Ebonie Reed of Memphis was presented the Paul and Martha Meek Award at the recent commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The cash award is given to graduating seniors who have demonstrated outstanding qualities of leadership while at UTM. She received a bachelor's degree in family and consumer sciences.

Area residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent fall commencement.

Earning graduate degrees were Richard Lee Ennis II, Michael Doyle Kent and Michael Charles Johnson.


Kathleen Elam to be honored at UTM game

Union City philanthropist Kathleen Elam will be honored during the Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Tournament’s first-round game Tuesday night at Skyhawk Arena in UT Martin’s Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Game time is set for 7 p.m. as the Skyhawk men, regular-season conference champions, face Tennessee Tech for the right to play in the tournament’s semifinal round Friday at the Sommet Center in Nashville.

Kathleen Elam Appreciation Night will honor the longtime donor and supporter of the UT Martin campus. She and her late husband, Col. Tom Elam, supported many academic and athletic programs during his lifetime. A $1 million pledge to UT Martin in 1996 before Col. Elam’s death coincided with the university’s naming of the Elam Center in the couple’s honor.

She has continued her support by giving the university nearly $1.9 million since her husband’s death almost 11 years ago.

Activities during Tuesday night’s game will include a special announcement honoring Mrs. Elam at halftime by UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. Tickets for the game are available by calling the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics at (731) 881-7207. Tickets also go on sale two hours before game time Tuesday inside the Elam Center’s main entrance.

REED Center to offer customer service session

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center is sponsoring an informative session for employees to learn the do’s and don’ts of customer service.

The class will be from 6-8 p.m. March 10 at the South Fulton Municipal Complex on Broadway.

Jamie Frakes, director of Tennessee Small Business Development Centers (TSBDC) at Dyersburg State Community College, will teach the class.

The course will be free and is sponsored by the REED Center and the Twin Cities Chamber of Commerce.

To reserve a spot for the training session, contact the REED Center at (731) 587-7333 or register online at www.utm.edu/reed.
Cody Alcorn joined the FOX Carolina news team in July 2006.

Before moving to Greenville, he worked in Jackson, Tennessee where he was a co-anchor on "Good Morning West Tennessee."

When not behind the anchor desk, Cody was in the field covering stories like the aftermath of a series of deadly tornadoes, drug issues and the murder of a West Tennessee minister.

Cody graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a Bachelor of Arts degree in communications. While at UT Martin, Cody competed in college rodeo in both calf roping and team roping.

grew up in the Shoestring State in Sikeston, Missouri. With family spread out across the country, there aren't too many places Cody hasn't visited. However, he admits this is his first stop in the Palmetto State.

Cody says he is excited to make Greenville and WTVS his new home.

You may e-mail Cody at cody.alcorn@foxcarolina.com.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2009

UTM claims two residence halls awards

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently was recognized as School of the Year at the 2009 Tennessee Association of Residence Halls Leadership Conference. Ryan Martin, assistant director of housing, also was named state advisor of the year.

Schools in attendance at the recent conference hosted by UT Martin were Belmont University, East Tennessee State University, Fisk University, University of Memphis, University of Tennessee Knoxville, Maryville College, Tennessee Technological University and UT Martin. A total of 106 delegates attended.

Conference activities included programs and discussions on the following topics: recycling and conservation, health, interview skills and career options, and residence hall activities and events. Several social events rounded out the conference weekend programming.

Martin began at UT Martin as a resident assistant while an undergraduate student in 1999. He worked in a variety of leadership roles in the residence halls and in the central housing office. In 2005, he joined the housing staff as the interim assistant director and, in 2007, was appointed permanently to the position. Martin has served in a variety of other roles as the Tennessee Association of College and University Housing Officers conference chair and most recently as the state advisor for the student-led group of the Tennessee Association of Residence Halls.

For more information about UT Martin residence halls, call the Office of Student Housing at 881-7730.

WILLIAMS RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD — Ray Williams, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek council, or through their campus events and organizations.

RICHWINE RECEIVES WHO'S WHO HONOR AT UT MARTIN — Jonathan Richwine, of Martin, recently received the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin Who's Who Awards Ceremony. The Who's Who Award is one of the most prestigious honors given to students who have proven strength and character in academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service. The award process was established in 1934 and is conferred by more than 1,900 schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
UNGER RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD — Mary Unger, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations.

HAVENER RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD — Jennifer Havener, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations.

STOKER RECEIVES EMERGING LEADER AWARD — Abbey Stoker, of Dresden, was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community.

HINDS RECEIVES UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD — Rebecca Hinds, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations.

CARTMELL RECEIVES EMERGING LEADER AWARD — Sirena Cartmell, of Martin, was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community.

College FFA named top chapter

The University of Tennessee at Martin Collegiate FFA chapter was named top collegiate chapter in the state for the fifth consecutive year at the recent Tennessee FFA Alumni State Convention at Montgomery Bell State Park.

UT Martin collegiate competition team winners were Heather McLean, of Newbern, agricultural professions; Laura Campbell, of Spring Hill, agricultural production; and Neil Bringle, of Ripley, prepared speaking. Bringle and Doug Giles, of Franklin, each received a $500 scholarship from the FFA Foundation.

Dr. James N. Butler Jr., professor of agricultural education, is UT Martin Collegiate FFA adviser.

BRITTON RECEIVES WHO'S WHO HONOR AT UT MARTIN — John Britton, of Martin, recently received the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin Who's Who Award Ceremony. The Who's Who Award is one of the most prestigious honors given to students who have proven strength and character in academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service. The award process was established in 1934 and is conferred by more than 1,900 schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
WestStar alumni from Henry County gather

Henry County WestStar alumni recently met at the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce building. Among those attending the meeting were (from left, seated) Ramay Winchester, Mary Kate Ridgeway, Terry Wimberley, John Etheridge, Larry Ray, Galia Greer and Brent Greer; (from left, standing) Virginia Grimes, Charley Deal, Mike Wilson, Connie McSwain, Tom Gee, Jennifer Wheatley, Mary Lodge and Jennifer Morris.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, WestStar is the state's oldest and largest regional leadership program. All are from Henry County except Grimes, who is WestStar coordinator; and

WORTHY RECOGNITION — University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes (second from left) addressed Skyhawk basketball fans Tuesday night following his announcement that the multi-purpose room in the Bob Carroll Football Building would be named the Kathleen H. Elam Room in honor of Union City philanthropist Kathleen Elam. The announcement was made as part of Kathleen Elam Appreciation Night at the Skyhawk men's first-round Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Tournament game with Tennessee Tech. Joining in the announcement were (from left) Phil Dane, UT Martin director of intercollegiate athletics; Betty Smith (holding plaque), Mrs. Elam's niece; Becky Brown, Mrs. Elam's great-niece; Hunter Mountjoy, Mrs. Elam’s nephew and father of Becky Brown; Al Creswell, CPA and partner; Alexander Thompson Arnold CPAs and also a UT Martin Athletics Board member; and Randy Barnes, UT Martin director of football operations. (See related UT Martin coverage, Page 16.)
Philanthropist to be honored at UTM game

Union City philanthropist Kathleen Elam will be honored during the Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Tournament's first-round game tonight at Skyhawk Arena in the University of Tennessee Martin's Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Game time is set for 7 p.m., according to a news release. The Skyhawk men,, regular-season conference champions, face Tennessee Tech for the right to play in the tournament's semifinal round set to begin Friday at the Sommet Center in Nashville.

