin ROTC Awards Ceremony**

MARTIN - Cadet Amanda Allen of McKenzie recently received the Daughters of the American Revolution Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC Awards Ceremony.

Janie Tyner, of Martin, presented the award.
Women’s conference planned for June 30

WestStar, the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development’s Business Enterprise Resource Office and Tennessee Economic Council on Women will sponsor a women business owners opportunities conference called “Building Blocks for Success.”

The event is planned from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 30 at the West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research, located at 605 Airways Blvd. in Jackson. The registration fee will be $35 per person or $60 for two, and a continental breakfast and lunch are included.

Opportunities abound for women business owners seeking to sell in the business-to-business (B2B) marketplace. This multi-billion dollar market segment consists of buyers from government and private industry who purchase services, equipment, supplies, transportation, wholesale, retail, agriculture, finance or most any good or service. This niche market offers contracting jobs that can help establish strategic relationships to increase a company’s competitive edge, so the business can grow exponentially.

Susan Hendrix O’Connell of Henco Furniture in Selmer will be the plenary session speaker. Dr. Christy Shaffer, Inspire Pharmaceuticals president and CEO from Durham, N.C., and a University of Tennessee at Martin alumnus, will be the luncheon speaker.

In addition to informative sessions, panel discussions, workshops and exhibits, an “Opportunities Room” will be available. The room will be staffed with representatives of governmental agencies and private-sector businesses who will share upcoming bid and contracting opportunities. Participants will learn firsthand if there is a match between a company’s goods or services and the 20 participating buying entities. They’ll also leave with information on how to competitively vie for contracts.

Session topics will include business planning, Internet marketing, human resources, time management, grant writing, customer service, certification processes and Internet social networking.

Others will be stress management, fitness and wellness, business etiquette and dressing for success.

Registrations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

If registering by mail, send checks made payable to WestStar to UT Martin, 321 Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238. One check for a group will be accepted, but there must be a separate registration form filled out for each attendee.

If registering by e-mail, send information to Virginia Grimes at vgrimes@utm.edu. Make sure to include name, business, complete address and phone number. The check should arrive by the deadline, June 22. There will be no refunds.

For more information, call Ms. Grimes at (731) 881-7298.

UTM chancellor, AD named to OVC posts

MARTIN, Tenn. — The Ohio Valley Conference Spring Meetings concluded May 29 in Brentwood, Tenn., with the selection of Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, as OVC Board of Presidents vice chair, and Phil Dane, UT Martin director of athletics, as OVC Board of Athletic Directors vice chair for 2009-2010.

Dr. Robert Bell, Tennessee Tech president, was named chair of the conference presidents board, while Mark Wilson, Tennessee Tech athletics director, will serve as chair of the athletic directors board.

The appointments come as UT Martin has experienced a recent upswing in successful athletic programs in football, men’s basketball, softball, women’s soccer and women’s tennis.

“We are honored to serve and represent our university in a leadership capacity within the Ohio Valley Conference,” said Rakes.

“I will be honored to serve as vice-chairman of the board of athletic directors in 2009-2010 and chairman in 2010-2011. We have an outstanding group of athletics directors in our conference, and it will be a pleasure to serve in this leadership role as we strive to further enhance the image of our conference among Division I and Football Championship Subdivision conferences in our country,” Dane added.

During the meetings, participants discussed a variety of topics and heard from several presenters, including Bill Regan, NCAA director of membership services. The week concluded with the league’s annual Honors Luncheon, which honored the OVC Male and Female Athletes of the Year. UT Martin graduate, Lester Hudson, was named the top OVC male athlete for the second consecutive year.

Hudson, a member of the regular-season OVC basketball champions, was also recognized as a member of the first-team all-conference team and was previously named an honorable mention All-American by the Associated Press for the second year. He was one of 16 total All-Americans at the Division I level named by CollegeInsider.com.
NATIONAL MEETING PARTICIPANTS – Dr. S.K. Airee, professor of chemistry and adviser to the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society UT Martin chapter, along with four SAACS members participated in the 237th American Chemical Society National Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, March 21-25. SAACS president Kayla Poindexter was presented two plaques for outstanding chapter performance and Green Chemistry activities in 2007-08. SAACS helped with the meeting arrangements, presented a poster and participated in several other activities. Airee represented the Kentucky Lake Section at the ACS governance Council meeting, participated in the deliberations of the Local Sections Activities Committee and was selected to serve on the Sustainability Stakeholders Steering Group (S3G) created by the ACS board of directors. The S3G, including the director of the Green Chemistry Institute and two past ACS presidents, meet monthly via conference calls to reflect on the ACS sustainability efforts and to recommend comprehensive ‘best practices.’ Pictured are Kayla A. Poindexter of Murfreesboro, Kiran G. Vaswani of Franklin, Airee, ACS Green Chemistry Institute director Dr. Bob Peoples, Punam Patel of Martin, Brandi J. Griggs of Goodspring, and ACS past president Dr. William F. Carroll.

COLLEGIATE CHEMISTRY MEETING – The 32nd Annual Area Collegiate Chemistry Meeting cosponsored by Murray State University and University of Tennessee at Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society, recently was held in Murray. American Chemical Society president-elect Dr. Joseph Francisco was the keynote speaker. Twenty-one UT Martin students and faculty attended the meeting, and six UT Martin students presented research papers. Left to right, front row, are James K. Griffin, Casey M. Ellington, Elizabeth A. Abernathy, Christy R. Lowe, Kayla A. Poindexter, Kayla Baker, Punam Patel, Tiffany Brewer (presenter), Carolyn U. Nguyen (presenter), Lauren Bivens (presenter), Kiran G. Vaswani (presenter) and Dr. S.K. Airee (SAACS adviser); back row, Cory L. Jones, Dr. Paul Higgs, Ashish J. Patel, Bradley A. Bugg (presenter), ACS president-elect Dr. Joseph S. Francisco, Robert H. Mitchell and Dr. Charles R. Thomas, Department of Chemistry chair. Not pictured are Dr. Jozsef Devenyi, associate professor of chemistry; Dr. James Smart, assistant professor of chemistry; and Brandi Griggs (presenter).
Next recycling event is June 6

UTM Recycles! will sponsor another community recycling event, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., June 6, at its collection facility in the former National Guard Armory maintenance warehouse located at the end of Moody Street. Volunteers from the 2009 Tennessee Governors School for the Humanities will staff the event to unload and sort the material.

Anyone who has not seen the new facility is invited to stop by and learn more about the space and how the group is promoting recycling in the community, such as organizing a recycling competition among local Boy Scout dens and speaking about recycling in area schools.

Drop by to see the new mural on the facility painted by Muralists by Les and the Visual Arts Society.

The following materials will be accepted June 6 and are also accepted daily at the site: paper and cardboard, aluminum cans, glass bottles, plastics of any kind, steel cans and other scrap metal, eyeglasses, used clothing in good shape, cell phones, rechargeable batteries and ink cartridges. It is helpful if food and beverage containers are rinsed and all material is sorted beforehand.

Partners and sponsors of UTM Recycles! include the University of Tennessee at Martin American Democracy Project, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Physical Plant, campus bookstore, Sodexo and student organizations including the Agronomy Club, Rotaract, Psi Chi, Student Government Association, National Association of Black Journalists, University Scholars, Skyhawk women’s soccer team, Office of Student Life and Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. UTM Recycles! Community sponsors and partners include Jowers Sign Company, Wal-Mart, the Martin Business Association, Servall Termite and Pest Control, Sidelines and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

For more information on recycling at UT Martin, contact Dennis Kosta, manager of custodial services, at 731-881-7640 or dkosta@utm.edu.

To learn how to join UTM Recycles! and/or volunteer at the June 6 event, contact Dr. Angie Mackewn, assistant professor of psychology, at 731-881-7370 or amackewn@utm.edu.

You can also visit the new UTM Recycles! webpage at http://www.utm.edu/organizations/recycle/.

Seminar focuses on customer service for small businesses

“Customer Service: How to Win, Wow and Woo Customers and Keep Them Coming Back” is the topic of the next seminar being offered by the Tennessee Small Business Development Center and the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center.

The free training event is designed to address a wide range of steps business owners and their employees can take to win, wow and woo their customers.

Topics covered will be defining your customer, what customers want, the art of listening, developing a recipe instead of rules, evaluating your decisions, making a final impression and making magic by making the ordinary extraordinary.

This session will be offered from 4:53 p.m., June 4, at the REED Center, located at 406 S. Lindell St. in downtown Martin.

Joel Newman, TSBDC small business specialist, will be the instructor. There is no fee; however, UT Martin Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for $10. To register go to www.utm.edu/reed or call the REED Center at 731-587-7333. Seating is limited.

The goal of the REED Center program is to assist business owners through business training and one-on-one business counseling.

The program has been assisting existing and start-up businesses in the region since 2005.

UTM’s Rakes, Dane tabbed for OVC posts

The Ohio Valley Conference’s spring meetings concluded on Friday in Brentwood with the selection of Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, as OVC board of presidents vice chair, and Phil Dane, UT Martin director of athletics, as OVC board of athletic directors vice chair for 2009-10.

The appointments come as UT Martin has experienced a recent upswing in its athletic programs in football, men’s basketball, softball, women’s soccer and women’s tennis.

“We are honored to serve and represent our university in a leadership capacity within the Ohio Valley Conference,” Rakes said.
ONE GREAT KID

Name: Mary Lennox Halfacre
Age: 11

Family: I live in Collierville with my parents, Tamah and Jeff Halfacre, my brother Laine, 20, and my sister, Harper, 16.

School: I’m a fifth-grader at Crosswind Elementary.

Faith: I’m a member at Germantown Presbyterian Church.

Accomplishments: I sold more than 800 boxes of Girl Scout cookies in my life. I hosted a bake sale for someone in need. I have been named a “Great Citizen” at my school, and served communion on the children’s Sabbath at my church. I’m on the student council and School Improvement Committee.

Personal Heroes: My grandparents, and my parents.


What I do for fun: Cheerleading, hanging out with friends, shopping, basketball and reading.

What’s the best thing about being a kid: “We don’t have too many huge responsibilities yet and we get to have more fun.”

People might be surprised to know: “I am named after Mary Lennox from ‘Secret Garden.’ I spent 10 days in intensive care when I was born.”

If I could change one thing in the world: “I would give everyone without a home a place to call home.”

Goals for the future: “To go the University of Mississippi or University of Tennessee Martin and become a teacher.”

Mary Lennox Halfacre

To be featured as the Collierville, Germantown or the Germantown area Great Kid, call My Life Editor Matt Wee at 529-5453.
Grove students at UTM math contest

Students from Grove School who participated in the UT Martin Tennesseee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School math contest included (front row, from left) Tiffany Boyer, Kayla Hodge, Julia Reimold, Jenna Kirkpatrick and Crystal Douglass; and (back row, from left) Trey Gerrell, Rodney Belasic, Austen Daniels, Brad Owens, Zach Adkins and Brooke Rose. Brad Owens received the first-place trophy in the Algebra I competition.

HCHS students at UTM math contest

Several Henry County High School students took part in the 53rd annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School math contest at UT Martin. Participating from HCHS were (front row, from left) Courtney Grantham, Courtney Rossell, Amanda Prevost, Carrie Turner and Anna Holt; (second row, from left) Corey BRANDSTETTER, Holly Stearnes, Chance Robinson, Ashli Scott, Kenny McDougal, Maggie Hudson, Clayton Greer, Daniel Klingenberg and Corey Schaal; and (third row, from left) Aaron Wakeen, Joshua Opperia, Chris Allen, Matt Clark, Jacob Montgomery, Josh Clark, Dakota Halstead, Blake Hart and Blake Cox. Matt Clark received the third-place trophy in the Calculus and Advanced Topics competition.
Gleason High School Top Ten

Ranks 3rd
Jannie Elizabeth Reed is the daughter of Keith Reed and Jannie Hawes. She ranks third in the 2009 Graduating Class of Dresden High School. Each year of her high school career, she has received the "A Average" award. During her four years of high school, Jannie has been a part of many clubs including the BETA, DECA, Mu Alpha Theta, and FCCLA. She has also been involved in the Youth Alliance group, Students Creating Change. This fall, she plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin to major in Biology.

Ranks 5th
Crockett Dwain Stephens is the son of Ronnie and Cindy Stephens of Palmersville. Crockett ranks fifth in the 2009 Senior Class at Dresden High School. He is a four-year member of the DHS Beta Club and the Skills USA Club. Crockett is also a 4-year participant in the Tennessee Scholars Program. Crockett has received the Academic Achievement Award each year at DHS. He participated in the football program during his freshman year. As a junior, Crockett received the DHS Student Council's Outstanding Student Appreciation Award. Crockett was selected "Best Personality" by the Senior class. He is a member of the Palmersville Church of Christ. Crockett is a recipient of the Dean's Scholarship award from the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he plans to attend in the fall.

Ranks 6th
Kailya Faye Michelle Woodruff is the daughter of Bonnie Woodruff of Dresden. She is ranked sixth in the 2009 Graduating Class at Dresden High School. Kailya has received numerous awards for her academic accomplishments as a Dresden High School student. She has been involved in many clubs offered at DHS for the past four years including FFA, the Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta (Math Club), STARS Club, Science Club, FCCLA, Pep Club, and FCA. Her senior year, she served as Vice-President of the Dresden FFA Chapter and President of Mu Alpha Theta. In the last four years, Kailya has been a very active member of FFA, and participated in many competitions locally, regionally, and state-wide. She also competed in a state-wide competition in Statistics for Mu Alpha Theta. Aside from being active in her academics and organizations

within the school, Kailya has participated in many community service activities such as Relay for Life, Habitat for Humanity, and Food for the Homeless ranging from communities in Washington, D.C. to Dresden. After she graduates from DHS, Kailya plans to attend The University of Tennessee at Martin this fall with a major in Biology and a minor in Chemistry.
Ranks 7th
Hannah Marie Cooper is the daughter of Dennis and Cindy Cooper of Dresden. She ranks seventh in the 2009 Graduating Class at Dresden High School. Hannah has received the “A Average” Award and has been in the top ten of her class each year while in high school. During her four years at Dresden High School, Hannah has participated in many school and community activities. Hannah is active in many clubs including the Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, FCCLA, FCA, HOSA, the Pep Club, the Science Club, and the Spanish Club. This year, she served as the Historian of Mu Alpha Theta. She has been on the scrapbook committee in the Beta Club all four years. Hannah was selected as “Most Bashful” by the senior class student body. Hannah has also been involved in many volunteer activities including helping build a house in Dresden with Habitat for Humanity and working to raise money for Relay for Life. Hannah is an active member of Siloam General Baptist Church, where she has attended all of her life. After graduation, Hannah plans to attend The University of Tennessee at Martin and work to become a dental hygienist.

Ranks 8th
Jennifer Marie Mansfield is the daughter of Danny Joe Mansfield of Dukedom and Leanne Tolley of Latham. She ranks eighth in the 2009 Graduating Class at Dresden High School. Jennifer has been in the FFA, the Science Club, the Art Club, and Mu Alpha Theta. She is a Tennessee Scholar. Jennifer is involved with Students Creating Change, also known as the Weakley County Youth Alliance. Jennifer placed third in a state Pre-Calculus competition. She goes to New Salem Missionary Baptist Church in Dukedom. After graduation, Jennifer plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall and plans to major in Pre-Veterinary Medicine and a Bachelor of Science Degree.

Ranks 9th
Riley Elizabeth Moran is the daughter of Scott and Debbie Moran of Gleason. She ranks ninth in the 2009 Graduating Class at Dresden High School and will graduate as a Tennessee Scholar. Riley has received the “A Average” Award each year while at DHS and has been in the top ten of her class each year. During her four years at Dresden High School, Riley has been active in many organizations including the BETA Club, FCCLA, Mu Alpha Theta, the Interact Club, the Pep Club, Future Teachers of America, Spanish Club, Science Club, FCA, and HOSA. Riley was selected as Volunteer Girls State delegate from Dresden High School as well as a SCOPE delegate for Weakley County. She was named Most Outgoing in her Senior Class. Riley holds officer positions in many clubs and organizations. This year, she served as the Senior Class President, FCCLA President, Future Teacher of America President, Spanish Club President, and Pep Club Secretary. Riley has also been involved in many volunteer activities including serving on the Iris Festival Executive Committee and fundraising for various charities such as Cystic Fibrosis. Riley attends First Baptist Church in Dresden. After graduation, Riley plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin to pursue a degree in Biology.
Office equipment of yesteryear, quilts on display at library and Museum

Computers are so common they are almost invisible, but walk into an office several decades ago and much different equipment - most of it quite noisy - would have been in use.

Visit the Paul Meek Library and try your fingers on a Royal manual typewriter - no backspace key here. Just how bit is a floppy disk, a minifloppy, or a microfloppy? How do you program a mechanical calculator? The public is invited to take a look at a few oddities from yesteryear in the exhibit area in the library, just between the circulation and reference desks.

While there, walk into the museum. A new exhibition of the handwork of local quilter, the late Frances Williams, is on display. She died in October, 2008, but left her family a collection of her handwork that provides examples of whimsical inventiveness and straightforward skill. Shown with the permission of daughters, Mary Jane Warde and Linda Waymon, these 10 new and old quilts each provide a colorful example of traditional, utilitarian women's domestic handwork.

The J. Houston Gordon University Museum is accessible through the Special Collections Reading area, just off the Paul Meek Library main lobby. It is open weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., including the summer months.

Ary recognized at UTM Honors Day

Clint A. Ary, of Greenfield, recently received the Sam and Gladys Siegel Agricultural Award during the 45th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The award is presented to a student in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources on the basis of scholarship or professional competence in some field of agriculture and leadership ability, as demonstrated by contributions to departmental, campus and community organizations and programs.

Several Obion County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2009-10 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The scholarship recipients include:

* Adam Alexander, son of Travis and Laurie Alexander of Hornbeak, who will be a freshman. He received the UTM McWhorter Freshman Scholarship.
* Drew Greer, son of Kent and Marina Greer of South Fulton, who will be a freshman. He received the Leaders-in-Residence Award.
* Anna Marie Scatt, daughter of Charles and Wanda Scatt of South Fulton, who will be a freshman. She received the UTM McWhorter Freshman Scholarship.
* Ariel Smith, daughter of Ina Payne and David Smith, both of Union City, who will be a freshman. She received the Harold Conner Scholarship.
LOCAL RESIDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS AT FOREIGN LANGUAGE DAY – Fulton City High School students recently won first place in the Spanish Video Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. Pictured, left to right, are: Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, Cedric Bransford, India Fair, Kristeena Rushing, Katie Holdman, Shelby Jones and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts. (Photo submitted)

POSTER CONTEST – A Fulton City High School student recently won third place in the Spanish Poster Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. Pictured, left to right, are: Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; India Fair, receiving the trophy for Stephanie Sikes, and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts. (Photo submitted)

SPANISH POSTER CONTEST – A Fulton City High School student recently won first place in the Spanish Poster Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. Pictured, left to right, are: Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, Sandy Ruiz, accepting the trophy for Tiffany Stewart, and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts. (Photo submitted)
FOREIGN LANGUAGE DAY – A Fulton City High School student recently won third place in the Spanish Bake-Off at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. Pictured, left to right, are: Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, Ronald Lewis and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts. (Photo submitted)

AWARDS AT FOREIGN LANGUAGE DAY – Fulton City High School students recently won first place in the Spanish Bake-Off at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. Pictured, left to right, are: Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, Ronald Lewis, Ionne Patel and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts. (Photo submitted)

SF students net scholarships

Several Obion County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Drew Greer, son of Kent and Marina Greer of South Fulton, will be a freshman. He received the Leaders-in Residence Award.

Anna Marie Seratt, daughter of Charles and Wanda Seratt of South Fulton, will be a freshman. She received the UTM MeWhorter Freshman Scholarship.

Ariel Smith, daughter of Ina Payne and Davis Smith, both of Union City, Tenn., will be a freshman. She received the Harold Conner 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 should call (731) 881-7374.

Carmaine M. Eison, of Jackson, received the Outstanding Integrated Studies K-6 Student Award during the 45th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Submitted photo
MENTOR RECOGNITION – The annual Fulton Independent School District Mentoring Recognition and Appreciation Banquet held at the Pontotoc Community Center May 21. Community mentors and their mentoring students were recognized by Family Connection Director, George Yarbro and Superintendent Dianne Owen. Nick Glenn, a Martin, Tenn. police officer and chaplain to the UTM football team, was the key speaker. (Photo submitted)

The Gazette, Trenton, Tennessee

Earns degree
Jennifer Bobbitt received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Family Consumer Science with a concentration in Dietetics on May 9 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Jennifer is a graduate of Peabody High School. She is the daughter of William and Janet Bobbitt, the granddaughter of Martha Bobbitt, and sister of Jessica Bobbitt.

Graduates
Kristin Kay Rodamaker, daughter of Dan and Kim Rodamaker, graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin on May 9 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education K-6. While attending UTM she was a member of the Student Teacher Education Association. She was on the Dean’s List and graduated with High Honors. She is currently pursuing her teaching career, and will pursue a Master’s Degree in the future.

Scott graduates
Nicholas Tyler Scott, son of Mike and Tina Scott, graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin on May 9 with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. While attending UTM he was a charter member and secretary of Alpha Phi Sigma, which is a National Criminal Justice Honor Society, Kappa Epsilon Chapter and member of the Southern Criminal Justice Association. Tyler was also on the Dean’s List and graduated with Honors. He will be attending the Nashville School of Law in the fall, pursuing a career in law.
Gault Scholarships awarded to students

The University of Tennessee at Martin has awarded the 2009-10 Stanley Gault Scholarships to four West Tennessee students. Each student will receive $500 for the academic year.

The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic merit, leadership and a personal essay. First preference is given to the son or daughter of a Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. associate.

This year’s recipients are:
- Heather Baker, daughter of Mark and Jeannine Baker of Martin, who will be a junior this fall majoring in biology.
- Elizabeth Barnes, daughter of Cleo and Becky Barnes of Union City, who will be a junior majoring in elementary education this fall.
- Mary Beth French, daughter of Ricky and Sheila French of Springville, who will be a senior majoring in graphic design this fall.
- Amy Gardner, daughter of Rusty and Marchelle Gardner of Martin, who will be a sophomore this fall majoring in business management.

The scholarship was established in 1996 by former Goodyear Union City plant manager Dick Davies and his wife, Barbara, in honor of the former Goodyear chairman.

The scholarship was established as an endowment, with the principal invested and only the interest spent. Therefore, the scholarship will continue to be awarded and grow in future years.

To be considered for the Gault Scholarship, students must apply during the spring semester for the following academic year.

Current or past recipients of the Gault Scholarship may be reawarded the scholarship in following years but must reapply each year to be eligible.

Applications are available at Goodyear or the UT Martin Office of Development.

From arts in the park to Lunch n’ Listen at the C.E. Weldon Library to the annual Martin Parks and Recreation Carnival, the city of Martin sets the stage for summer events.

University of Tennessee at Martin professors Lisa LeBleu (above, left) and Teresa Collard offer folk music during the 'Lunch-N-Listen Tuesdays' at the C.E. Weldon Public Library in Martin.
Dr. Erkal of UT Martin, a physics professor, is showing the effect of very low temperatures on materials with an apple frozen in liquid nitrogen (-350 F). He drives a nail into a wood block with the apple.

Dr. Getaneh of UT Martin, a physics professor, is demonstrating the effect of the induced current due to a changing magnetic field. Billy Jenkins is inspecting the increasing temperature of the copper conductor as the evidence of the induced current.

The Plus 1 students pose before touring the Paul Meeks Library at UT Martin.

Natalie Lynn Rushing of Fulton was recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education.
Belcher scholarships given to five graduates

Five students, who graduated from Henry County High School this spring, have received Peggy Perry Belcher memorial scholarships.

James Dumas Jr. and Bruce C. Hooper received $500 scholarships. Kourtney Byars and Holley Stearnes were given $300 each and Ciarra Allen received a $175 book scholarship.

INDUCTED INTO PHI KAPPA PHI — Local students (from left) Matthew Leland Davis and Thomas Edward Gossett, both of Union City; Heather Grossner of Troy; Edward Laster of Union City; James Lee Morris of Troy; and Kathryn Ramsey, Tyler Sherwood, Kelsy Caitlin Sigman and R.B. Tolar, all of Union City, were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of 282 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico. Not pictured are inductees Bradley Bugg and Bradley Gregg.

Byars plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin. She was an EFFORT Scholar for three years while in high school. She also was a member of the Spanish club and named Best Academic Student in the early childhood education careers class.

Stearnes, who plans to enroll at UT Martin, was a member of the Student Advisory Council, Math Club and HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America). She was active in the junior volunteer program at Henry County Medical Center.

SIGMA DELTA PI INDUCTION — Seven University of Tennessee at Martin students recently became new members of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Spanish Honor Society. Mu Theta was established on the UT Martin campus in 1977 by Stephen Mohler, professor of Spanish. Dr. Randal Garza (left), associate professor of Spanish, joined the newest inductees, including (continuing from left) Lori Taylor of Woodlawn, Jenna Patton of Camden, Melanijia Roy of Jackson, Elizabeth Hudson of Clarksville, Joaquín López of Union City and Hallie Aitken of Collierville. Not pictured is Dr. Daniel Nappo, Department of Foreign Languages chair.
Amanda Belew receives clinic scholarship

The first East Wood Clinic educational scholarship has been awarded to 2009 Henry County High School graduate Amanda Belew of Paris. Valued at $500, the scholarship is given to a student who plans a career as a physician. The clinic hopes to give the scholarship annually.

Blew, who is the daughter of Monte and Beth Belew, studied health sciences at HCHS and interned with orthopaedic surgeon Blake Chandler.

She plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

A list of her activities and accomplishments along with her picture was published in a recent article in The Post-Intelligencer.

Miss Turner, Miss Powell gear up for competition

Miss University of Tennessee at Martin Katelyn Turner of Union City and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Hannah Wade Powell of Alamo will join contestants from across the state in the Miss Tennessee Pageant June 17-20.

Both are University of Tennessee at Martin students.

Final competition is at 8 p.m. June 20 at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

Miss Turner, 20, is a sophomore pre-med student and Miss Powell, 20, is a sophomore criminal justice major.

"All contestants will have their first official Miss Tennessee duty Sunday at the Old Hickory Mall in Jackson with a meet-and-greet session. The public is encouraged to attend," said Hollie Holt, Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival director.

"Katelyn and Hannah Wade have been preparing for this competition since winning their preliminaries last November. They have been busy preparing their talent selections, selecting their wardrobe, becoming physically fit and promoting their platforms, community service and the importance of education, while still being full-time students."

For the talent segment, Miss Turner and Miss Powell will perform vocal selections.

Miss Tennessee contestants compete in swimsuit, talent, eveningwear, interview and on-stage questions. During the competition, contestants will win more than $73,000 in scholarship funds. The winner of Miss Tennessee 2009 becomes the governor's official spokesman for a Safe and Drug Free Tennessee.

Miss Tennessee will compete for the title of Miss America in January 2010.

For more information about the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Program, visit www.misstennessee.org.
Henry Countians graduate during UT Martin commencement

Fifteen Henry Countians were among students who graduated during the spring 2009 commencement at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- From Paris — Nicole M. Parke, Rachel Renee Shoults,
- From Como — Michelle Lee Ray
- Robert Roberts, publisher of The Jackson Sun newspaper, was the commencement speaker. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, presided over the exercises and Jan Simek, University of Tennessee acting president, conferred degrees.

Four HCHS graduates receive Murphey Memorial Scholarships

Four Henry County High School students who graduated this spring have received $400 David Murphey memorial scholarships.

Receiving the aid are:
- James Taylor, son of James and Peggy Taylor Paris. He plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and study marketing and business.
- Jimmy Johnson, grandson of Mary Johnson of Paris. Johnson also plans to enroll at UT Martin and study premedicine.
- Evan Twilbeck, son of Jim and Colleen Twilbeck of Paris. He is scheduled to attend UT Martin and study nursing.

Speaking in tongues

Henry County High School students Kaitlin Byrd (second from left) and Katie Reimold (second from right) recently won second place in the Spanish Bake-Off at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. Also pictured are Daniel Nappo (left), chairman of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, and David Coffey (right), interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.
MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE - Local veterans, Doyles Plunk, left, and Ronald Plunk, both of Martin, were among area veterans who attended the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Memorial Day Commemoration, May 22. Col. John C. "Chuck" Harrison, inspector general, Joint Force Headquarters, Tennessee National Guard, and a UT Martin alumnus, was the guest speaker. He was introduced by Lt. Col. Angela Odom, UT Martin professor of military science. Capt. Jeff Crawford, UT Martin Department of Military Science and Leadership recruiting operations officer and assistant professor of military science, served as master of ceremonies and Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed those attending. Doyles Plunk served in the U.S. Navy, and his brother, Ronald Plunk, served in the U.S. Army.

UT Martin’s Turner, Powell join Miss Tennessee Pageant

Katelin Turner, of Union City, 2009 Miss University of Tennessee at Martin, and Hannah-Wade Powell, of Alamo, 2009 Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival, University of Tennessee at Martin students, will join contestants from across the state in the Miss Tennessee Pageant, June 17-20.

Final competition is at 8 p.m., June 20, at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

Turner, 20, is a sophomore pre-med student, and Powell, 20, is a sophomore criminal justice major.

“All contestants will have their first official Miss Tennessee duty June 14 at the Old Hickory Mall in Jackson with a meet-and-greet session. The public is encouraged to attend,” said Hollie Holt, Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival director.

“Katelin and Hannah-Wade have been preparing for this competition since winning their preliminaries last November. They have been busy preparing their talent selections, selecting their wardrobes, becoming physically fit and promoting their platforms, community service and the importance of education, while still being full-time students.”