"Kathleen Elam Appreciation Night" will honor the longtime donor and supporter of UT Martin. She and her late husband, Col. Tom Elam, supported many academic and athletic programs during his lifetime. A $1 million pledge to UTM in 1996 before Tom Elam's death coincided with the university's naming of the Elam Center in the couple's honor. Kathleen Elam has continued her support by giving the university nearly $1.9 million since Tom Elam's death almost 11 years ago.

Activities during the game will include a special announcement at halftime. Tickets are available by calling (731) 881-7207 or starting two hours before game time at the Elam Center's main entrance.

Local student receives Who's Who honor at UT Martin

Charles McCall, of Trimble, recently received the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin Who's Who Award Ceremony.

The Who's Who Award is one of the most prestigious honors given to students who have proven strength and character in academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service. The award process was established in 1934 and is conferred by more than 1,900 schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM – The University of Tennessee at Martin and Murray State University chapters of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, recently held their seventh annual Joint Research Symposium at Martin. Thirteen papers were presented. Several of the symposium participants include (first, from right) Dr. Wafaa M. Fawzy (presenter, MSU); Dr. Nancy W. Hinds (UT Martin); Dr. Edie J. Banner (presenter, MSU); Dr. Robbie L. Montgomery (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Rosemary I. Effiong (UT Martin); Dr. Paula M. Gale (presenter, UT Martin); Sara Gale (presenter, Archeological Unit, Georgia Department of Transportation); Wallis Wimbish (student presenter, UT Martin); (middle, from left) Dr. S.K. Airee (UT Martin Sigma Xi vice president); Dr. Tom Blanchard (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Otha Britton (UT Martin Sigma Xi treasurer); Dr. H. Dawn Wilkins (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Emery Gathers (UT Martin); Dr. R. Mark Simpson (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Misganaw Getach (UT Martin); (back, from right) Dr. R. Daniel Johnson (presenter, MSU Sigma Xi vice president); Dr. Michael Kempf (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Richard Helgeson (UT Martin Sigma Xi president); Dr. Jozsef Devenyi (UT Martin); Dr. Matthew Pritchett (UT Martin); Dr. Louis Kolisch (UT Martin Sigma Xi secretary); Dr. Bradley Ray (presenter, UT Martin). Not pictured are Dr. Paul L. Higgs (presenter, UT Martin) and Dr. Willis Shem (UT Martin).

UTM says 'Thank you' to Kathleen Elam

Union City philanthropist Kathleen Elam will be honored during the Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Tournament’s first-round game Tuesday night at Skyhawk Arena in UT Martin’s Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Game time is set for 7 p.m. as the Skyhawk men, regular-season conference champions, face Tennessee Tech for the right to play in the tournament’s semifinal round set to begin this Friday at the Sonnet Center in Nashville.

“Kathleen Elam Appreciation Night” will honor the longtime donor and supporter of the UT Martin campus. She and her late husband, Col. Tom Elam, supported many academic and athletic programs during his lifetime. A $1 million pledge to UT Martin in 1996 before Col. Elam’s death coincided with the university’s naming of the Elam Center in the couple’s honor. Ms. Elam has continued her support by giving the university nearly $1.9 million since Col. Elam’s death almost 11 years ago.

Activities during the game will include a special announcement honoring Ms. Elam at halftime by UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. Tickets for the game are available by calling the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics at 881-7207. Tickets also go on sale two hours before game time Tuesday inside the Elam Center’s main entrance.

SANDEFER RECEIVES WHO'S WHO HONOR AT UT MARTIN — Rachel Sandefer, of Martin, recently received the Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin Who’s Who Award Ceremony. The Who’s Who Award is one of the most prestigious honors given to students who have proven strength and character in academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service. The award process was established in 1934 and is conferred by more than 1,900 schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
Agreement makes transfer easy to complete social work degree

Officials from Jackson State Community College and the University of Tennessee at Martin recently met to sign an articulation agreement between the two schools.

The agreement, effective immediately, will be utilized by students from Jackson State transferring to UT Martin to complete a bachelor’s degree in social work.

An articulation agreement ensures a seamless transfer of credits from one institution to another. Students majoring in social work at Jackson State will be able to transfer to UT Martin without losing time or credits.

“This agreement will allow a student to complete an associate’s degree at Jackson State in two years and continue on to UT Martin for the next two years and graduate with a bachelor’s degree in social work,” said Dr. Bruce Blanding, president of Jackson State Community College. “The students are accomplishing their goals in a timely manner and the community benefits from having an increased number of quality professionals working in the field — that’s a win-win situation for everyone.”

“We are again pleased to partner with JSCC to better assist students who want to enter the social work field. Students will have a smoother transition to UT Martin,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. “We cooperate in many ways with JSCC, and this is another example of both UT Martin and JSCC striving to meet the needs of area students.”

Jackson State has similar agreements with UT Martin in agriculture and education.

For more information on the social work program at Jackson State, call Dr. Nell Senter, assistant professor, at (731) 424-3520, Ext. 594. For more information about the social work program at UT Martin, call the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice at (731) 881-7520.
**Nutrition seminar slated for Friday at UT Martin**

The Joe and Pat Johnson Nutrition Symposium, offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education and the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, is slated from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center on the UT Martin campus.

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

The program is sponsored by private gift funds. Registration will begin at 8 a.m.

From 8:30-9 a.m., Ashley Moore, dietetic intern, will present “Bigger Isn’t Always Better: Portion Sizes in Relation to Childhood Obesity.” From 9:30-10:30 a.m., Molly DePriest, dietetic intern, will present “Sports Nutrition: Nutrient Timing.”

From 10:45-11:45 a.m., Deb Simon, Tennessee Department of Education Northwest Region school nutrition consultant, will present “Initiatives to Promote Wellness.”

Lunch is planned from 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

From 12:45-1:45 p.m., Gay Walker, Apria Healthcare enteral dietitian, will present “On the Go and No IV Pole: The New Era for People on Long-Term Tube Feeding.” From 1:45-2:45 p.m., Dawne Damron-Belote, Rehab America speech/language pathologist, will present “Swallowing and Food Consistencies from the Speech Language Pathologists Perspective.”

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

The workshop conforms to guidelines for continuing education units (CEUs). Attendance at the entire workshop carries 6 CEUs. CEUs and a certificate of completion from the University of Tennessee at Martin will be awarded at the conclusion of the program. The registration fee is $25 per person and includes material handouts, refreshment breaks and lunch.

To register, call ECCE at (731) 881-7082 or go to http://www.utk.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

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**UTM has 10th consecutive record spring enrollment**

A record 7,152 students are enrolled for spring semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The enrollment tops the previous spring semester high of 6,711 students set in 2008 and is the 10th consecutive spring semester increase. The most recent figures resulted in spring semester records for total undergraduates and total full-time equivalent and full-time equivalent undergraduate students.

The 6.6-percent spring 2009 enrollment increase also follows a fall 2008 enrollment of 7,578 that set six all-time records in various categories. All enrollment numbers are compiled and reported by the university’s Office of Institutional Research.

“Enrollment growth is representative of increases in our undergraduate enrollment, both on campus and off campus, in our dual-enrollment students and in undergraduate and graduate online programs,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. “A UT Martin education is a true value, and I appreciate the confidence more and more students are demonstrating by choosing UT Martin. This level of excellence is a reflection of the hard work of our faculty and staff as well as the continued support of alumni and donors.”

The 2009 spring enrollment set a spring semester record for undergraduate students, with 6,733, a 6.3-percent increase over spring 2008; undergraduate FTE, with 5,718, a 3.8-percent increase; and total FTE, with 5,935, a 4.3-percent increase over spring 2008. FTE is the total number of students credit hours divided by 15 for undergraduate students and 12 for graduate students. Also increasing over spring 2008 were the number of returning students, by 5.6-percent, and the number of dual-enrollment/concurrent enrollment students, by 29-percent.

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**Local student receives University Service Award**

Ray Williams, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations.

**UTM Collegiate FFA named top state chapter for fifth consecutive year**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Collegiate FFA chapter was named top collegiate chapter in the state for the fifth consecutive year at the recent Tennessee FFA Alumni State Convention at Montgomery Bell State Park.

UT Martin collegiate competition team winners were: Heather McLean, of Newbern, agricutural professions; Laura Campbell, of Spring Hill, agricultural production; and Neil Bringle, of Ripley, prepared speaking. Bringle and Doug Giles, of Franklin, each received a $500 scholarship from the FFA Foundation.

Dr. James N. Butler, Jr., professor of agricultural education, is UT Martin Collegiate FFA adviser.
Local students receive University Service Award

Jennifer Havener, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations. Pictured from left are Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor, and Havener.

Jonathan Richwine, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations. Pictured from left are Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor, and Richwine.

Kyle Brooks, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations. Pictured from left are Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor, and Brooks.

Rebecca Hinds, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations. Pictured from left are Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor, and Hinds.
Mary Unger, of Martin, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations. Pictured from left are Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor, and Unger.

Rachel Hill, of Martin, was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Pictured from left are Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Hill.

Dr. David Barber, assistant professor of history, recently signed his book, “A Hard Rain Fell: SDS and Why It Failed,” at the University of Tennessee at Martin bookstore. Talking to Barber at the signing is UT Martin student, Walter Harris, of Martin.

**Business consultant at REED Center, March 12**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center offers aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners one-on-one consulting each month. The center also offers approximately 20 small-business seminars each year for little or no cost to assist area business people in a variety of decisions.

The next opportunity to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues from Ron Argee, Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC) consultant, will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m., March 12.

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

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 731-587-REED (7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin, Tenn. 38237. For additional services offered by the REED Center, go to www. utm.edu/reed.

**Book signing held at UTM Bookstore**
Local students receive Emerging Leader Awards

Abbey Stoker, of Dresden, was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Pictured from left are Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Stoker.

Carrie Hagen, of Dresden, was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Pictured from left are Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Hagen.

Emily Belote, of Martin, was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Pictured from left are Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Belote.

Sirena Cartmell, of Martin, was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Pictured from left are Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Cartmell.
Colton Teague receives Leader Award

Colton Teague was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority and in the community. Pictured from left are Dr. Margaret Toston, vice-chancellor for student affairs, and Teague.

Andy Wilson receives Service Award

Andy Wilson of Selmer, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils or through their campus events and organizations. Pictured from left are, Dr. Tom Rakes, Chancellor and Wilson.

John Pickle receives Service Award

John Pickle of Selmer, was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils or through their campus events and organizations. Pictured from left are, Dr. Tom Rakes, Chancellor and Pickle.
Local students receive UTM scholarships

Three Gibson County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2009-2010 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin:

- Matthew Abbott, son of Debbie Abbott of Trenton, will be a freshman. He received the Chancellor’s Award.
- Wyatt Turner, son of Betty Turner of Dyer and Joey Turner of Trenton, will be a freshman. He received the Leaders-in-Residence Award.
- Christian Greenhill, son of Herbert and Sadonna Davis of Humboldt, will be a freshman. She received the Dean’s Scholarship.

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

Williams presented award

Cydney Williams (left) of Trenton was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Pictured from left are Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs, and Williams.

UT Martin claims two awards at residence hall conference

The University of Tennessee at Martin was recently recognized as School of the Year at the 2009 Tennessee Association of Residence Halls Leadership Conference.

Ryan Martin, assistant director of housing, also was named state Advisor of the Year.

Schools in attendance at the recent conference hosted by UT Martin were Belmont University, East Tennessee State University, Fisk University, the University of Memphis, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Maryville College, Tennessee Technological University and UT Martin. A total of 106 delegates attended.

Conference activities included programs and discussions on recycling and conservation, health, interview skills and career options and residence hall activities and events.

Several social events rounded out the conference weekend programming.

Martin began at UT Martin as a resident assistant while an undergraduate student in 1999. He worked in a variety of leadership roles in the residence halls and in the central housing office. In 2005, he joined the housing staff as the interim assistant director and, in 2007, was appointed permanently to the position.

Martin has served in a variety of other roles as the Tennessee Association of College and University Housing Officers conference chair and, most recently, as the state advisor for the student-led group of the Tennessee Association of Residence Halls.

For more information about UT Martin residence halls, call the Office of Student Housing at (731) 881-7730.
TROY STUDENT HONORED — Heather Grossner of Troy was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she was congratulated by UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils or through their campus events and organizations.

Faculty series continues with vocal recital

Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of music, and Dr. Robert Mancusi, assistant professor of music, will perform in a vocal recital at 7:30 p.m., March 19, at the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine and Performing Arts Building on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Yeung and Mancusi will perform several opera duets taken from "Le Nozze di Figaro," "Don Giovanni," "L'elisir d'amore" and "Porgy and Bess." The recital will also include several Italian and French art songs of the 19th and 20th centuries and spirituals.

Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, will accompany the two performers on the piano. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend. For more information, contact Yeung at (731) 881-7408.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2009

UPM Rodeo pageants set for March 14

The UTM Rodeo Booster Club is hosting their 4th annual Little Mr./Miss and Miss UTU Rodeo pageants at 2 p.m., March 14, in the Watkins Auditorium on the UT Martin campus. The pageant is open to boys and girls from birth through 6 years old and girls only 7-20 years old.

Registration is on the day of the pageant. Entry fee is $20, and admission costs $3. For more information, call Katie Brooks at (270) 627-1031 or Tina Finney at (731) 225-4112.

Senior voice recital slated on March 22

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will present Karen Langdon's senior recital at 3 p.m., March 22, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre at the Fine Arts Building. Langdon is a vocal music education major from Jackson. She sings in both the UT Martin University Singers and New Pacers Singers and is involved in lyric opera theatre.