For the talent segment, Turner and Powell will perform vocal selections.

Miss Tennessee contestants compete in swimsuit, talent, eveningwear, interview, and on-stage questions. During the competition, contestants will win more than $73,000 in scholarship funds.

The winner of Miss Tennessee 2009 becomes the Governor’s Official Spokesperson for a Safe and Drug Free Tennessee. Miss Tennessee will compete for the title of Miss America in January 2010.

For more information about the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Program, visit www.misstennessee.org.
KID COLLEGE DAY – Gov. Phil Bredesen recently designated June 18 as a day of recognition honoring the 25th anniversary of the University of Tennessee at Martin Kid College. Pictured with Chancellor Tom Rakes and Debbie Mount, director of non-degree programs, holding the certificate are, from left, Dylan Mires, son of Daniel and Tracey Mires, who attended Kid College from 2002-2007 and now serves as a Kid College volunteer; Emily Grace Bell, daughter of Steve and Erica Bell, current Kid College participant who, along with her sister, Erin, recorded the Kid College radio ad; and Amelia and Audrey Sliger, daughters of David and Karen Sliger, future Kid College participants.

Young Scholars Academy set for June 21-27

A select group of 50 West Tennessee high school junior and senior students will attend a week-long summer residential program that will expose them to the rigors of college life.

The students will participate in academic and social growth and development activities, June 21-27, at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin Young Scholars Academy.

“This year’s theme is ‘Creative and Innovative Problem Solving for Today’s Youth.’ It is my hope that through challenging learning experiences, these students will return to their home schools with a greater awareness of how to learn and a better understanding of deep learning regardless of the subject matter,” said Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs.

Students will improve their skills and abilities in mass media/communications, English composition, critical reading and writing, elocution and etiquette, and basic tax preparation.

Additionally, students will increase their knowledge in health care and health careers as well as learn about the history of public education.

They will also participate in recreational and leisure activities to promote healthy lifestyle choices.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Affairs at 731-881-7710.
Local residents join WestStar graduates

Keith Carver, Melinda Goode, Andrew Hughes and Lisha Tuck, all of Weakley County, recently were honored for completing the WestStar Leadership Program sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Carver is assistant vice chancellor of development at UT Martin. Currently, he is the treasurer and board member of the Martin Soccer Association.

He has served as past chairman of the board, treasurer, and board member of the Children's Center of Knoxville; served as a task force member and served on the fund-raising committee of the Secret Safe Place of Knoxville. He is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County.

Goode is program director of the Senior Community Service Employment Program at the Northwest Tennessee Human Resource Agency.

She is a member of the Dresden Rotary and currently serves as sergeant at arms. In 2005, she was asked by Congressman John Tanner to serve as an alternate delegate to the White House Conference on Aging.

She has served as an elected school board member for the Weakley County Board of Education and is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County.

Hughes is community bank president for First State Bank in Dresden. She serves on the board of trustees for Volunteer Community Hospital.

She has served as past president and board member of the Dresden Rotary Club; has served on various committees for the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce; and served as past president of Babe Ruth Baseball League.

She is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County and is a volunteer for the Dresden Iris Festival.

Tuck is the assistant director of development at UT Martin. She is a member of the Weakley County Democratic Women’s Club and a committee member for the UT Martin Legislative Internship Program.

She has organized pageants and is a silent auction chair for the Tennessee Advancement Resources Council.

PROFESSOR RETIRING

- Dr. Paul Crapo, left, professor of French and director of the Center for Global Studies and International Education, will retire on June 30, after 14 years of service to the university and the community. Dr. Craig Darroch, professor of animal science, and many other faculty, students, staff and administrators offered Crapo their best wishes at a retirement reception hosted recently by the center.
Office equipment, quilts of yesteryear display at library and Museum

Computers are so common they are almost invisible, but walk into an office several decades ago and much different equipment — most of it quite noisy — would have been in use.

Visit the library and try your fingers on a Royal manual typewriter — no backspace key here. Just how big is a floppy disk, a minifloppy, or a microfloppy? How do you program a mechanical calculator? The public is invited to take a look at a few oddities from yesteryear in the exhibit area in the library.

While there, walk into the museum. A new exhibition of the handwork of local quilter, the late Frances Williams, is on display. She died in October, 2008, but left her family a collection of her handwork that provides examples of whimsical inventiveness and straightforward skill. Shown with the permission of daughters, Mary Jane Warde and Linda Waymon, these 10 new and old quilts each provide a colorful example of traditional, utilitarian women's domestic handwork.

The J. Houston Gordon University Museum is accessible through the Special Collections reading area. It is open weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., including the summer months.

Business conference slated

WestStar, the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development - Business Enterprise Resource Office and Tennessee Economic Council on Women will sponsor a women business owners opportunities conference called "Building Blocks for Success."

The event is planned from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., June 30, at the West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research, located at 605 Airways Blvd. in Jackson. The registration fee will be $35 per person/$60 for two, and a continental breakfast and lunch are included.

If registering by mail, send checks made payable to WestStar to UT Martin, 321 Administration Building, Martin, Tenn. 38238. One check for a group will be accepted, but there must be a separate registration form filled out for each attendee. If registering by email, send to Virginia Grimes at vgrimes@utm.edu. Include name, business, address and phone number. The check should arrive by June 22. There will be no refunds. For more information, call Grimes at 731-881-7298.

Local students receive scholarships to UTM

MARTIN — Local students have been awarded scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Justin Scruggs, son of Samuel and Loren Scruggs of Lavinia, will be a freshman. He received the UTM McWhorter Freshman Scholarship.

LaToya White, daughter of Diane Johnson of Milan and David White, will be a freshman. She received the UTM McWhorter Freshman Scholarship.

Entertainment set for June 22 at UT Martin

The next Open Mic Night, sponsored by Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will be 6-9 p.m. June 22 on the lawn outside the library.

There will be a number of student performers and local musicians.

The event is free and open to the public. Those attending are invited to bring folding chairs, blankets and picnic suppers as they enjoy a variety of music for all ages.

For more information, call Jim Nance, librarian, at (731) 881-7093 or jimmance@utm.edu.
Weakley County residents join WestStar graduates

Keith Carver, Melinda Goode, Andrea Hughes and Lisha Tuck, all of Weakley County, recently were honored for completing the WestStar Leadership Program sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

It's its 20th 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 550 graduates. The program identifies and educates people to assume leadership responsibilities in the economic and social development of West Tennessee. Class members participated 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.

Carver is assistant vice chancellor of development at UT Martin. Currently, he is the treasurer and board member of the Martin Soccer Association. He has served as past chairman of the board, treasurer, and board member of the Children's Center of Knoxville; served as a task force member and served on the fund-raising committee of the Secret Safe Place of Knoxville. He is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County.

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"This year's theme is 'Creative and Innovative Problem Solving for Today's Youth.' It is my hope that through challenging learning experiences, these students will return to their home schools with a greater awareness of how to learn and a better understanding of deep learning regardless of the subject matter," said Dr. Margaret Foston, vice chancellor for student affairs.

Students will improve their skills and abilities in mass media/communications, English composition, critical reading and writing, elocution and etiquette, and basic tax preparation. Additionally, students will increase their knowledge in health care and health careers as well as learn about the history of public education. They will also participate in recreational and leisure activities to promote healthy lifestyle choices. For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Affairs at 731-881-7710.
Local graduates

George and Paula Browning proudly announce the graduation of their children. Trey Browning graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin on May 9 with a degree in Natural Resource Management. Trey’s sister, Crystal Browning, graduated from Dresden High School on May 15. She will attend UTM in the fall.

Flags remain on sale

Flags remain on sale through Wednesday, June 10 as part of the “Field of Flags” event displayed on the UTM grounds along University Street near the corner of Skyhawk Parkway. Flags can be purchased for $25 each to honor or remember friends and loved ones. The event’s proceeds, hosted by the Martin American Legion, Sons of the American Legion and the Auxiliary, will benefit the local Carl Perkins Center serving families in Weakley and Obion counties. The Martin American Legion and other sponsors encourage you to participate. Purchased flags will be presented at a special program on Flag Day, Sunday, June 14 at the Martin American Legion Lodge on Central Street at 2:00 p.m. Reserve your flag today at the Carl Perkins Center located at 111 Oxford Street or call the Center at 731-587-0768 for more information.

Honor Roll

Michael Schoonover has been named to the University of Tennessee at Martin Honor Roll for the Spring Semester 2009. Thomas A. Rakes, Chancellor, extended congratulations for Schoonover’s academic achievements stating they are impressive and certainly merit UTM’s recognition. “You and your family can take pride in the results of your work, as all of us do at UT Martin,” he said. “We appreciate the academic standard you help set for the entire campus, and we look forward to having you back on campus in the fall semester,” he added.
County students named to UTM Dean’s Lists

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduates at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2009 Dean’s Lists for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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

Included are:

• Trenton: Clark H. Allen, High Honors; Patrick E. Cayson, Honors; Haleigh E. Cole, Highest Honors; Ashley N. Drumright, Honors; Casey M. Ellington, Honors; Calvin J. Evans, Highest Honors; Corbin C. Gibson, High Honors; Kevin S. Hopper, Highest Honors; Anessa L. Inman, Highest Honors; Lauren N. Jewell, High Honors; Kellie L. Joynar, Honors; Amber D. Kenemore, High Honors; Stephanie S. Morris, High Honors; Jennifer A. Reeves, Highest Honors; Jessica C. Richardson, High Honors; Kristin K. Rodamaker, Highest Honors; Emily J. Rogers, Highest Honors; Nicholas T. Scott, High Honors; Madison L. Sturgeon, Honors; Joe T alley, High Honors; Rebecca F. Taylor, Highest Honors; Rachel A. Ward, High Honors; and Cydney L. Williams, Highest Honors.
• Bradford: Xavier T. Alexander, Honors; Allison N. Cash, High Honors; Jessica B. Derry, Honors; Clayton A. Hampton, High Honors; Clinton D. Hampton, Honors; Brittany N. Moore, High Honors; Daniel H. Morris, Highest Honors; David L. Terry, Honors; and Lori R. Wood, Honors.
• Dyer: Joshua T. Adams, Highest Honors; Matthew E. Bobbitt, Highest Honors; Melissa D. Carson, Highest Honors; Matthew R. Coleman, Honors; Joseph A. Fulwood, High Honors; David B. Garrett, Honors; Lakisha N. Harris, High Honors; Ashlee N. Johnson, Honors; Elizabeth A. McCurdy, Highest Honors; Emily B. Parks, Highest Honors; Katherine L. Parks, High Honors; Stuart N. Shaw, Honors; Jessica J. Sims, High Honors; Aimee G. Thompson, Highest Honors; Kimberly J. Thompson, Honors; Noelle B. Turner, Honors; and Emily R. Worrell, High Honors.
• Rutherford: Amy C. Baird, Honors; Hannah L. Greene, Honors; James M. Moore, High Honors; Kimberly N. Ratliff, Highest Honors; and Nathan B. Russell, High Honors.
• Kenton: Julie R. Baker, High Honors; Curtis W. Cochran, Honors; Jessica D. Dvorak, Honors; Jacob L. Eddlemon, High Honors; Candace M. Elgin, High Honors; Jessica J. Francis, Highest Honors; David C. Holmon, Highest Honors; Ryan S. McMackin, Highest Honors; Brittany C. Parker, Highest Honors; Laura M. Silva, High Honors.
• Yorkville: Ryan J. Pope, Honors.
• Humboldt: Linda D. Austin, Highest Honors; Courtney S. Brackeen, Honors; Brittany N. Branum, High Honors; Andrew J. Castleman, Highest Honors; Kiara S. Champion, Highest Honors; Donald B. Denton, Honors; Jennifer L. Denton, Honors; Tamika S. Donaldson, High Honors; Meredith L. Dunn, High Honors; Kayla C. Foxx, Honors; Erin M. Jackson, Highest Honors; Angela N. Kee, Honors; Adam S. Laman, High Honors; Megan M. Lanting, Highest Honors; Kristin M. Loucks, High Honors; Alexis R. Luckey, High Honors; William P. Luckey, High Honors; Nicholas D. Massey, Honors; Bradley D. Matthews, High Honors; Angela K. Nicholas, Honors; Jeremy H. Patterson, Honors; Desiree D. Rinks, Honors; Anthony R. Rushing, High Honors; Christine K. Rushing, High Honors; Kara V. Salyers, Highest Honors; Michael S. Schoonover, Highest Honors; and Jeb H. Williams, Highest Honors.
• Idlewild: Joshua R. Hefner, Highest Honors.
• Medina: Charli M. Crone, Honors; Jodie L. Davidson, Highest Honors; Lisa N. Detrain, Highest Honors; Jessica L. Erickson, High Honors; Jacob G. Flippin, High Honors; Whitney L. Foster, Highest Honors; Caroline E. Harber, High Honors; Christina C. Johnson, Honors; Lucas R. Jones, Highest Honors; Dustin P. Kenton, Highest Honors; Kevin L. Miller, Highest Honors; Brianna M. Quinn, Honors; Melody P. Sain, Highest Honors; Allison E. Todd, High Honors; Shelby L. Totty, Highest Honors; Jacob H. Whitman, Honors; and Jesse N. Winchester, Highest Honors.
• Milan: Austin D. Alred, Highest Honors; Bryce E. Appleton, Highest Honors; Elise T. Arnold, High Honors; Raymond F. Burke, Highest Honors; Amanda Bratcher, Highest Honors; Byron B. Burns, Highest Honors; Lynsey A. Charlington, Highest Honors; Natasha M. Davidson, Highest Honors; Brandon T. Dowdy, Honors; Robert M. Fly, High Honors; Zach Ford, Honors; Whitney E. Garner, Honors; Alan J. Greve, High Honors; Kyle B. Jackson, High Honors; Benny L. Johnson, Honors; Hilary G. Keen, Highest Honors; Tiffany B. Matheny, High Honors; Christopher S. McGill, Highest Honors; Rachel R. McMinn, Honors; Latonya K. Murriel, Honors; Adam P. Nelson, Highest Honors; Ashley M. Niven, High Honors; Sarah E. Parker, High Honors; Sara H. Pfifer, Honors; Adam J. Sandor, High Honors; Jake D. Stewart, Honors; and Courtney N. Sullivan, Honors.

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

Ashley Michelle Niven (left) of Milan, Emily Blaire Parks of Dyer, Emily Jane Rogers of Trenton, and Jeb Hunter Williams of Humboldt, were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent, and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of 282 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.