Literature for the recital will include selections by Franz Schubert, Gabriel Fauré, Samuel Barber and Sergei Rachmaninoff. Delana Easley, lecturer of music, will accompany Langdon on piano. The recital is free and the public is invited to attend.

For more information, please contact Dr. Amy Yeung at -881-7408.

Faculty concert series continues

Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of music, and Dr. Robert Mancusi, assistant professor of music, will perform in a vocal recital at 7:30 p.m., March 19, at the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine and Performing Arts Building on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Yeung and Mancusi will perform several opera duets taken from "Le Nozze di Figaro," "Don Giovanni," "L'elisir d'amore" and "Porgy and Bess." The recital will also include several Italian and French art songs of the 19th and 20th centuries and spirituals. Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, will accompany the two performers on the piano. Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend. For more information, please contact Yeung at 881-7408.
Benefits of 'CarbonPower' explained at Aberdeen meeting

By Connie Sieh Groop, Farm Forum Editor

Published on Friday, March 06, 2009

In this year of volatile prices and inputs, farmers are seeking out every avenue to make finances pencil out. One technology showcased at meetings in Aberdeen recently promises healthier plants, an ability to make better use of the nutrients in the soil and enhancement of fertilizers applied to crops.

Pro Ag Supply of Aberdeen brought Dr. John Bradley to the area to explain "CarbonPower," and how this new technology can boost production for a number of crops. Bradley is from Collierville, Tenn., and is the vice president of Technical Sales Development for Floratine BioSciences, Inc.

Even though input costs now seem to be declining, new solutions for increasing profitability are still important choices for farmers seeking to maximize profits. Efficient use of nutrients leads to economic savings and greater profitability. Market fluctuations will always have an impact on grower costs, and minimizing those costs will continue to be important in the future.

In 2008, North Carolina-based Agri-Technologies conducted eight field trials on seven specialty and row crops which resulted in an average 15.6 percent yield increase per acre. According to the company, these numbers show that CarbonPower can increase yields across a range of different crops, in this area for corn, beans and wheat.

Many of FBS' products were originally developed during 17 years of research in the golf market, where daily watering, trampling and constant cutting wreak havoc on the condition of greens. The original company, Floratine Products Group, perfected the methods for creating strong plants using a system involving research, diagnostics, implementation and monitoring. With initial success in the golf course industry, the company moved the product to agricultural fields in California with specialty crops. From there, the technology was tried in wheat fields and row crops. Field trials have been done at a number of universities and last year, a few test plots were set up in South Dakota at Menno. This summer more of the test plots will be planted to showcase the results for producers in this state.
According to Bradley, CarbonPower is made up of active compounds found in the environment and modified by nature, then refined using the company's proprietary process. It consists of more than 2,000 organic compounds that exist in a form close to their natural state, producing a complex mixture with unrivaled activity in plants. These characteristics provide a high level of mobility to nutrients within the plant.

According to the company, more than eight years of development and independent studies with CarbonPower have consistently shown yield increases over grower standard and competitor programs. By providing more efficient uptake, CarbonPower products can benefit a crop's overall health and natural resistance to environmental stresses.

Bradley said that because CarbonPower is derived from an all-natural environment, it is a completely sustainable and environmentally friendly technology.

What does that mean for your crops? Plants get the nutrients they need to be stronger, healthier, and more resistant to environmental stresses. In return they'll produce higher yields and maintain a longer shelf life. The company says that university and third-party researchers in six countries are testing the technology and products. Go to http://www.fbsciencies.com for more on the research.

FBS' CarbonPowered NPK enhancement product, Carbon Boost-S, increases the uptake efficiency of Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), and Potassium (K) based fertilizers, as well as secondary and micronutrients, giving plants a greater net benefit than the application of fertilizers alone. Improved nutrient uptake increases overall yields and makes plants stronger and more resistant to environmental stresses.

Last year, four independent research trials were conducted to measure the impact of Carbon Boost-S on corn. Carbon Boost-S was applied in furrow at the time of planting with starter fertilizer in each trial. The average results of the trials showed a 19.2 bushel per acre increase in yield over the control when using Carbon Boost-S with a starter fertilizer compared to Nitrogen alone.

At $6 per bushel, that's an increase of revenue of over $100 per acre. (Research trials conducted by AGSTAT, S/S Ag Research, Vigar Ag Research, and Bennet Ag Research)

Ongoing Projects

In 2008, the company conducted more than 50 randomized/replicated research studies in 17 states.

The company participated in nearly 200 grower field trials in 6 countries including: United States, Canada, Sweden, Norway, United Kingdom, and Australia. FBS' research partners include universities, private research firms, and government agencies. This year, they are conducting randomized/replicated research studies on the following crops: alfalfa, apples, corn, potatoes, peppers, rice, soybeans, strawberries, table grapes, tomatoes, wine grapes, and wheat.

Bradley has more than 30 years of practical and technical experience in agricultural research and development and is certified as a Professional Agronomist and Professional Crop Consultant. Bradley earned a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from the University of Tennessee at Martin, and completed his Master of Science in Agriculture at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He earned his doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Memphis.

Pro Ag Supply is handling distribution for FBS in the Aberdeen, South Dakota, area. Currently, CB Max-S is registered for sale in South Dakota. For more information, contact them at 4750 East U.S. Hwy. 12 in Aberdeen.
SD or call 605-225-9221. A link to more information is available at www.proagsupply.com. All other FBS products are registered in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin.

FBS is headquartered in the Memphis suburb of Collierville, Tenn., with manufacturing facilities in Visalia, California. For more information on FBS, visit www.fbsciences.com.

AWARD PRESENTED — Dale Hendon (right) of Union City was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he was congratulated by UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils or through their campus events and organizations.

Trivia Night set
The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Relay for Life team has scheduled a Trivia Night for 7 p.m. March 19 in Paul Meek Library on campus, with the public invited.

Those interested in participating are asked to form teams of six to eight players for a night of trivia fun. Entry fee is $5 per player, payable at the door. All proceeds go to the UT Martin Relay for Life team. Donations are welcome.

For more information, contact Cindy Gaylord at (731) 881-7078 or Janie Crews at 881-7092.
UT Martin plans three-week mini-term

"Maymester," a special three-week mini-term, will be offered in May at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The term will span May 11-29. Each in-person class will meet daily Monday through Friday. The four standard course time slots for three-hour courses will be: 7:30-10:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m., 2-5 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. The maximum load will be six semester hours.

Registration for the special term will begin March 30 and end at 5 p.m. May 11. Late registration will be available until 5 p.m. May 12, but a late registration fee will apply. The normal in-state tuition and fees of $221 per credit hour ($230 for online courses) will apply. Fee payments will be due by 5 p.m. May 12. Financial aid will be available to the same extent there is assistance available during the regular summer terms.

There will be several courses offered online or as an in-person/online hybrid. The Jackson, Parsons, Ripley and Selmer centers will offer courses during the "Maymester" in addition to the summer terms. Book loans for the mini-term classes will be available on April 27 and Cooper Hall will be used for students who need to rent housing.