UTM graduates announced

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

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Trenton: Jennifer Renee Bobbitt, Hunter Curtis Smith, Stephanie Slack Morris, Nicholas Tyler Scott, Kevin Scott Hopper, Kristin Kay Rodamaker, Paul Travis Martin, Casey Miller Ellington, Anessa LeAnn Inman, and Calyn Jean Evans;
- Bradford, Benjamin Franklin Woods, III and Xavier Tatum Alexander;
- Dyer: Emily Blaire Parks, Kevin Brian Hill, Melissa Dawn Carson, Joseph Asa Fulwood, Ashlee Nicole Johnson, Jessica Jo Sims, and Amy J. Mistrick;
- Rutherford: Aimee Grace Thompson;
- Kenton: Julie Renee Baker, Hunter Ray Stephens, and Jessica Joyce Francis;
- Humboldt: Alfredo Ramirez and Timothy Sean Rinks;
- Yorkville: Ryan Joseph Pope;
- Milan: Rachel Dean Szopinski, Lynsey Alyse Charlton, William Hudson Harrison Jr., Hilary Gayle Keen, Amanda Danielle Bratcher, Brittany Lynn Broach, Megan Leigh Carmichael, Benny Lynn Johnson, and Gabrielle Nicole Toone;
- Medina: Jacob Hall Whitman, Michael G. Nance, Brooke Allison Bettie, and Jodie Lee Davidson;

The students receiving graduate degrees were:
- Bradford: Dorothy Ann Cantrell, Misti Dawn Dudley, and Deborah Kay Reynolds;
- Kenton: Jenna Leigh Litton, and Patricia Kimberly Pierce;
- Humboldt: Kristy Lillard Shelton;
- Milan: Julie Ann Walker.

Roy Heatherly, Jackson Sun president and publisher, was the commencement speaker. UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes presided over the exercises, and Dr. Jan Simek, University of Tennessee acting president, conferred degrees.
Student receives scholarship

A Weakley County student has been awarded two scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.
Ashley Grimes, daughter of Bud and Virginia Grimes of Martin, will be a freshman. She received the Deans Scholarship and the Leaders-in-Residence Award.
Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238. In-state residents telephone 800-829-UTMI; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.

Next open mic night outdoors on June 22

The next Open Mic Night, sponsored by Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will be 6-9 p.m., June 22, on the lawn outside the library. There will be a number of student performers and local musicians. The event is free and open to the public. Those attending are invited to bring folding chairs, blankets and picnics and enjoy a variety of music for all ages. For more information, call Jim Nance, librarian, at 731-881-7093 or jimmance@utm.edu.

Veterans honored on Memorial Day

Veterans attending the University of Tennessee Martin’s Memorial Day Commemoration on May 22 salute during ‘Taps.’ Among veterans attending was Bill Stout, center, UT Martin ROTC instructor from 1964-70. Stout served in the U.S. Army. Col. John C. ‘Chuck’ Harrison, inspector general, Joint Force Headquarters, Tennessee National Guard and a UT Martin alumnus, was the guest speaker.
University of Tennessee considers tuition, salary changes

DUNCAN MANSFIELD
Associated Press Writer

KNOXVILLE (AP) — The University of Tennessee is preparing to increase tuition this fall, freeze salaries and operate with more than 500 fewer jobs on the five-campus payroll. Those are the hard choices UT trustees face next week when they consider a $1.8 billion budget for 2009-2010 built on a forecast of falling state appropriations, declining personal gifts and rising utility costs.

"Despite these times of economic challenges, our vision remains strong and our efforts are focused on delivering the high-quality teaching, research, outreach and economic development programming expected from the University of Tennessee," acting President Jan Simek said in a letter to trustees.

The UT budget contains tuition increases recommended months ago by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission — 7 percent for UT-Martin and UT-Chattanooga and 9 percent for UT-Knoxville, the UT College of Law at Knoxville, and the UT Space Institute at Tullahoma.

It also recommended increased of 10 percent for the UT Health Science Center in Memphis and 20 percent for in-state students at the UT College of Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville. That means a $490 increase in undergraduate tuition at UT-Knoxville to $5,918, a $296 increase to $4,506 at UT-Chattanooga, and a $308 increase to $4,708 at UT-Martin.

Last January, former President John Petersen predicted the 47,000-student university would have to cut 700 jobs to offset a $675 million — or 13 percent — drop in state funding because of falling state revenues. Since then, the state has promised $103.8 million in federal stimulus funds over the next two years to make up the loss.

Budget documents released this week in advance of the trustees' meetings Tuesday and Wednesday in Knoxville suggest the stimulus bailout hasn't slowed payroll piling on at the university.

The university says it will have 13,909 full-time equivalent positions on its Knoxville, Chattanooga, Martin, Memphis and Tullahoma campuses on July 1. That's 546 fewer positions — about 4 percent — than a year ago.

Many of those positions were already unfilled, while others developed from retirements and voluntary departures. There have not yet been any layoffs or buyouts.

The budget, however, says "mandatory furloughs without pay, reduction of time worked, across-the-board salary reductions and similar salary-related measures may be required" if shortfalls develop.

The document contains no across-the-board pay raises next year, though employees may receive pay boosts through promotion or certain tenure-track milestones.

"At this point the budget is driven by needs and the funds that will go in are driven by needs," UT spokeswoman Gina Stafford said. "There may be additions or reductions (later)."

She said Simek has been "very consistent talking internally with folks that the stimulus did not make all of the funding problems go away, but it did allow us two more years to more carefully and thoughtfully and humanely figure out how to get there with less state appropriations."

UT's 2010 budget shows a 2.8 percent increase in revenue mostly from the tuition increase and a 3.1 percent decrease in instructional spending; 16.4 percent increase for maintenance and operations due to higher utility bills and a 19.8 percent cut in research spending.

The university's seven-year $1 billion capital campaign has reached $852 million, after donations failed to meet forecasts in 2009 for the first time since the campaign began in 2003. UT officials blame the economy and say the problem is common among public colleges and universities.

UTM students are pageant contestants

UTM students will take part in the Miss Tennessee Pageant. Katelyn Turner of Union City, 2009 Miss University of Tennessee Martin, and Hannah-Wade Powell of Alamo, 2009 Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival, will join contestants from across the state Wednesday through June 20. Final competition is at 8 p.m. June 20 at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

Turner, 20, is a sophomore pre-med student, and Powell, 20, is a sophomore criminal justice major. For the talent segment, Turner and Powell will perform vocal selections.

Miss Tennessee contestants compete in swimsuit, talent, evening wear, interview and on-stage questions. During the competition, contestants will win more than $73,000 in scholarship funds. The winner of Miss Tennessee 2009 becomes the Governor's Official Spokesperson for a Safe and Drug Free Tennessee. Miss Tennessee will compete for the title of Miss America in January 2010. Visit www.miss.tennessee.org.

The Jackson Sun/38

Saturday, June 13, 2009
OC STUDENT WINS — An Obion County Central High School student recently won second place in the French Poster Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. On hand for the recognition were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; OCCHS student Laykon Butler; and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

Two Obion County residents added to WestStar graduates

Pat Fligor and Al Oliver, both of Obion County, were recently honored for completing the WestStar Leadership Program sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In its 20th 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 550 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.

Ms. Fligor is director of business development for the Obion County Joint Economic Development Council in Union City. She currently serves as a board member for Main Street Union City Inc. and is a member of the Leadership Obion County advisory board and the West Tennessee Retail Alliance.

She is also a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers.

Oliver is the executive vice president of Westin Insurance Group in Union City. He has previously served on the board of directors of the Insurers of Tennessee as young agents chair in 1997.

In addition, he is very active in the community and several organizations. He is a Rotarian and serves on the Union City Board of Zoning Appeals, the advisory board of Commercial Bank & Trust and the Obion County Chamber of Commerce. He is past president of Poplar Meadows Country Club and has been a Jaycee.

He is co-founder of the annual Push for St. Jude Fund Raiser staged at UT Martin, served as drive chairman in 1993 for the United Way and currently serves on the Bill and Carol Latimer Charitable Foundation.
Computer Finds New Math ‘Jewel’ In The Rough

STEVE INSKEEP, host:

And we have some prime news this morning. Drum roll, please.

(Soundbite of drum roll, cymbal crash)

INSKEEP: Thank you very much. A computer professional in Norway has discovered a new Mersenne prime - what you and I might call a prime number. This discovery brings joy to prime number fans worldwide and brings a special satisfaction to NPR’s Joe Palca. He’ll tell you why.

JOE PALCA: For those of you for whom basic math is a distant memory, we begin with a reminder. Primes are numbers that are divisible by only one and themselves. So, two is prime. So is three, five, seven and so on. 2003 was a prime year. So will be 2011.

Mersenne primes have been called the jewels of number theory. They are a special class of prime, and they have a particular formula. I will now tell you the formula. And let me warn you: Only trained professionals should attempt to give mathematical formulas over the radio. Here goes.

It is two raised to the nth power minus one, where n is itself a prime number and the result is prime. Ancient Greek mathematicians were the first to describe Mersenne primes. So far, only 46 have been discovered - or now, I should say 47, because there’s a new one, and it’s a whopper: nearly 13 million digits long.

It was found as part of the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search, or GIMPS. GIMPS involves tens of thousands of computers churning away, looking for new Mersenne primes. Mathematician Chris Caldwell of the University of Tennessee Martin says finding Mersenne primes takes a lot of computing power.

Professor CHRIS CALDWELL (Math, University of Tennessee Martin): Not only do you have to multiply a 13-million-digit number times a 13-million-digit number, you have to do that about 13 million times. That just takes a tremendous amount of computation.

PALCA: When I first reported on the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search last April 10th, I exhorted NPR listeners to download the software and join the effort. The new Mersenne prime was discovered by someone who was already a prime hunter. Odd Magnar Strindmo from Melhus, Norway, has been part of GIMPS since it began in 1996.

Now, finding a new Mersenne prime is exciting all by itself, but it’s especially exciting because of a bet I made with George Waltman. He’s the man who runs the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search. I bet the next one would be found before 2012, helped along by all those NPR listeners who I hoped would download the program.

Waltman emailed me, saying he felt a little silly losing the bet so soon. But I have a confession to make: I meant the next largest Mersenne prime. The 47th Mersenne prime is actually 141,125 digits smaller than one that was discovered last year.

So, I won on a technicality, and I’m willing to carry on the bet until the largest one is found. After all, we didn’t bet any money, so I can afford to be magnanimous.

Joe Palca, NPR News.

(Soundbite of music)

INSKEEP: And you could learn more about the new prime by going to our Web site - our prime Web site: npr.org.

This is NPR News.
Preparation begins for 2010 census

Martina Conley
Special to The Press

Dr. Margaret Toston of UT Martin is leading a committee of several staff members in order to participate in the 2010 U.S. Census Partnership Support Program.

The U.S. Census Partnership Program is a proposal submitted to request funding to promote the Census on the UT Martin campus.

Members of the committee include Toston, David Belote, Steve Vantrease, Louis Ragsdale and David Taylor. The committee is deciding which campus and citywide events will effectively promote Census participation among the students.

Many university students are unaware that they must be counted here in Martin, not in their hometown.

According to the U.S. Census 2010 website, people are to be counted where they live and sleep for the majority of the year.

This is important not only because it is required by law, but also, because the more residents a city holds, the more funding it will receive.

For example, for every 1,000 people counted, $100,000 goes to that city's budget for infrastructure, roads and other services. The campus committee has also been working closely with the cities' committee members to avoid duplication of ideas.

"We would like to get the total amount of funding we request and maximize the number of people that participate," said Taylor.

Upon receipt of such fund-

Census
From Page 1

As of April 1, 2010.
This date is also the last day to submit your information. The Census Bureau must count everyone and submit all state totals to the U.S. President by Dec. 31, 2010.

Editor's note: Martina Conley is a senior communications student at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

UT Martin’s Turner, Powell Miss Tennessee Pageant

Katelyn Turner, of Union City, 2009 Miss University of Tennessee at Martin, and Hannah-Wade Powell, of Alamo, 2009 Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival, University of Tennessee at Martin students, will join contestants from across the state in the Miss Tennessee Pageant, June 17-20. Final competition is at 8 p.m., June 20, at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

Turner, 20, is a sophomore pre-med student, and Powell, 20, is a sophomore criminal justice major.

"All contestants will have their first official Miss Tennessee duty June 14 at the Old Hickory Mall in Jackson with a meet-and-greet session. The public is encouraged to attend," said Hollie Holt, Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival director.

"Katelyn and Hannah-Wade have been preparing for this competition since winning their preliminaries last November. They have been busy preparing their talent selections, selecting their wardrobes, becoming physically fit and promoting their platforms, community service and the importance of education, while still being full-time students."

For the talent segment, Turner and Powell will perform vocal selections.

Weakley County student receives scholarships to attend UT Martin

A Weakley County student has been awarded two scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

* Ashley Grimes, daughter of Bud and Virginia Grimes of Martin, will be a freshman. She received the Deans Scholarship and the Leaders-in-Residence Award.

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, TN 38238. In-state residents telephone 800-829-UTML; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.
First African American Leadership Conference
still thriving after 11 years

"The most compelling aspect of the African American Leadership Conference is that it provides an in-depth, hard-hitting, probing, truly introspective evaluation of leadership as practiced in the past and present, especially by black Americans," Dr. Jesse Cannon, conference speaker.

The annual African American Leadership Conference, an outgrowth of the University of Tennessee at Martin WestStar leadership program, was the first and remains the only leadership conference focused on African Americans in the state. Its purpose is to discuss challenges and opportunities faced by African Americans, especially those who aspire to leadership positions in careers, public service and civic and community groups.

Since the first conference in 1998, with attendance of 80, the conference consistently attracts 150 from throughout West Tennessee. They represent an extensive list of governmental, business, industrial and educational firms and institutions and entrepreneurial ventures.

Cannon, a Covington physician, has spoken at several conferences and each time has been impressed by the relevant and contemporary topics that are presented. He points to the diligence of conference organizers to find persons knowledgeable in their fields to deliver the messages.

"Unlike Middle and East Tennessee, West Tennessee has the highest concentration of African Americans in the state, and this conference is extremely important to our emerging young leaders as it allows them the opportunity to meet and talk with leaders from across the country," said State Rep. Johnny Shaw. Celebrating the 10th anniversary in 2008, the group initiated two awards for persons younger and older than 40, respectively, who have made substantial impacts on the lives of others. Shaw received one of the 2008 awards.

Anne Banks, Brownsville Community Development director for 27 years, is one of three 1997 WestStar graduates who organized the first African American Leadership Conference and completed special studies at Harvard and Yale universities. Conferences also include health and fitness, civic and education segments each year.

As the medical speaker, Cannon said, "I have covered topics that illuminate the disease processes that impact the African American community most often or with more significant consequences. In so doing, I've tried to share details that are not often covered by our primary care physicians."

While the committee steered the contents of the first conference, programming from that point has been based on participants' requests. And, at first, the committee tried to find African American speakers for all topics. "That has changed and is becoming diverse," said Banks. Likewise, the conference attracts a diverse crowd with some West Tennessee companies earmarking it for diversity training and professional development.

African American leadership is a major benefit. "It's all the networking with so many people," said one participant, who added that she found someone this year to offer a diversity class in her community. "Networking, I've met three other people in health care-related fields. We swapped business cards and are going to keep in touch," said another. Still others have said, "This is good for my business. I have ideas now how I can make things work or advance with my company."

In a group that has ranged in age from 15-75, some of the older participants have remarked that they did not think they would live long enough to see a conference dealing with issues and topics as they impact African Americans.

Finally, Banks said the conference gives African Americans a sense of "what we mean to each other and the importance we bring to the U.S. and issues such as the economy. We're a driving force. Some of us are not clear about that." Using the history the National Civil Rights Museum houses as an example, she added, "It's not just African American history in that museum. It shows the connection that we as Americans bring to each other and what can be accomplished when we all come together."

"The conference has been able to sustain its longevity because it strives to deal with those extremely relevant day-to-day issues that are the common thread for all Tennesseans," said Shaw. "This conference provides a voice for the African American community to be a part of addressing and providing solutions for those very human and basic needs."
Four University of Tennessee at Martin faculty members were honored with awards for outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising during the recent Honors Day program.

Dr. Michelle Merwin, Department of Psychology interim chair, received the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award. The Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award of $5,000 was established in 1993 by James R. Cunningham, who attended UT Junior College in the 1930s. It is awarded annually to faculty members who have demonstrated strength in teaching and made a contribution to the teaching profession through scholarly activities, extracurricular achievements and leadership responsibilities.

Dr. Becky Cox, assistant professor of education, received the University of Tennessee Alumni Association (UTAA) Outstanding Teacher Award. Each year, the UTAA presents awards of $2,000 to faculty members on each of the UT campuses who have been selected as outstanding teachers. Students, alumni and faculty nominate outstanding teachers, who are then evaluated on classroom performance, scholarship and service.

Stan Sieber, professor of history, received the Outstanding Advisor Award. The Outstanding Advisor Award of $1,000 and a plaque are presented to the faculty member selected for demonstrating a caring attitude toward advisees, availability to advisees, monitoring student progress toward academic and career goals and the ability to engage in developmental advising and other distinctive characteristics. The recipient also is eligible for the national award competition sponsored by the American College Testing Program and the National Academic Advising Association.

Dr. Desiree McCullough, associate professor of mathematics and statistics, received the Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award. The Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award of $5,000 was established in 1998 by Mai and Charlie Coffey and is awarded annually to a faculty member who demonstrates strength in teaching and contributes to the teaching profession through extracurricular achievements, leadership qualities and scholarly activities.

Among faculty members honored with awards for outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising during the recent Honors Day program were, front row, second from left, Dr. Michelle Merwin, Dr. Becky Cox, Stan Sieber; and back row, Dr. Desiree McCullough. They are pictured with Dr. Eric Pelren, front row, left, 2008 University of Tennessee Alumni Association (UTAA) Outstanding Teacher Award recipient who made the presentation; Dr. Tom Rakes, back left, UT Martin chancellor; Dr. Frank Black, professor emeritus of educational studies who gave the Honors Day address; and Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs, right.
Recipients of Gault Scholarships announced

The University of Tennessee at Martin has awarded the 2009-10 Stanley Gault Scholarships to four West Tennessee students. Each student will receive $500 for the academic year. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic merit, leadership and a personal essay. First preference is given to the son or daughter of a Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. associate.

This year's recipients are Mary Beth French, Heather Baker, Elizabeth Barnes, and Amy Gardner.

* Mary Beth French, daughter of Ricky and Sheila French of Springfield, will be a senior this fall majoring in graphic design.

* Heather Baker, daughter of Mark and Jeanie Baker of Martin, will be a junior this fall majoring in biology.

* Elizabeth Barnes, daughter of Cleo and Becky Barnes of Union City, will be a junior this fall majoring in elementary education.

* Amy Gardner, daughter of Rusty and Marchelle Gardner of Martin, will be a sophomore this fall majoring in business management.

The scholarship was established in 1996 by former Goodyear Union City plant manager Dick Davies and his wife, Barbara, in honor of the former Goodyear chairman.

The scholarship was established as an endowment; the principal is invested and only the interest is spent. Therefore, the scholarship will continue to be awarded and grow in future years.

To be considered for the Gault Scholarship, students must apply during the spring semester for the following academic year. Current or past recipients of the Gault Scholarship may be rewarded the scholarship in the following years, but must reapply each year to be eligible. Applications are available at Goodyear or the UT Martin Office of Development.

Mary Beth French

Heather Baker

Elizabeth Barnes

Amy Gardner
UT Martin Army ROTC Cadet receives national-level award

An Army ROTC cadet from the University of Tennessee at Martin will join senior U.S. military leaders at a National Security Seminar to be conducted April 15-17. Cadet Richard G. Casada, College Grove, will travel to historic Lexington, Virginia, along with key military officials such as Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey and Secretary of the Army Pete Geren.

Casada earned the opportunity to participate in the George C. Marshall ROTC Seminar by being selected as the top Army ROTC cadet at UT Martin. While in Lexington, Casada will have the opportunity to directly interact with the key leaders in attendance and discuss a variety of issues directly bearing on national security.

Casada is scheduled to be commissioned May 9. At that time, he will become an educational delay lieutenant and will attend law school at the University of Tennessee.

"Cadet Casada has really excelled during his time here. He represents the epitome of a scholar, athlete and leader amongst his peers. He earned a 3.97 GPA, excels on the Army physical fitness test, and participates on UT Martin's Ranger Challenge team. He served as the cadet battalion commander, president of the College Republicans, and has participated in various other campus, community and ROTC events," said Lt. Col. Angela M. Odom, UT Martin professor of military science.

"I am looking forward to this amazing opportunity. I'm positive that in representing UT Martin in the George C. Marshall Seminar I will gain tremendous respect and enthusiasm for military career professionalism and my fellow future lieutenant peers," said Casada.

The Marshall ROTC Seminar is in its 32nd year of existence. It is named in honor of George C. Marshall - who served as Army chief of staff during World War II. Subsequent to concluding his military career, Marshall served as secretary of state and later as secretary of defense during the Truman administration. His vigorous efforts to help the economies of Europe recover from the ravages of World War II earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953.

Edwards honored at UTM ROTC Awards Ceremony

Cadet Spencer Edwards, of Dresden, recently received the BG G.H. Weems Memorial ROTC Scholarship Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC Awards Ceremony. Lt. Col. Angela Odom, professor of military science, presented the award.

Congratulations, West Star grads

Jeff Becker, Katie Chandler, Leah Gray, Mandy McVay, Andre Temple and Mandy White, all of Madison County, were honored for completing the WestStar Leadership Program sponsored by the University of Tennessee Martin.

The program was created in 1989 to serve the 21 counties of West Tennessee, providing leadership development and training for selected participants. Seminars feature 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 hold key leadership positions throughout the state.

Becker is the manager of business development at Tenergy Corp. Chandler is director of guest resources at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital. Gray is human resources director at Jackson State Community College.

McVay is the producer of sales for FSB Insurance (a division of First South Bank) in Jackson.

Temple is a regional economic development specialist for the UT Institute for Public Service. White is manager of research and economic development with the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce.
Local students graduates from UT

Kimberly Kraft, of Martin, Jana Dickey, of New Johnsonville, Jenny Drumright, of Selmer, and Romiell Dunlap, of Shannon, Miss., were among graduates participating in the University of Tennessee at Martin spring commencement ceremony. Drumright received a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the exercises, and Dr. Jan Simek, University of Tennessee acting president, conferred degrees.

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Thursday, June 18, 2009

'SOARING AT UT MARTIN — Cody Speed of Union City recently attended Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. A Union City High School graduate, Speed will attend UT Martin in the fall. His mother, Tammy Speed, joined him at SOAR. Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for first-year students the week before classes). For more information about SOAR, call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at (731) 881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1.

GETTING AN EARLY START — Jordan Jones of Kenton recently attended Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. An Obion County Central High School graduate, Miss Jones will attend UT Martin in the fall. She was accompanied by her mother, Kim Jones. Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for first-year students the week before classes). For more information about SOAR, call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at (731) 881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1.
UT raising tuition; job cutbacks announced

By DUNCAN MANSFIELD
Associated Press Writer

KNOXVILLE (AP) — University of Tennessee trustees agreed Wednesday to raise tuition at all campuses, eliminate more than 500 jobs over the next two years and trim the UT system’s vice presidents by half in a top-level reorganization.

Some 200 jobs are vacant now, while 300 others will be shifted to federal stimulus funding that will end in 2012. Affected employees will be told in coming days. About two-thirds of them work at the main campus in Knoxville.

“These are going to be tough times, absolutely no question about that,” Acting UT President Jan Simek said.

The trustees approved an $1.8 billion budget for 2009-2010 containing these actions in response to $65 million in state funding reductions blamed on a lousy economy — though the percentage of state funding received by the five-campus 47,000-student university has been shrinking compared to tuition for several years.

Tuition this fall will rise 7 percent at UT-Martin and UT-Chattanooga and 9 percent at UT-Knoxville, the UT College of Law at Knoxville and the UT Space Institute at Fullahoma.

That means a $490 increase in undergraduate tuition at UT-Knoxville to $5,918; a $296 increase to $4,506 at UT-Chattanooga, and a $308 increase to $4,708 at UT-Martin.

Elsewhere, a 10 percent increase will take effect at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis and a 20 percent hike will hit in-state students at the UT College of Veterinary Medicine in Knoxville.

Student trustee Tyler Forrest, a junior at UT-Chattanooga, called it a “reasonable increase” after fears of even larger hikes a few months ago before the federal stimulus money became available.

“Students actually initially supported larger increases when we thought the budget was total-

(See Page 12, Col. 2)

foremost,” but added, “at the end of this period, UT will be a different university than it is now. We will be leaner and we will be more efficient.”

Simek said he considered a significant reorganization one of his top challenges as acting president after wide criticism that UT’s central administration had become bloated. The plan he asked the trustees to endorse Wednesday cuts seven of 14 vice presidents — some by dropping their title, some by merging their duties with other offices and two by outright elimination.

This should produce $5.7 million in savings to the university, since 15-20 support staff jobs also will be cut, he said.

The acting president said he will appoint task forces on three areas where executives now report directly to the president — racial diversity, UT-Knoxville athletics and the Institute for Public Service that helps local governments. Simek is considering moving those responsibilities to campus leaders.

During their two-day meeting, trustees heard about the need for greater efficiencies and unrealized savings in many places — from eliminating motor pools to trimming $20 million from information technology services.

Trustee George Cates of Memphis said the campuses now have their marching orders.

“They have got their (trustees’) approval and we are in a hurry,” Cates said. “There are a lot of changes that have to be made over the next three years. This is a university in crisis and the worst thing would be to put anything off.”

A HEAD START — Trevor Wallace of Troy recently attended Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. An Obion County Central High School graduate, Wallace will attend UT Martin in the fall. He was joined by his mother, Sandy Wallace. Students met with academic advisors and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for first-year students the week before classes). For more information about SOAR, call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at (731) 881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1.
UTM tuition hikes outlined; other action taken by board

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a 7 percent instate tuition increase for students attending the University of Tennessee at Martin effective for the 2009 fall semester. The approval came during the board’s annual meeting this week in Knoxville.

Instate tuition and fees, including the new tuition rate, will now cost undergraduate students $2,885 per semester to attend UT-Martin. Full-time undergraduate enrollment is a minimum of 12 hours. Out-of-state undergraduate tuition will increase 7 percent. Total cost will be $8,578 per semester.

“We have worked carefully to make strategic decisions leading to the 7 percent tuition increase,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT-Martin chancellor. The increase will enable UT Martin to maintain a high level of quality in academic programs and student services while still holding tuition levels below many public and private institutions in the nation.”

Tuition for instate graduate students at UT-Martin will increase by 7 percent. Total cost for instate graduate students will be $3,329 per semester this fall. Out-of-state graduate tuition will increase 7 percent. Total cost for out-of-state graduate students will be $9,022 per semester. Full-time graduate enrollment is nine hours per semester.

Other actions involving UT Martin included the following.

• An academic enrichment fee in the Department of Agriculture.

(See Page 2, Col. 6)

UTM...

(Continued from Page One)

Geosciences and Natural Resources was approved for students taking specific courses. Fee amounts will be $20 for selected courses.

• The UT Online course fee was increased by $10 to $56 to support increasing costs for online courses.

• UT Martin was approved to implement a previously approved $103 per semester debt service fee beginning this fall to support the new Student Recreation Center.

• Consolidation of six academic areas with existing programs was approved. Included are Geology and Geography merging into the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; Physics merging into the Department of Chemistry and Physics; Political Science merging into the Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics and Political Science; Computer Science and Information Systems merging into the Department of Management, Marketing, Computer Science and Information Systems; Psychology merging with Sociology, Criminal Justice and Social Work into the Department of Behavioral Sciences; and Modern Foreign Languages merging into the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

• Discontinuation of the bachelor of science with a major in health sciences in the Department of Biological Sciences, as recommended by the UT Martin Faculty Senate and campus administration, was approved.

• A capital project was approved to repair wind-damaged Paul Meek Library soffits with funding from capital maintenance savings and insurance proceeds.
Friday’s swimsuit preliminary ends with two winners

By ASHLEY ANTHONY
aAnthony@jacksonsun.com

For the first time this week, two contestants in the 2009 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant had to share swimsuit honors. Miss University of Tennessee Martin Katelin Turner and Miss City Lights Kayla Hockett both won in swimsuit on Friday, the final night of preliminary competition for the pageant.

One of the 36 contestants will be crowned Miss Tennessee tonight at the Carl Perkins Civic Center.

Turner wore a bright orange bikini, and Hockett wore a leopard one Friday.

Hockett’s younger sister, Jasmine, thinks Kayla is doing great in the pageant.

“I’m not nervous for her at all because I have faith in her, and she has faith in herself,” Jasmine said. “She’s perfected her craft, and she deserves to win this year.”

FULTON’S FIRST — Fulton City High School students recently won first place in the Spanish Video Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. On hand for the recognition were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; Fulton students Cedric Bransford, India Fair, Kristeeena Rushing, Katie Holdman and Shelby Jones; and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

OC STUDENTS PLACE — Obion County High School students recently won third place in the French Quiz Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. On hand for the recognition were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; OCCHS students Joshua Montgomery, Ryan Lewis, Alex Rapp and Martin Renya; and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

Swimsuit
Miss University of Tennessee Martin Katelin Turner
■ Age: 20
■ Talent: Vocal, ‘For Once in My Life’
■ Education: UT Martin

Swimsuit
Miss City Lights Kayla Hockett
■ Age: 22
■ Talent: Vocal, ‘Summertime’
■ Education: Graduate of Middle Tennessee State University

Miss University of Tennessee Martin Katelin Turner, left, and Miss City Lights Kayla Hockett, right, shared swimsuit honors in Friday’s preliminary competition.
Three times is charm for Miss Hamilton County

Miss Memphis is first runner-up

By ASHLEY ANTHONY
aanthony@jacksonsun.com

Winning Miss Tennessee was a dream come true for Miss Hamilton County Stefanie Wittler, who tried out for the title three times.

"I'm just overwhelmed with honor and excitement," Wittler said. "This was my third shot. I was so honored to be back. I can't wait to use this title across Tennessee and get to work.

"I'm ready to get started right now, roll up my sleeves and hit I-40," she said.