The mini-term will be followed by two five-week summer terms, the second of which will be devoted to offering almost exclusively online courses. "Maymester" courses include Accounting 300, Accounting 441, Agriculture 295, Animal Science 110, Art 110, Biochemistry 411, Biology 391, Business Law 201, Communications 230, Communications 334, Communications 599, Computer Science 201, Criminal Justice 300, Criminal Justice 411, Economics 201, Economics 311, Educational Psychology and Guidance 745, Educational Studies 450, English 401, English 425, English 496, Finance 301, Fine Arts 467, French 250, Geography 151, Geology 110 (4), Health 111, Health 220, Health 351, History 201, History 470, History 480, Human Learning 311, Information Systems 211/212/213 (one hour each), Information Systems 351, Japanese 111, Marketing 301, Microbiology 401, Music 112, Music 193, Nursing 411, Nursing 341, Nutrition 100, Philosophy 120, Physics 211, Political Science 210, Political Science 320, Political Science 353, Psychology 120, Psychology 310, Psychology 365, Social Work 200, Social Work 425, Sociology 302, Sociology 304, Sociology 305, Soil Science 430, Spanish 250, Special Education 300/500, Special Education 440/460, Teacher Education 303, Teacher Education 450/650, Teacher Education 705, Theatre 110 and Zoology 326.

For more information, call (731) 881-7050. For housing information, call 881-7750.
A green job at the White House
Hub City native may be named to Capitol post

BY NICHOLAS BEADLE
nbeadle@jacksonsun.com
MARCH 10, 2009

President Barack Obama could name Jackson-born attorney Van Jones to a green jobs position in the White House.

Reached by phone Monday, Jones declined comment. Phone messages left with the White House Press Office were not returned.

Environmental bloggers reported over the weekend that Jones could receive an Obama appointment. The Wall Street Journal also reported on its Web site on Monday that Jones could be named to a position overseeing spending of stimulus money tabbed for green jobs.

Jones has been lauded for helping connect the need for more green jobs with finding work for the poor. He is the author of the bestselling "The Green Collar Economy" and the founding president of Green For All, an organization that pushes for government commitment to create green work that could help the disadvantaged.

He has firm ties to the Jackson area, coming from a family of educators. In a phone interview Monday night, Jones' mother, Loretta, a retired Jackson Central-Merry High School teacher, said she had not reached her son after hearing news he had taken a White House position.

She described her son as a determined, focused student while growing up.

Jones is a graduate of the University of Tennessee Martin. School officials say they are delighted to hear Jones could be in line for a White House post.

"This doesn't surprise me at all," said Jerold Ogg, UT Martin's vice chancellor for academic affairs. "He had an inquisitiveness about him. Ten to 20 percent of any class is bright. But there's that upper 1 percent, maybe one student a year, that can't quit asking questions."

Ogg said he and Jones bonded when Ogg taught communications. He said Jones was looking at going to law school and he knew Ogg had practiced law before coming to Martin.

Ogg said he remembers Jones asking for advice on where to go to law school after being accepted to Yale University, Vanderbilt University, Harvard University, Princeton University and Stanford University - eventually settling on Yale.

While at Martin, Jones was an intern at The Jackson Sun and The Times of Shreveport, La. - the latter of which seemed to be a defining experience for him, Ogg said. After returning to Tennessee, Jones seemed more focused on attacking poverty and other social needs as an attorney, Ogg said.

LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES WHO'S WHO HONOR AT UT MARTIN — Ashley Niven, of Milan, recently received the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin Who's Who Award Ceremony. The Who's Who Award is one of the most prestigious honors given to students who have proven strength and character in academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service. The award process was established in 1934 and is conferred by more than 1,900 schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Pictured with Niven is Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor.

UTM sets March 21 Spring Preview Day
MARTIN, Tenn. — The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Admissions will host Spring Preview Day, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, March 21, on the UT Martin campus.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. in Boling University Center. Welcoming remarks and an information session will follow at 10:30 a.m. in Watkins Auditorium. At 11:30 a.m., an academic fair will be hosted in the Duncan Ballroom. Entertainment is scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m. with a campus tour to follow at 1 p.m.

Students may register for Spring Preview Day at http://www.utm.edu/admissions/spring_pd.php. For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020.

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ACHIEVEMENTS
The Jodi Woods Memorial Award, given each semester to one graduating special education major at the University of Tennessee at Martin who excels in student teaching, has been presented to Latoria Jenkins of Cordova. The monetary award will help assist her in stocking her new classroom.
Gray will speak at UTM

Dr. Kimberly Gray, a noted engineer and environmental planner, will speak in the Watkins Auditorium of the Bolding University Center on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin at 7:30 p.m., March 17. In addition to being on the Honors Programs Academic Speakers program, Gray will also appear as a Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer.

A native of Chicago, Gray received her Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Northwestern University, a Master of Science in civil engineering from the University of Miami (Fla), and a doctorate in environmental engineering from Johns Hopkins University. After serving as a research engineer at the Lyonnaise des Eaux in Paris, France, Gray returned to the United States in 1989 and served as an assistant professor at the Department of Civil Engineering and Geosciences at the University of Notre Dame. In 1995, she moved to Northwestern University and is currently professor of civil and environmental engineering, as well as director of the Environmental Services Program and coordinator of Environmental Engineering and Science and associate director of the Institute of Environmental Catalysis at Northwestern.

Gray is active in research and in community affairs. She is the author of several monographs, book chapters, more than 50 journal articles, and is a member of the Institute of Policy Research at Northwestern. She served on the board of directors of the Chicago Redevelopment Initiative from 2002-06 and has been the director of the Institute of Sustainable Practices, a joint program operated by Northwestern University and Argonne National Laboratory, since 2007.

She has received numerous awards and honors, including recognition as an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow by the Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University, as well as the McCormick Excellence Award in Research, Teaching and Citizenship from Northwestern University in 2007.

"With energy costs increasing, supplies becoming more scarce, and the environmental effects of the burning of fossil fuels growing more pronounced, the nation needs to reconsider its energy policies," said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. "Kimberly Gray has been active for the past two decades in the study of energy policy and energy sustainability. She has been active in the construction of both energy and environmental policy and her ideas in these areas will provoke a great deal of thought among the audience."

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Dyersburg City Schools recently named its Teachers of the Year for the 2008-2009 academic year. From left, DPS Teacher of the Year Lea Ann Duncan, DIS Teacher of the Year Mike French and DMS Teacher of the Year Lyn Burkhead. Not pictured, DHS Teacher of the Year Ruel DeVon Arrington. Arrington, Burkhead and Duncan will go on to represent Dyersburg City Schools as System Level Teachers of the Year.

City names Teachers of the Year

VANESSA CAIN
vcain@stategazette.com

Four Dyersburg educators were recently voted Teacher of the Year, an honor bestowed upon them by the educators who serve beside them each day.


Due to differences in grade-level categories for the Tennessee Teacher of the Year competition, only three of the educators will go on to represent Dyersburg City Schools for the next level of competition, the Northwest Area Teacher of the Year.

Arrington, Burkhead and Duncan have been chosen to represent Dyersburg in ninth through 12th grade, fifth through eighth grade and pre-
K through fourth grade, respectively.

DHS: Ruel DeVon Arrington

Ruel DeVon Arrington has served in the same position in the Dyersburg City School System for his entire teaching career:

For the past 28 years, he has taught U.S. History to DHS students, serving as sponsor to the student council from 1990 to 1995, and the yearbook staff from 1987 to 1988 and 1990 to 1991.

Also named DHS Teacher of the Year in 1996, Arrington has received 25 nominations by former students to Who's Who Among American Teachers.

In his tenure, he has served on the Superintendent's Advisory Committee, the National School of Excellence Commemoration Committee, the City Schools Curriculum Mapping/Assessment Committee, the DHS Attendance Committee and Curriculum Committee, as SACS Chairmen for the DHS Students' Activities Program and DHS Instrucional and Organizational Program and as a SACS Visiting Committee member. Other professional leadership and development activities include the DMS Curriculum Resource and Analysis and seminars concerning 21st Century Classroom Training, Differentiated Assessment and Grading and Total Instructional Alignment.

He is a member of the National Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association and the Dyersburg Education Association.

He received a B.A. from Union University in 1981 and has completed graduate work at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

DMS: Lyn Burkhead

Lyn Burkhead has been an educator for 20 years. In her tenure at DMS, she has taught both seventh- and eighth-graders social studies, science and language arts. She has also taught second-, third-, fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade classes in school systems throughout Indiana, Missouri and West Tennessee.

A graduate of Purdue University, Burkhead will receive her degree in Administration and Supervision from the University of Phoenix in June. But she already has experience in administration, serving as interim principal of Newbern Grammar School in 1998. She has also taken classes and received training from the University of Memphis and Cumberland University.

“It is all about the children,” said Burkhead. “That’s why we do the red tape and the mandates. We’re their cheerleaders. A lot of the time, we’re all they have. You remember those teachers that gave all they had to you. I think that’s what all of us do. We give from the inside.”

Burkhead is a member of the National Education Association and the Dyersburg Education Association, and a past member of the Dyer County Education Association, National Science Teachers Association and the Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority for Women Educators. She has also served as DEA President, as a member of the Superintendent’s Advisory Committee, Site Coordinator for DMS’s 21st Century Grant, a member of the Instructional Leadership Team, the DMS Teacher/Student Advisory committee and co-chair for the DMS Water Garden.

She was named DMS Teacher of the Year in 1997 and Dyer County Teacher of the Year in 1996.

DPS: Mike French

DPS third-grade teacher Mike French is currently in his sixth year as an educator.

He has also served the Dyersburg City School System in guidance/child development at DPS.

As an educator, he enjoys his daily duties and embraces the responsibility of being a role model.

“That is one of the main reasons I went into teaching,” said French. “I felt it was a calling, without a doubt. I wanted to be a positive male role model in the life of so many who don’t have male role models. That’s why I chose the younger (age group). I love knowing that every day I get to go to a job where I get to have fun and enjoy the day I love what I do. It’s refreshing to know I get to go to a job like that.”

French is an advocate and representative of the Christian Educators Association International, Chair of the DIS Media Center, and DIS Curriculum Mapping representative. He is a seven-time winner of the DIS Spirit Classroom Award, a five-time winner of the Lifeline Blood Services Classroom Award and has received numerous “Best Teacher Ever” awards from his students since 2002.

“(These are) cards and notes given to me on a regular basis from current and former students, as well as some parents,” said French in his Teacher of the Year application. “These are the awards that matter most to me.”

French attended Elementary Education programs at Dyersburg State Community College, and Jackson State Community College, earning an Associate’s Degree in Elementary Education from JSCC and his K-8 Elementary Education license, undergraduate degree in Learning Foundations and participating in the Masters of Education program at Union University. He is currently participating in the Educational Administration. He is currently participating in the Educational Administration and Supervision License Program at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

DPS: Lea Ann Duncan

DPS second-grade teacher Lea Ann Duncan has served in three positions this academic year.

Last fall, Duncan volunteered to lead the DPS S.M.A.R.T. room when the school found itself with an extra kindergarten teacher, although she had already prepared and set up for her kindergarten students when the opportunity presented itself. A few short months later, she agreed to take over for a second-grade teacher who left the school for medical reasons.

“I don’t consider (teaching) a job. It’s a passion,” said Duncan. “Something I’ve always wanted to do and I wouldn’t change a thing. It’s better every year because I like a challenge. Every day and every year is different. I like that.”

Duncan began her teaching career as a kindergarten teacher in 1984 in Miller, Mo. Since that time, she has taught first grade, third grade and sixth grade. History, and served as Missouri Accelerated Schools Coach and S.M.A.R.T. Room teacher and trainer for DPS.

Earning a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of the Ozarks (currently College of the Ozarks) and a Master of Science in Education from Southwest Missouri State University (currently Missouri State University), Duncan is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma and the National Education Association, and is a past member of the Missouri State Teacher’s Association.

In addition to her S.M.A.R.T. training, she has participated as a cooperating teacher for student teachers, as chair of the school improvement committee and a member of the textbook adoption committee and instructional leadership committee.
Legacy of WestStar: 20 years of developing the region's leaders

In a 20-year history, the WestStar leadership program at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has spurred many of its 500-plus graduates to take responsibility for the growth and development of their state, communities and counties.

Graduates have gained elected office, been driving forces in countless local and regional initiatives and have taken volunteerism to new heights. Still others have made it a priority to see that the networks and collaborations formed by class members during the program thrive and that WestStar continues to prepare participants to assume future leadership roles.

WestStar, serving 21 counties of West Tennessee, is the state’s oldest and largest regional leadership program.

“WestStar was a dream that a regional approach to leadership development would help identify and inspire civic-minded people to become more involved in the economic and social growth of the entire region,” said Dr. Bob Smith, WestStar co-founder, who also helped create numerous individual community leadership programs. Smith, now president of Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania, and still a WestStar supporter, added that problems and opportunities do not know political boundaries. The vision was that “a new generation of leaders would see a compelling agenda for positive change through collaboration and regional thinking than competing within small fiefdoms.”

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor emeritus, also a co-founder, served as executive director for six years. David Belote is the current executive director, with Charley Deal serving as the assistant director. Virginia Grimes has served as WestStar coordinator for 19 years, organizing seminars, conferences and other WestStar projects and programs.

Middle and West Tennessee. Topics vary, year to year, depending on changing events in the region.

Focusing on the challenges and potentials in West Tennessee, WestStar stresses the importance of regional and civic responsibility for progress and prosperity. From sessions about economic development and government to education and tourism, presenters are some of the most knowledgeable people in their fields.

“WestStar is an important part of UT Martin’s economic development and outreach missions,” said Dunagan. “What could be more valuable than helping sharpen the leadership skills of the region’s business and governmental leaders?”