Wittler, 22, won a $10,000 scholarship and will be the new spokeswoman for Gov. Phil Bredesen's Safe and Drug-Free Tennessee program.

"This has been a dream of mine for many years," Wittler said. "I give all the glory to God."

Miss Memphis Cyrena Wages won a $5,000 scholarship as first runner-up.

"I am so honored and shocked, because I didn't even think I would make top 15," Wages said. "This was my first time in the pageant, and I had the time of my life."

Second runner-up Miss Greene County Brooke Waddell received a $4,000 scholarship. Third runner-up Miss City Lights Kayla Hockett earned a $3,000 scholarship and received the Miss Congeniality Award, while fourth runner-up Miss Metropolitan Kaley Schwab received a $2,000 scholarship.

Hockett, who's participated in the pageant four times, felt good about finishing in the top five.

"That's never happened before," Hockett said. "I definitely feel good, and I'm excited for Stefanie."

Waddell also thinks Wittler

Miss Tennessee 2009 Stefanie Wittler is crowned by Miss Tennessee 2008 Ellen Carrington after she was named the winner of the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant on Saturday night at the Carl Perkins Civic Center.
Finals
Continued from cover
will do a great job as Miss Tennessee.

"I wish her so much success," Waddell said. She won the Miss America Community Service Award, receiving a $1,000 scholarship.

Semifinalists Miss Scenic City Chandler Lawson, Miss University of Tennessee Knoxville Adria Farr, Miss Lexington Catherine Ritter, Miss Nashville Victoria Paige Green and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Hannah-Wade Powell were awarded $1,500 scholarships from the pageant's fund of $62,000.

Powell thinks she gave the pageant her best.

"I know for certain that I've given 110 percent," she said. "Last year, I took home a preliminary swimsuit award, and this year I didn't. That was a little discouraging, but I still feel like my performance this year has been better."

Powell, 20, believes in all the women she competed against in the pageant.

"I love all these girls," she said. "Every one has done such a fantastic job." This was Powell's second year competing in the pageant. She finished in the top 10 this year and last.

"I came here with every ounce of me wanting to be Miss Tennessee," Powell said. "But win or lose, we all got here for a reason, because we're qualified for the job. I may not take home the title, but whoever does, I'm going to be so proud and so supportive of her."

Non-finalists honors went to Miss University of Tennessee Martin Katelin Turner, Miss Fall Fest Ashton Doane, Miss Bristol Whitney Page Crowe, Miss Historic Jonesborough Lacey Alford and Miss Collierville Anna Humerrickhouse.

Humerrickhouse won the Miss Tennessee Community Service Award, while Ritter won the Miss Tennessee Public Relations Award. Each received a $1,000 scholarship. Miss Music City Tara Martchek won Non-Finalist Interview honors, which included a $500 scholarship.

Miss Southwest Tennessee Jessica Stahl won the Miss America Academic Award, which comes with a $1,000 scholarship.

Miss Johnson City Jessica Nixon, who made it to the top 15 in the pageant, said she was hoping to bring the crown back to East Tennessee. She competed in the pageant last year but felt like she stood out more this time around.

"Compared to last year, I came into the pageant this year with a much more positive attitude," Nixon said. "I'm just so proud of what I've done. I was extremely pleased with my talent performance, and the audience seemed like they were, too."

Throughout the pageant, Nixon, 23, depended on her family for encouragement. She also looked to God.

"I've really prayed a lot this week that God will keep me humble and confident," Nixon said. "I think I did my best and remained focused the entire time."

On the Net:
www.misstennessee.org
Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.
— Ashley Anthony, 425-9631

WBBJ-TV West Tennessee's News Channel - Local News

06/22/09 - Weakley County

UTM Tuition Going Up
By: Stephanie Ryan
sryan@wbbjtv.com
7:30 p.m.

The shortfall of more than $1 billion dollars for the state's budget means bad news for several state universities, including The University of Tennessee at Martin. Leaders there say with the current state of the economy, a tuition increase was something that couldn't be avoided. Students there are now struggling to figure out ways to pay for their education.

Walter Harris is one student who knows the importance of a college diploma. "I want a degree that will help me get started over in the workforce. How can you put a price on education?" Harris said.

Harris is a communications major at UTM and will soon be paying more for that education when tuition increases by seven percent in the fall.

Chancellor Tom Rakes said a lack of state revenue meant the University was forced to make cuts across the board, including the consolidation of six academic areas. "What happens when you make cuts like this is you can't keep growing and trimming your resources, and the tuition increase allows us to keep the resources in the classroom with the faculty where we need them," Rakes said.

Rakes expects most of the money from the tuition increase will go towards better staffing for what he believes is the strongest class of incoming freshmen the University has ever seen. "Our faculty has one of the highest teaching loads in the state, so if they're covering four classes-- community colleges is five. You can't just keep adding more and more on," Rakes said.

In the meantime, Harris said he will start looking for extra money to cover the tuition increase he will pay in the fall. He said that money is worth it for a better future. "I'm going to have to take out more loans and there's nothing I can do about it. I just know I want to get my degree," Harris said.

"We're really at the mercy of spending and state revenue, and there are some that forecast it's gonna turn around by 2010, and we're hopeful it will, but if it doesn't, then you just have to keep tightening your belt," Rakes said. He is hopeful the economy will turn around this year. "We're really at the mercy of spending and state revenues, and there are some that forecast it's gonna turn around by 2010. We're hopeful that it does, and if it doesn't, then you just keep tightening your belt," Rakes said.

Rakes said UTM had the most successful year fundraising in 2008 in it's history. $11 million was raised, but Rakes believes that will be difficult to match.
Stefanie Wittler crowned Miss Tennessee; Katelin Turner ties in swimsuit category

JACKSON — Miss Hamilton County Stefanie Wittler has been crowned Miss Tennessee at the pageant in Jackson.

Miss Memphis Cyrena Wages was first runner-up in Saturday's pageant. Miss Greene County Brooke Waddell was second runner-up and Miss City Lights Kayla Hockett was third runner-up.

"I'm just overwhelmed with honor and excitement," Miss Wittler told The Jackson Sun after winning the crown.

"This was my third shot. I was so honored to be back. I can't wait to use this title across Tennessee and get to work,

"I'm ready to get started right now, roll up my sleeves and hit 1-40," she said.

Miss Wittler, 22, won a $10,000 scholarship and will be the new spokesperson for Gov. Phil Bredesen's Safe and Drug-Free Tennessee program.

"This has been a dream of mine for many years," Miss Wittler said. "I give all the glory to God."

Miss Wittler is a graduate of Soddy-Daisy High School and is a senior at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

In 1982, Desiree Daniels Distordick became the first Miss Hamilton County to capture the Miss Tennessee crown and was the first runner-up at the Miss America Pageant.

Miss University of Tennessee at Martin Katelin Turner of Union City tied with Miss Hockett to win the swimsuit competition for Friday night.

Miss Turner, 20, was crowned Miss University of Tennessee at Martin at the combined Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant in November. She is a sophomore pre-med student.

Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Hannah-Wade Powell, a University of Tennessee at Martin sophomore criminal justice major from Alamo, was among the 10 finalists.

MISS TENNESSEE — Miss Hamilton County Stefanie Wittler was crowned the 2009 Miss Tennessee by Miss Tennessee 2008 Ellen Carrington at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson on Saturday. AP

Powell, 20, was awarded a $1,500 scholarship from the pageant's fund of $62,000. It was the second time as a semifinalist for Powell, who also received the honor in 2008.

LOCAL BEAUTY — Katelin Turner of Union City competed in the swimsuit portion of the 2009 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson on Friday. Miss Turner went on to tie Miss City Lights Kayla Hockett to win the swimsuit competition for Friday night. AP

Information about Miss Hamilton County courtesy of timesfreepress.com and Chattanooga Times Free Press.
Grant allows education opportunities for inmates in correctional facilities

Opportunities to change lives for the better can happen anywhere — even behind prison walls.

Thanks to a partnership involving Northwest Correctional Complex near Tiptonville, the Tennessee Department of Correction and the University of Tennessee at Martin, inmates can become college students and prepare for productive lives once their sentences are completed.

College courses are offered to Northwest inmates through a pilot program funded by a federal grant, "Grants to States for Workplace and Community Transition Training for Incarcerated Youth Offenders." The program, which began in January 2008, was originally offered to inmates under the age of 25 who were within five years of their release dates.

The grant will expand July 1 to include offenders 35 and younger and is now called the "Grants to States for Workplace and Community Transition Training for Incarcerated Individuals Program."

Students are expected to have a history of good behavior and credits earned by those in the program can be applied toward a degree upon their release from prison. Sex offenders and those convicted of murder are ineligible to participate.

Studies have shown that former inmates who have academic and vocational training are less likely to re-offend when they return home. Offenders who possess a post-secondary degree have the lowest recidivism rate.

The Lake County Regional Correctional Facility opened in 1981 to house up to 500 inmates. In 1992, Northwest Corrections Center was opened and is now called Site 1. The entire facility, now the second largest prison in Tennessee with 2,400 inmates and an annual operating budget of about $50 million, houses inmates who range in classification from close-custody to medium security.

The American Correctional Association, which conducts an intensive accreditation/inspection process every three years, has accredited the complex since it opened.

Northwest's focus on public safety/security, education and community service makes the prison a good fit for the educational partnership. Warden Tony Parker, a UT Martin criminal justice graduate, is proud that the prison has "a lot of educational opportunities for inmates." Besides the academic classes offered by UT Martin, the prison also offers basic education and vocational classes.

"We have a couple of vocational classes that are skilled community service groups," he said. "They go out and build libraries, churches (and) for non-profit governmental organizations. We do a lot of work in our surrounding communities."

As for the academic classes, Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English, became involved when her department was asked to provide someone to teach an English course at the prison. She had previous experience teaching at the former Tennessee State Penitentiary in Nashville when she first came to Tennessee in the early 1990s and earlier at Fishkill Correctional Facility in upstate New York.

LaChance taught courses in the first-year composition sequence at Northwest in spring and fall 2008, and her experience was positive.

"I thought that the inmate students were very highly engaged and highly motivated," she said. "They understood that they were being given a privilege, and so they treated the course and my presence there as a privilege."

Beyond the university's work with inmates, staff members at Northwest and four other Tennessee prisons benefit from classes offered by UT Martin's Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education. Classes cover general education, criminal justice and occupational licensure for prison employees.

"People teaching in a prison have the same licensing requirements as those teaching in public schools," said Katy Crapo, UT Martin director of degree programs and distance learning. "These classes allow prison staff to take courses for enrichment, to complete an undergraduate degree, or to complete licensing requirements for teaching a variety of courses."

Whether it's offering courses for inmates through the grant or professional development classes for prison staff members, UT Martin is making a positive impact in the Tennessee correction system. On a personal level, LaChance is satisfied that she has made a difference with the inmates.

"I think that for some of the students in those classes, they had not ever considered the possibility that they could pursue a college education..." she said. "The difference that it made is it opened a door for many of them that maybe they hadn't thought could ever be open."

VIDEO WINNERS — Obion County Central High School students recently won second place in the French Video Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. On hand for the recognition were (from left, front row) OCCHS students Katie Jones, Tiffany Marvin, Jomykel Helper, Stephanie Glisson, Danielle Webber, Laykon Butler and Josh Gray; Dr. David Coffey, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; (back row) Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; and students Josh Montgomery and Ryan Lewis.
Manning earns award

Cadet Cristine Manning (left) of Cottage Grove recently received the Association of the United States Army award, the Military Officers Association of America award and the American Legion award for military excellence at the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC awards ceremony. Lt. Col. Angela Odom, professor of military science, helped present the awards.

Crouch honored

Cadet Jacob Crouch (left) of Paris recently received the G.H. Weems Memorial ROTC scholarship award at the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC awards ceremony. Lt. Col. Angela Odom, professor of military science, presented the award.

UT Martin tuition increases 7 percent

The University of Tennessee board of trustees approved a 7 percent increase in tuition for students attending the University of Tennessee at Martin effective for the 2009 fall semester. The approval came during the board's annual meeting this week in Knoxville.

Instate tuition and fees, including the new tuition rate, will now cost undergraduate students $2,885 per semester to attend UT Martin. Full-time undergraduate enrollment is a minimum of 12 hours. Out-of-state undergraduate tuition will increase 7 percent. Total cost will be $8,578 per semester.

"We worked carefully to make strategic decisions leading to the 7 percent tuition increase," said Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

The increase will enable UTM to maintain a high level of quality in academic programs and student services while still holding tuition levels below many public and private institutions in the nation. "Tuition for instate graduate students at UTM will increase by 7 percent. Total cost for instate graduate students will be $3,329 per semester this fall. Out-of-state graduate tuition will increase 7 percent. Total cost for out-of-state graduate students will be $9,022 per semester. Full-time graduate enrollment is nine hours per semester.

Other actions involving UTM included the following.

- An academic enrichment fee in the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources was approved for students taking specific courses. Fee amounts will be $20 for selected courses.
- The UT online course fee was increased by $10 to $56 to support increasing costs for online courses.
- UTM was approved to implement a previously approved $103 per semester debt service fee beginning this fall to support the new Student Recreation Center.
- Consolidation of six academic areas with existing programs was approved. Included are geology and geography merging into the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; physics merging into the Department of Chemistry and Physics; political science merging into the Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics and Political Science; computer science and information systems merging into the Department of Management, Marketing, Computer Science and Information Systems; psychology merging with Sociology, Criminal Justice and Social Work into the Department of Behavioral Sciences; and modern foreign languages merging into the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.
- Discontinuation of the bachelor of science with a major in health sciences in the Department of Biological Sciences, as recommended by the UTM Faculty Senate and campus administration, was approved.
- A capital project was approved to repair wind-damaged Paul Meek Library softs with funding from capital maintenance savings and insurance proceeds.
Engineering his future

John Perry (center) of Paris was one of several University of Tennessee at Martin engineering graduates inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to the school’s spring commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. Perry received a ring and certificate from Ed Wheeler (left), Department of Engineering interim chairman, and Richard Helgeson (right), College of Engineering and Natural Sciences interim dean.

Business women to meet Tuesday

The Women Business Owners’ Conference will hold its first meeting in Jackson Tuesday.

The conference will be from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the West Tennessee Ag Research and Education Center on Airways Boulevard.

The event’s keynote speaker is scheduled to be Christy Shaffer, president and chief executive officer of Inspire Pharmaceuticals in Durham, N.C., according to a news release from Sharon Taylor McKinney, West Tennessee enterprise specialist for the Business Enterprise Resource Office. The Memphis office is a part of the Department of Economic & Community Development. Susan Hendrix O’Connell of Henco Furniture in Selmer also is scheduled to speak.

This is the fourth annual meeting of the Women Business Owners and the first to be held in Jackson. There is a registration fee of $35 per person or $60 for two people that includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

For more information, contact McKinney at Sharon.K.Taylor@state.tn.us.
Weather. It’s probably the most common conversation topic. Regardless of your political philosophy, knowledge of world events, thoughts on food or fashion, you likely have something to contribute when someone mentions "the weather."