“I’ve seen the WestStar experience inspire individuals to take on significant leadership roles,” said Grimes. “They see the importance of being involved and making a difference in local communities and in the region.”

WestStar was created in 1989 at UT Martin to serve the multi-county area by providing leadership development and training for selected participants. Class members typically have a diverse range of professions and volunteer leadership experiences. There are chamber of commerce and economic development professionals, bankers, government personnel, educators and business executives. What they have in common is a strong devotion to their civic responsibility.

The program consists of seven specially designed seminar programs addressing contemporary issues important to the future of West Tennessee. Each seminar takes place over a two-day period from January through May in various locations throughout Gresham, 2000 class member, former three-term 94th district state representative, who recently was elected to the 26th state senate seat.

Dr. David Gordon, Covington mayor, had a similar experience as a member of the 2002 class. “WestStar showed me many available opportunities through which a positive impact could be made on West Tennessee and my home community. It also gave me a push toward public service,” said Gordon.

WestStar not only develops class members each year, but also has offered a number of leadership opportunities to the public. Among those are the annual African-American Leadership Conference, the Working Women’s Conference and the Economic Development Conference, in addition to assisting with youth leadership development. The organization maintains a Web site and speakers bureau and has published and offered online versions of regional festival and dining guides.

Recognizing the benefits of WestStar, sponsors assist with the development program each year. Sponsors include First Bank, First State Bank, Haywood County/City of Brownsville, Gibson County Utility District, Tennessee Valley Authority, The TENERGY Corp., TLM Associates, Inc., USDA Rural Development, West Tennessee Healthcare and West Tennessee Industrial Association.

Seeking to make changes via government, some WestStar graduates have sought and been elected to local and state public offices after completing the program.

“For me, WestStar was the North Star, a guiding light for my future. WestStar brought to light the possibility of my serving the people of Tennessee in public office,” said Dolores Gresham, 2000 class member, former three-term 94th district state representative, who recently was elected to the 26th state senate seat.

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Another aspect of WestStar is an alumni base whose goal it is to maintain and expand the network and collaboration of leaders after each class graduates.

“The WestStar program has created a great networking opportunity over the past 20 years and has made West Tennessee a better place to live, work, play and raise a family,” said Dennis Henderson, president of TLM Associates, Inc., in Jackson, a member of the 2001 class, Board of Trustee member and current WestStar Alumni Council president. “The old saying ‘two heads are better than one’ can be rewritten to say ‘over 550 WestStar alumni are better than one’ meaning those alumni are a ‘community’ of individuals making a difference. The continuation of WestStar is critical to the leadership development in West Tennessee.”
UTM plans 'Maymester'

"Maymester," a special three-week mini-term, will be offered in May at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The term will span May 11-29.

"We believe the term will prove a valuable alternative for students who would like to complete a course or two before the first summer session or prior to heading home for summer jobs," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Each in-person class will meet daily (Monday through Friday). The four standard course time slots for three-hour courses will be as follows: 7:30-10:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m., 2:50-5:50 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. The maximum load will be six semester hours.

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'Maymester'

301, Microbiology 401, Music 112, Music 193, Nursing 411, Nursing 241, Nutrition 100, Philosophy 120, Physics 211, Political Science 210, Political Science 220, Political Science 353, Psychology 120, Psychology 310, Psychology 365, Social Work 200, Social Work 425, Sociology 302, Sociology 304, Sociology 305, Soil Science 430, Spanish 250, Special Education 300/500, Special Education 440/640, Teacher Education 303, Teacher Education 450/650, Teacher Education 703, Theatre 110 and Zoology 326.

For more information, call 881-7050. For housing information, call 881-7720.

WESTSTAR ALUMNI MEET - Weakley County and Carroll County WestStar alumni recently met at Higg's Restaurant in McKenzie. Among those attending the meeting were (front, from left) Earl Wade, Huntingdon; Jeanna Swafford, UT Martin director of development; LaRenda Scarbrough, Scarbrough Realty, Huntingdon; Kenny McBride, Carroll County Mayor; Bob Rutledge, Rutledge & Associates, McKenzie; back row, Martin Flatt, Weakley County Schools' vocational education director, Martin; Jerry Bragg, TLM Associates, Sharon; Bobby Goode, USDA Rural Development area director, Dresden; and Charley Deal, WestStar assistant executive director and UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations. Also, in attendance was Virginia Grimes (not pictured), WestStar coordinator. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, WestStar is the state's oldest and largest regional leadership program.
UTM honors Kathleen Elam

UT Martin celebrated more than the Skyhawk men’s 93-75 victory Tuesday night over Tennessee Tech in the first round of the Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Tournament at Skyhawk Arena. The university also welcomed family members and friends of Union City philanthropist Kathleen Elam to honor the longtime donor and supporter of the Martin campus during “Kathleen Elam Appreciation Night.”

At halftime, university Chancellor Tom Rakes announced that the multipurpose room in the Bob Carroll Football Building would be named the Kathleen H. Elam Room in her honor. A plaque recognizing Ms. Elam’s support for the university was presented to family members in attendance.

“Ms. Elam’s generosity has made a lasting impact both in athletics and academics for UT Martin,” Rakes said after the announcement. “She and her husband, Col. Tom Elam, have left a legacy that will benefit students and student-athletes for generations to come.”

Ms. Elam and her late husband supported many academic and athletic programs during his lifetime. A $1 million pledge to UT Martin in 1996 before Col. Elam’s death coincided with the university’s naming of the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center in the couple’s honor. Ms. Elam continued her support by giving the university nearly $1.9 million since Col. Elam’s death almost 11 years ago.

The Skyhawk football program received more than $1.7 million of Ms. Elam’s gifts. This included a $560,000 challenge gift to launch a private fundraising campaign to build the Bob Carroll Football Building located in the south end zone of Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

Phil Dane, director of intercollegiate athletics, led the Skyhawk Arena crowd in saying, “Thank you, Ms. Elam” in unison over the Skyhawk Radio Network. Ms. Elam, unable to attend the game, planned to listen to the game broadcast.

“Over the last four years, UT Martin has been the fastest-growing four-year public university in the state,” Dane later told the crowd. “Until someone proves me wrong, I will keep claiming that some of that growth should be attributed to the success of our athletic programs in recent years.

He added, “That success could not have been achieved without the generous financial support of many, many people, and Ms. Kathleen has led the way.”

Jenkins to present senior recital at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Department of Music will present Sarah Jenkins’ senior recital at 7:30 p.m., March 17, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building. Jenkins, a senior vocal/choral music education major, is from Cordova. She is active in the two choirs at UT Martin, the University Singers and New Pacer Singers, the voice studio and the Lyric Opera Theatre.

Jenkins will be singing 19th century Italian and French art songs, 17th century English songs and other music. Delana Easley, lecturer of music, will accompany Jenkins on the piano. Jenkins also maintains an active schedule as a member of the Skyhawk women’s cross-country team. Her recital will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of music, at 881-7408.