Three University of Tennessee at Martin engineering students have made a conversation about the weather even easier. But that’s just the start. More importantly, they’ve made current local (Martin) weather conditions data available for safety, research, planning and even forecasting – all at the click of a mouse. Previously, weather conditions information reflected online and via the media was derived from weather stations in Jackson, Dyersburg or Paducah.

Kramer Nance, of Martin; Brian Mink, of Memphis; and Luis Herrera, Hendersonville; designed and constructed a wireless weather data collection station and placed it atop the Johnson EPS Building on campus as their capstone design project.

As part of graduation requirements at ABET (Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology)-accredited colleges and universities, students must complete a capstone design project. At UT Martin, that requirement is fulfilled in a yearlong sequence of courses that culminates in the demonstration of the project in the spring.

The trio’s project, which received William and Roberta Blankenship College of Engineering and Natural Sciences Research Endowment funding, really is just the beginning. Future students can choose to expand on their work and add forecasting and other functions to the wireless data collection functions of the current station.

The weather station’s unassuming appearance belies its durability, collection capabilities and the value of the data that is constantly uploaded and available at www.utm.edu/staff/knance or via a mobile application, e.g. iPhone or iPodTouch, with a user-friendly interface.

"It’s constantly collecting data and archiving data that can be used by anyone interested," said Nance. "Anyone has access to it." As examples of the varied data use, he explained that UT Martin Department of Safety and Security can monitor threatening local weather conditions. Professors can use it in ongoing research, and middle and high school students can incorporate it into science projects. Since it's available on the Internet, applications are as endless as the data collected.

"The senior design project was to construct a functioning weather station equipped with a wireless communications system," said Nance. His responsibility was to design the wireless network and the user interface for both the Web and mobile applications. Herrera was responsible for the microprocessor design and Mink, the hardware station design that included the sensors and fabrication.

The group, mentored by Dr. Somsak Sukittanon, UT Martin assistant professor of engineering, and Lee Bennett, Department of Engineering technician, spent the first several months of the project researching the technology and what it would take to design and construct the station.

They studied sensors and specifications and protocols they would have to meet to develop an industrial-type weather station.

"You have to follow a lot of wireless networking protocols and specifications for it to work, be expandable and fit in with any sort of hardware that might be used in the future," said Nance.

"It can be put anywhere. It
works off a mesh network so you can add other stations. It will automatically pick them up and fit them into the network and send data wirelessly back into this building (EPS).”

The station uploads the data to a database on the Web, and then anyone can access the data through the Web site. It can be graphed, downloaded and imported into an Excel file. “It can also be accessed through mobile apps with an iPhone. That’s what’s supposed to be unique about it,” said Nance. And, it’s the only weather station in the local area. “That was the motivation for doing this – to see actual data from Martin. There was a use for this project.”

“We would like to thank the sponsors for the financial support in this research. It is an exciting and rewarding experience for the students to design, build and test the device that can benefit many people in Martin,” said Dr. Sukittanon. “This project is also a stepping stone for the research in sensor networks on mobile application.”

“This can be the foundation for future projects,” said Bennett. “Other students can add more features like weather prediction.”

Nance said he was more interested in how to develop a wireless network, collect the data and get it on the Web for people to view and use. “This happened to be weather data. It could have been any type of data.” He added, “I didn’t know the steps you had to take to get the temperature, wind speed or the pressure from ‘the world’ and put it on the Internet... for people to use.” Nance also had to learn several programming languages to complete all the steps.

“That’s the main point of the project. You pick something you don’t know how to do... you figure it out.”

HANDS-ON KID COLLEGE FUN – William Rea, son of Shannon and Kelly Rea of Martin, learned about horses as part of the 25th Anniversary Kid College at the University of Tennessee at Martin. With him is Deb Kidwell, owner, Lake Nowhere Mule and Donkey Farm, Martin. Kid College has “inspired the desire to inquire” by providing children with an opportunity to have a fun, learning experience each summer. Marking the anniversary at the June 18 open house, a time capsule was buried, and all past Kid College children, teachers, and volunteers were invited to attend.
UT Martin announces tuition hike

MARTIN – The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a 7 percent instate tuition increase for students attending the University of Tennessee at Martin effective for the 2009 fall semester.

The approval came during the board’s annual meeting this week in Knoxville.

"Instate tuition and fees, including the new tuition rate, will now cost undergraduate students $2,885 per semester to attend UT Martin. Full-time undergraduate enrollment is a minimum of 12 hours. Out-of-state undergraduate tuition will increase 7 percent. Total cost will be $8,578 per semester.

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"The increase will enable UT Martin to maintain a high level of quality in academic programs and student services while still holding tuition levels below many public and private institutions in the nation."

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Other actions involving UT Martin included the following:

- An academic enrichment fee in the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources was approved for students taking specific courses. Fee amounts will be $20 for selected courses.
- The UT Online course fee was increased by $10 to $36 to support increasing costs for online courses.
- UT Martin was approved to implement a previously approved $103 per semester debt services fee beginning this fall to support the new Student Recreation Center.
- Consolidation of six academic areas with existing programs was approved. Included are Geology and Geography merging into the Department of Earth Sciences, Environmental Studies merging into the Department of Biological Sciences, and Political Science merging into the Department of Social Sciences.
- Discontinuation of the bachelor of science with a major in health sciences in the Department of Biological Sciences, as recommended by the UT Martin Faculty Senate and campus administration, was approved.

A capital project was approved to repair wind-damaged Paul Meek Library soffits with funding from capital maintenance savings and insurance proceeds.

UT Martin nursing professor leads health awareness project

The Tennessee Department of Health and Human Services recently notified the University of Tennessee at Martin of funding for a proposal through the Reducing Health Disparities in Women program.

UT Martin led in the collaborative effort with McCabe United Methodist Church in Martin, Fuller Street Baptist Church in Dresden and Pleasant View Baptist Church in Greenfield, as well as the local chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. The grant award of more than $2,000 is funding Heart Disease Awareness and Risk Management Health Fair for Women and African Americans at the local churches this month.

At the fairs, participants hear lectures on blood pressure, cholesterol and obesity, while also learning ways to adopt healthier lifestyles. Vendors display their products for the management and treatment of heart disease and the related complications such as hypertension, diabetes, and obesity.

Ruby Black, UT Martin professor of nursing, is project director of the program and noted that heart disease is the number one killer in Weakley County. Because the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has designated Weakley County as a Medically Underserved Area and a Federal Health Professional Shortage Area, community health fairs are critical to increasing awareness of both the prevalence of heart disease and steps individuals can take to decrease their risk.

"This project provides an excellent opportunity to offer health education information to the community. My goal is to empower women to make lifestyle choices that will improve their health and the health of their families," said Black.

Department of Nursing Chair Nancy Warren added, "The UT Martin Department of Nursing faculty and I are delighted that Ruby has received this grant to address heart disease in our local area. Through this grant, information will be provided to the public which may make a drastic change in the number of women who have fatal heart disease problems."

For more information, contact the Department of Nursing at 731-881-7131.
Hockett fares well in pageant

Wins swimsuit, Ms Congeniality, third runner-up

One of Humboldt's former hostess princesses fared well in the recent Miss Tennessee pageant, placing as third runner-up and being voted Miss Congeniality by the other contestants.

Kayla Hockett, a former Strawberry Festival Hostess Princess, also took top honors in the swimsuit competition. She tied with former Strawberry Festival Territorial Queen Katelyn Turner in swimsuits and both were declared winners in that competition.

Hockett entered as Miss City Lights and Turner competed as Miss UTM. "I'm pleased and excited about my progress," Hockett said Monday. "I was in the top five and I've never been in the top 10 before." About any future pageants, Hockett hasn't decided yet but is keeping her options open.

She graduated from MTSU in May and is now focusing on entering the working world again, she said.

"So many in Humboldt have supported me through the years and I am so grateful for that," she said. She is the daughter of Emerson and Kaye Hockett of Humboldt.

WESTSTAR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM C.P. BOYD AWARD PRESENTED - Keith Carver, center, of Weakley County, receives the C.P. Boyd Leadership Award at the recent graduation of the WestStar Leadership Class of 2009 in Jackson. Making the presentation are Vicki Lake, left, 2008 award recipient, and David Belote, executive director of WestStar. Class members selected Carver for his leadership in the Class of 2009. Carver is assistant vice chancellor of development at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Currently, he is the treasurer and board member of the Martin Soccer Association. He has served as past chairman of the board, treasurer, and board member of the Children's Center of Knoxville; served as a task force member and served on the fund-raising committee of the Secret Safe Place of Knoxville. He is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County. UT Martin sponsors WestStar. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, WestStar is the state's oldest and largest regional leadership program.
KID COLLEGE FUN – Youngsters participating in Kid College at the University of Tennessee at Martin recently enjoyed learning about animals, including horses. With them is Deb Kidwell, owner, Lake Nowhere Mule and Donkey Farm, Martin. Kid College has “inspired the desire to inquire” by providing children with an opportunity to have a fun, learning experience each summer. Marking the 25th Anniversary at the June 18 open house, a time capsule was buried, and all past Kid College children, teachers and volunteers and were invited to attend.

RECEIVE AWARDS – Obion County Central High School students recently won third place in the French Bake-Off at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. On hand for the recognition were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; OCCHS students Tiffany Marvin and Katie Jones; and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.
UT Martin engineering students make weather data available

Weather. It’s probably the most common conversation topic.
Regardless of political philosophy, knowledge of world events or thoughts on food or fashion, everyone likely has something to contribute when someone mentions “the weather.”

Three University of Tennessee at Martin engineering students have made a conversation about the weather even easier. But that’s just the start. More importantly, they’ve made current local (Martin) weather conditions data available for safety, research, planning and even forecasting— all at the click of a mouse.

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“That’s the main point of the project. You pick something you don’t know how to do (and) you figure it out,” he said.
CLAIMS FIRST — An Obion County Central High School student recently won first place in the French Poster Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. On hand for the recognition were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; OCCHS student Danielle Webber; and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

Local UTM graduates

Crystal Autry, of Ripley, Datheia Jones, of Fulton, Kentucky, and Beth Mitchell, of Greenfield, were among graduates participating in the University of Tennessee at Martin spring commencement ceremony Saturday. Each of them received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. They are pictured with Neena Patterson, lab instructor of nursing. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the exercises, and Dr. Jan Slimek, University of Tennessee acting president, conferred degrees.
Students make Martin weather data available on web, iPhone

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The trio's project, which received William and Roberta Blankenship College of Engineering and Natural Sciences Research Endowment funding, really is just the beginning. Future students can choose to expand on their work and add forecasting and other functions to the wireless data collection functions of the current station.

The weather station's unassuming appearance belies its durability, collection capabilities and the value of the data that is constantly uploaded and available at www.utm.edu/staff/knance or via a mobile application, e.g. iPhone or iPod Touch, with a user-friendly interface.

"It's constantly collecting data and archiving data that can be used by anyone interested," said Nance. "Anyone has access to it." As examples of the varied data use, he explained that UT Martin Department of Safety and Security can monitor threatening local weather conditions. Professors can use it in ongoing research, and middle and high school students can incorporate it into science projects. Since it's available on the Internet, applications are as endless as the data collected.

"The senior design project was to construct a functioning weather station equipped with a wireless communications system," said Nance. His responsibility was to design the wireless network and the user interface for both the Web and mobile applications. Herrera was responsible for the microprocessor design and Mink, the hardware station design that included the sensors and fabrication.

The group, mentored by Dr. Somsak Sukittanan, UT Martin assistant professor of engineering, and Lee Bennett, Department of Engineering technician, spent the first several months of the project researching the technology and what it would take to design and construct the station. They studied sensors and specifications and protocols they would have to meet to develop an industrial-type weather station.

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wireless networking protocols and specifications for it to work, be expandable and fit in with any sort of hardware that might be used in the future," said Nance. "It can be put anywhere. It works off a mesh network so you can add other stations. It will automatically pick them up and fit them into the network and send data wirelessly back into this building (EPS)."

The station uploads the data to a database on the Web, and then anyone can access the data through the Web site. It can be graphed, downloaded and imported into an Excel file. It can also be accessed through mobile apps with an iPhone. That's what's supposed to be unique about it," said Nance. And, it's the only weather station in the local area. "That was the motivation for doing this - to see actual data from Martin. There was a use for this project."

"We would like to thank the sponsors for the financial support in this research. It is an exciting and rewarding experience for the students to design, build and test the device that can benefit many people in Martin," said Dr. Sukitnanan. "This project is also a stepping stone for the research in sensor networks on mobile application."

"This can be the foundation for future projects," said Bennett. "Other students can add more features like weather prediction."

Nance said he was more interested in how to develop a wireless network, collect the data and get it on the Web for people to view and use. "This happened to be the weather data. It could have been any type of data." He added, "I didn’t know the steps you had to take to get the temperature, wind speed or the pressure from the world and put it on the Internet... for people to use." Nance also had to learn several programming languages to complete all the steps.

"That’s the main point of the project. You pick something you don’t know how to do... you figure it out."

To check current conditions, visit www.utm.edu/staff/knance.

For more information, contact, Dr. Somsak Sukitnanan at ssukitta@utm.edu.

UT Martin nursing professor leads health awareness project

Women program.

UT Martin led in the collaborative effort with McCabe United Methodist Church in Martin, Fuller Street Baptist Church in Dresden, and Pleasant View Baptist Church in Greenfield, as well as the local chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. The grant award of more than $2,000 is funding Heart Disease Awareness and Risk Management Health Fair for Women and African Americans at the local churches this month.

At the faire, participants hear lectures on blood pressure, cholesterol and obesity, while also learning ways to adopt healthier lifestyles. Vendors display their products for the management and treatment of heart disease and the related complications such as hypertension, diabetes and obesity.

Ruby Black, UT Martin professor of nursing, is project director of the program and noted that heart disease is the number one killer in Weakley County. Because the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has designated Weakley County as a Medically Underserved Area and a Federal Health Professional Shortage Area, community health fairs are critical to increasing awareness of both the prevalence of heart disease and steps individuals can take to decrease the risk.

"This project provides an excellent opportunity to offer health education information to the community. My goal is to empower women to make lifestyle changes that will improve their health and the health of their families," said Black.

Department of Nursing Chair Nancy Warren added, "The UT Martin Department of Nursing faculty and I are delighted that Ruby has received this grant to address heart disease in our local area. Through this grant, information will be provided to the public which may make a drastic change in the number of women who have fatal heart disease problems."

For more information, contact the Department of Nursing at 731-881-7131.

Rotger honored at UTM ROTC Awards Ceremony

Cadet Joshua Rotger, of Greenfield, recently received the American Legion Scholastic Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC Awards Ceremony. Lt. Col. (Ret.) John Haley presented the award.
UTM's Powell among Miss Tennessee semifinalists; Turner receives honor

Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival, Hannah-Wade Powell, a University of Tennessee at Martin sophomore criminal justice major from Alamo, was among the 10 finalists in the 2009 Miss Tennessee Pageant.

The weekend competition ended Saturday night at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

Powell, 20, was awarded a $1,500 scholarship from the pageant's fund of $62,000. It was the second time as a semifinalist for Powell, who also received the honor in 2008.

Miss UT Martin, Katelin Turner, 20, a sophomore pre-med student from Union City, tied with Miss City Lights, Kayla Hockett, of Humboldt, for Friday night swimsuit honors.

Kid College fun

Youngsters participating in Kid College at the University of Tennessee at Martin recently enjoyed learning about animals, including horses. With them is Deb Kidwell, owner, Lake Nowhere Mule and Donkey Farm, Martin. Kid College has "inspired the desire to inquire" by providing children with an opportunity to have a fun, learning experience each summer. Marking the 25th Anniversary at the June 18 open house, a time capsule was buried, and all past Kid College children, teachers and volunteers were invited to attend.
UT Martin tuition increases 7 percent

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a 7 percent increase in tuition for students attending the University of Tennessee at Martin effective for the 2009 fall semester. The approval came during the board’s annual meeting this week in Knoxville.

Instate tuition and fees, including the new tuition rate, will now cost undergraduate students $2,885 per semester to attend UT Martin. Full-time undergraduate enrollment is a minimum of 12 hours. Out-of-state undergraduate tuition will increase 7 percent. Total cost will be $8,578 per semester.

“We have worked carefully to make strategic decisions leading to the 7 percent tuition increase,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. The increase will enable UT Martin to maintain a high level of quality in academic programs and student services while still holding tuition levels below many public and private institutions in the nation.”

Tuition for instate graduate students at UT Martin will increase by 7 percent. Total cost for instate graduate students will be $3,329 per semester this fall. Out-of-state graduate tuition will increase 7 percent. Total cost for out-of-state graduate students will be $9,022 per semester. Full-time graduate enrollment is nine hours per semester.

Other actions involving UT Martin included the following:

* An academic enrichment fee in the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources was approved for students taking specific courses. Fee amounts will be $20 for selected courses.

* The UT Online course fee was increased by $10 to $56 to support increasing costs for online courses.

* UT Martin was approved to implement a previously approved $103 per semester debt service fee beginning this fall to support the new Student Recreation Center.

* Consolidation of six academic areas with existing programs was approved. Included are Geology and Geography merging into the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; Physics merging into the Department of Chemistry and Physics; Political Science merging into the Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science; and Information Systems; Psychology merging with Sociology; Criminal Justice and Social Work into the Department of Behavioral Sciences; and Modern Foreign Languages merging into the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

* Discontinuation of the bachelor of science with a major in health sciences in the Department of Biological Sciences, as recommended by the UT Martin Faculty Senate and campus administration, was approved.

* A capital project was approved to repair wind-damaged Paul Meek Library soffits with funding from capital maintenance savings and insurance proceeds.

UT Martin names local students to dean’s list

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2009 Dean’s Lists for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. Local students listed are:

Dyer County: Code L. Anderson, Highest Honors; Rachael L. Anderson, High Honors; Lauren M. Binkley, Highest Honors; Mari K. Blair, Highest Honors; Sara M. Coleman, Highest Honors; Heath L. Copeland, High Honors; Hugh T. Forsythe, High Honors; Emily D. Greene, High Honors; Stephen K. Greene, Highest Honors; Dominique N. Hardaway, High Honors; Jeffrey C. Hartleroad, Honors; Mia Hartzog, High Honors; Laura B. Hayes, Highest Honors; Laura A. Heathcott, Highest Honors; Pamela L. Hudson, Highest Honors; Joanna R. Hulgan, Highest Honors; Stephanie N. Kissell, Highest Honors; Elizabeth R. McAndrew, Highest Honors; Meredith J. McBride, Highest Honors; Rachel N. McCoy, High Honors; Craig C. Metcalf, Highest Honors; Emily G. Moody, Highest Honors; Belinda L. Mosley, High Honors; Allie J. Naifeh, Honors; Christopher W. Nichols, Highest Honors; Jared A. Nobles, High Honors; Allison M. Petty, Highest Honors; Nicholas J. Pratt, Highest Honors; Daniel C. Rose, Highest Honors; Kayla J. Rumer, Highest Honors; David A. Sipes, High Honors; Brandon D. Smith, High Honors; Samuel E. Stephens, Highest Honors; Lisa E. Tarr, High Honors; Stephen A. Thomas, Honors; Louis C. Walker, High Honors; Gatlin L. Willis, High Honors; Christopher W. Winchester, High Honors; Laurence G. Winters, High Honors.

Newbern: Mallory J. Akin, Honors; Jerry W. Bartee, Honors; Courtney L. Burton, Honors; Adam D. Clark, Highest Honors; Niki D. Dean, Highest Honors; Ashley M. Durbin, Highest Honors; Jeremy D. Fair, Honors; Mary L. Goodwin, Highest Honors; Adam T. Johnson, Honors; Jennifer A. Jones, Highest Honors; Amber S. Lamb, Highest Honors; Megan E. Lewis, High Honors; Ryan A. McDonald, Honors; Heath K. McLean, Highest Honors; Angela R. Murray, High Honors; Renee A. Murray, High Honors; Joshua T. Ozment, Honors; Dustin K. Parker, High Honors; Steven L. Rushing, Honors; Bobby L. Sikes, High Honors; Brittany J. Smith, Highest Honors; Mary E. Wright, Honors; Andrew R. Zarecor, High Honors.
Current local weather conditions available at UTM

Weather. It’s probably the most common conversation topic. Regardless of a person’s political philosophy, knowledge of world events, thoughts on food or fashion, they likely have something to contribute when someone mentions “the weather.”

Three University of Tennessee at Martin engineering students have made a conversation about the weather even easier. But that’s just the start. More importantly, they’ve made current local (Martin) weather conditions data available for safety, research, planning, and even forecasting — all at the click of a mouse.

Previously, weather conditions information reflected online and via the media was derived from weather stations in Jackson, Tenn., Dyersburg, Tenn. or Paducah.

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To check current conditions, visit www.utm.edu/staff/knance. For more information, contact, Dr. Somsa Sukittanon at ssukitt@utm.edu.

Walker earns psychology degree at UTM

Terika Taylor Walker of Fulton recently graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin, with a bachelor’s degree, majoring in psychology, with a minor in sociology and public relations. She plans to pursue her master’s.

She is the wife of Aaron Walker, and the mother of Taleah Walker.

Her parents are Lutisha Taylor of Fulton and Anthony Ingram of South Fulton.

She is the granddaughter of Mary Hunter, Fulton and Charlotte McClure of South Fulton, and the great-granddaughter of Augusta Taylor, Fulton.
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- Discontinuation of the bachelor of science with a major in health sciences in the Department of Biological Sciences, as recommended by the UT Martin Faculty Senate and campus administration, was approved.
- A capital project was approved to repair wind-

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Friday, June 26, 2009

EARN HONORS — Fulton City High School students recently won first place in the Spanish Bake-Off at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. On hand for the recognition were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; Fulton students Ronald Lewis and Jonée Patel; and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.
French, Wheatley receive scholarships from UT Martin

Ricky Lee French and Rachel Wheatley, who are 2009 Henry County High School graduates, have received scholarships from the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2009-10 academic year.

French received the UT Martin McWhorter freshman scholarship. He is the son of Ricky and Sheila French of Springville.

Wheatley received the Harold Conner scholarship. She is the daughter of Terry and Karen Wheatley of Cottage Grove.

Jonathan Michael Barnhart (left) and Sarah Anne Jenkins, both of Cordova, and Kristin Lee Shick, of Collierville, were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character.

Laquita Johnson, valedictorian of the 2009 class of Memphis Hamilton High School, presented her valedictory speech on the floor of the Tennessee House of Representatives on June 16, in Nashville. She also was presented with a resolution from Rep. G.A. Hardaway.

Laquita graduated from Hamilton High with a 4.2 grade point average. This fall, the 18-year-old will be a freshman at the University of Tennessee at Martin where she will major in International Business.

Richwine joins UC Insurance staff

Kadie Richwine of Martin recently joined the staff of Union City Insurance as an account manager/customer service representative in the life and health department.

Ms. Richwine received a bachelor of arts degree in communications in 2005 and a master of business administration degree in 2008 from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

She was involved in numerous campus activities and was a member of several organizations. As a graduate student, she was employed as a graduate assistant at the Student Success Center in the Office of Disabilities.

Mary Nita Bondurant, manager of the life and health department at Union City Insurance, said having someone of Ms. Richwine's caliber join the staff is what sets Union City Insurance apart in this market.

"We have 40 employees in Union City working hard for the folks of Obion County every day," she said.

According to Mrs. Bondurant, Ms. Richwine's primary job responsibility will be taking care of the accounts that already do business with the life and health department.

"We have over 150 groups insured through Union City Insurance and thousands of individual clients," she said. "Once a group or individual comes on board with us, it is our job to provide exceptional customer service. Kadie is going to help us accomplish this goal. She is intelligent, friendly, kind and has the helpful customer-service-first attitude that fits perfectly with our philosophy."

The life and health department at Union City insurance offers a full array of benefits to employer groups, as well as individual health products, Medicare Supplements and life insurance.

Jim Rippy, agency manager, said hiring Ms. Richwine "affirms the commitment we have to service."

"We are pleased to have Kadie on staff at Union City Insurance," he said. "Our agency is committed to having the staff to provide excellent service after the sell." Kadie has already demonstrated that she will be an excellent service representative.

Union City Insurance has been in business in Obion County since 1895. It is part of the Westan Insurance Group Inc., which currently has seven locations and a staff of over 50 employees offering a broad range of insurance products.
Career fair planned for July 7 at Union City's Hampton Inn

The "Career and Transition Assistance Fair" offered by First Citizens National Bank and the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center is being offered at no cost to those who have been displaced, lost their job from a buyout or layoff or who want a career change.

It is set for 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 7 at the Hampton Inn in Union City. The first 100 attendees will receive a copy of Ken Blanchard's book, "Who Moved My Cheese."

Lunch keynote speaker Chuck Doss, First Citizens Financial Plus Inc. vice president/investment representative, will discuss financial advice and counseling. First Citizens will provide lunch. Pre-registration is recommended.

For information, contact Hollie Holt, REED Center coordinator, at (731) 587-7333 or Doss at 886-1155; or register online at www.utm.edu/careerfair.

YOUNG SCHOLAR — Joshua Gale from Obion County was among a select group of area African-American high school students who got a taste of college life during the recent seventh annual Young Scholars Academy at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event was sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Minority Affairs. Students attended this competitive week-long summer residential program, designed for upcoming high school sophomores, juniors and seniors. The non-credit program introduced students to the college experience by focusing on three learning environments: special aptitude development; personal and social development; and college/major exploration.

FULTON STUDENT HONORED — A Fulton City High School student recently won third place in the Spanish Bake-Off at the University of Tennessee at Martin High School Foreign Language Day. On hand for the recognition were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, chair of the Department of Modern Foreign Languages; Fulton student Ronald Lewis; and Dr. David Coffey, interim dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.
R. Clayton McWhorter: A legacy of giving back

To gain his college degree, R. Clayton McWhorter worked in a small grocery store, dry cleaners, drugstore and delivered newspapers.

Working part time became part of the norm for McWhorter, who spent his first year studying pre-pharmacy at the University of Tennessee before transferring and earning his pharmacy degree from Howard College, now Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

McWhorter’s working ways had already gotten the best of him by the time he graduated from high school when he told his mother, Gladys McWhorter Franks, he would be happy to just work and gain enough cash for a car. McWhorter quickly discovered he could work all he wanted, but it would be while pursuing a college education.

Born in Chattanooga and raised in North Georgia, McWhorter and his three siblings lived in a farm house with no electricity, indoor plumbing or locks on the exterior doors. Raised single-handedly by their mother, the McWhorters may have lived in poverty, but they were taught always to drop what little change they had into the donation plate at church.

"You aren’t truly living until you have given back and made a difference,” said McWhorter.

As noted in McWhorter’s biography, “Leadership to Win,” giving back and making a difference were values instilled in him as a child, which he continues to carry with him.

With more than 50 years’ experience as a top executive in the health-care industry, McWhorter made a pledge to himself in 1996 that he would maintain his net worth at its 1996 level and, if he were blessed beyond that with some returns, he would give it all back. He has done just that.

A faithful supporter of UT Martin, McWhorter has established scholarships with a novel workshop concept to help students who, as he did, work their way through college. Along with the R. Clayton McWhorter Endowment, McWhorter recently committed an extraordinary seven-figure deferred gift to the UT Martin College of Business and Public Affairs. McWhorter is also an avid supporter of UT Knoxville College of Law and the Institute for Public Service, along with other institutions of higher learning and charitable organizations.

Continuing his long legacy of giving back, McWhorter has lent his vision and resources to create SHOUTAmerica, a non-profit organization, which serves as an educational vehicle to energize and engage youth regarding the need for health-care reform in America. Whitney Maxey attended the SHOUTAmerica conference. She said, “I have never been more challenged or inspired by any conference that I have attended before. The knowledge and the desire to help young adults that Mr. McWhorter displays is truly remarkable.”

The former vice chair of the UT Board of Trustees and UT Development Council member also continues to serve as chair of the private equity firm in Franklin, Clayton Associates, which he and his son, Stuart, founded. McWhorter makes Nashville his home with his wife, Michelle McWhorter, children and grandchildren.

Laughing, McWhorter said he cannot imagine retiring and not being involved. “I will continue to do all that I can to open doors for young students, and I hope they will pay it forward as I have done,” he said. “It is such a wonderful feeling to know that you have made a difference in someone’s life.”

McWhorter is generous not only because it is simply the right thing to do; but because he feels, based on the lessons his mother taught him, that we all have an obligation to give back.

Powell among Miss Tennessee semifinalists; Turner receives honor

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AREA RESIDENTS ATTEND GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL FOR THE HUMANITIES AT UT MARTIN - Some of Tennessee’s best and brightest high school juniors and seniors attended the five-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 sixth year students were able to earn college credit. Weakley County participants were, left to right, Brandi Gibson of Westview HS; Mallory Simpson of Westview HS.

Women meet for business today

The Women Business Owners’ Conference holds its first meeting in Jackson today.

The conference is from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the West Tennessee Ag Research and Education Center on Airways Boulevard.

The event's keynote speaker is scheduled to be Christy Shaffer, president and chief executive officer of Inspire Pharmaceuticals in Durham, N.C., according to a news release from Sharon Taylor McKinney, West Tennessee enterprise specialist for the Business Enterprise Resource Office. The Memphis office is a part of the Department of Economic & Community Development. Susan Hendrix O'Connell of Henco Furniture in Selmer also is scheduled to speak.

This is the fourth annual meeting of the Women Business Owners and the first to be held in Jackson. There is a registration fee of $35 per person or $50 for two people that includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

For more information, contact McKinney at Sharron.K.Taylor@state.tn.us.

The Jackson Sun/5A
Tuesday, June 30, 2009