UTM Spring Preview Day is March 21

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Admissions will host Spring Preview Day, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, March 21, on the UT Martin campus.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. in Boling University Center. Welcoming remarks and an information session will follow at 10:30 a.m. in Watkins Auditorium. At 11:30 a.m., an academic fair will be hosted in the Duncan Ballroom. Entertainment is scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m. with a campus tour to follow at 1 p.m.

Students may register for Spring Preview Day at http://www.utm.edu/admissions/spring_pd.php. For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 881-7020.

SHOWING APPRECIATION — Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, addresses Skyhawk Arena fans Tuesday night following his announcement that the multipurpose room in the Bob Carroll Football Building would be named the Kathleen H. Elam Room in honor of Union City philanthropist Kathleen Elam. The announcement was made as part of “Kathleen Elam Appreciation Night” at the Skyhawk men’s first-round Ohio Valley Conference Basketball Tournament game with Tennessee Tech. Joining in the announcement were (from left) Phil Dane, UT Martin director of intercollegiate athletics; Betty Smith (holding plaque), Ms. Elam’s niece; Becky Brown, Ms. Elam’s great niece; Hunter Mountjoy, Ms. Elam’s nephew and father of Becky Brown; Al Creswell, CPA and partner, Alexander Thompson Arnold CPAs and also a UT Martin Athletics Board member; and Randy Barnes, UT Martin director of football operations.
WestStar Alumni Meet

MARTIN - Weakley County and Carroll County WestStar alumni recently met at Hig's Restaurant in McKenzie. Among those attending the meeting were, left to right, front row, Earl Wade, Huntington; Jeanna Swafford, UT Martin director of development; LaRenda Scarbrough, Scarbrough Realty, Huntingdon; Kenny McBride, Carroll County Mayor; Bob Rutledge, Rutledge & Associates, McKenzie; back row, Martin Flatt, Weakley County Schools vocational education director; Martin; Jerry Brigance, TLM Associates, Sharon; Bobby Goode, USDA Rural Development area director; Dresden; and Charley Deal, WestStar assistant executive director and UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations. Also in attendance was Virginia Grimes (not pictured), WestStar coordinator. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, WestStar is the state's oldest and largest regional leadership program.

UTM Art exhibition to feature Fulton woman

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will host another in its senior art exhibition offerings for the 2008-09 school year with an art exhibition representing the works of Elaine Gurkin, a visual art studio emphasis student from Moscow, and Christine Toops, also a visual art studio emphasis student from Fulton. The exhibition will begin with an opening reception, from 5-7 p.m., March 17, in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of UT Martin.

The exhibition will continue through March 28. It will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

White House Post for Jackson Native

By: Tom Britt
11:00 a.m.

Jackson native, Van Jones, will take a position with the Obama administration as part of the Council on Environmental Quality.

According to the White House, Jones will become a special advisor on green jobs, enterprise and innovation. Jones will oversee the allocation of green jobs money from the stimulus bill to create jobs and help the environment.

Jones, an author and activist, has been credited with having skills in using small amounts of money to create massive change in his nonprofit work.
Obama Drafts Van Jones as Green Jobs Adviser

March 10, 2009 12:36 PM ET | Maura Judkis | Permanent Link |

Author, activist and think tank fellow Van Jones will be joining the Obama administration next week as a special adviser on green jobs, reported the White House Council on Environmental Quality today. Jones will work with agencies and departments to advance the administration's climate and energy initiatives, with a special focus on improving vulnerable communities, according to a White House statement. Jones is the founder of "Green For All," an environmental group dedicated to bringing green jobs to the disadvantaged, and the author of "The Green Collar Economy." Environmental groups are, of course, thrilled with the decision - in their opinion, no one knows green jobs like Van Jones.

But there are a few questions raised - first, about the role of Hilda Solis, Secretary of Labor. A proponent of green jobs, it was thought that the responsibility would fall to her, but Climate Progress (a blog run by Jones' think tank, the Center for American Progress) assures us that, yes, both positions are necessary. "The Labor Secretary can’t tell any other Cabinet officer or agency what to do — so if you want to coordinate a crosscutting initiative that affects so many different departments, including energy, EPA, Commerce, and so on — you need to do this out of the White House." His title, by the way, does not contain the word 'Czar' - another issue raised by the Wall Street Journal regarding 'Czar fatigue.'

Jones has long been a proponent of environmental justice. He, along with other advocates like Majora Carter, try to raise awareness of the fact that the communities most hurt by unsustainable practices are often the poorest. Jones told Mother Jones Magazine last year:
"The only reason that we have the unsustainable accounting that we have right now is because incinerators, dumping grounds, and sacrifice zones were put where poor people live. It would never have been allowed if you had to put all the incinerators and nasty stuff in rich people’s neighborhoods; we’d have had a sustainable economy a long time ago... We don't want to be first and worst with all the toxins and all the negative effects of global warming, and then benefit last and least from all the breakthroughs in solar, wind energy, organic food, all the positives. We want an equal share, an equitable share, of the work wealth and the benefits of the transition to a green economy."

Another two favorite quotes from Jones come from his speech at the Power Shift weekend last month:

"We could power the country with clean coal, or we could have unicorns pull our cars for us."

"If women are making 75 cents to a dollar in our green economy, something is wrong with it."

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PUSH FOR ST. JUDE — The Alpha Tau Omega chapter at the University of Tennessee at Martin pushed a wheelbarrow down Reelfoot Avenue Monday from the BP station near the National Guard Armory to Walmart. Along the way, they asked motorists for money for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis. Earlier in the day, members of the organization canvassed the businesses in the city for donations. They will repeat their task each day this week in cities on their way to Memphis — walking through Dyersburg today and Covington on Wednesday before walking in Memphis on Thursday on their way to the hospital to make their donation. Organizers said a donation of $100,000 this year, an amount which has also been raised each year for the past three years, will make the Alpha Tau Omega's donation to St. Jude near $1 million total since 1985.
Jones named to White House job

Hub City native talks about education he received here

By NICHOLAS BEADLE
nbeadle@jacksonsun.com

Attorney Van Jones, a Jackson native, has been appointed as a special White House adviser on green jobs.

Jones, a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, will serve with the White House Council for Environmental Quality.

A Yale Law School graduate, Jones is the author of the bestselling book “The Green Collar Economy.” He is also the founding president of Green For All, an organization that pushes “greening the ghetto” — or training residents of disadvantaged communities to work in job fields that aid or encourage the preservation of the environment.

Reached by phone Tuesday afternoon, Jones said he is proud to be on President Barack Obama’s agenda.

Asked about how his time in Jackson shaped the policies he has articulated as an adult, Jones said attending public school in Jackson exposed him to a diverse set of people.

“I think I have a heart full of sympathy in all kinds of conditions having grown up in Jackson,” he said. “I got the best possible education for free.”

Jones has firm roots in Jackson education. He is the grandson of former Lane College President Chester Arthur Kirkendoll, and his late father, William Anthony Jones, was a middle school principal. Jones’ mother, Loretta, who still lives in Jackson, is a retired Jackson Central-Merry High School teacher.

“My dad grew up in poverty and I was able to go to Yale Law School,” he said. “He noted that public word of his appointment came around the one year anniversary of his father’s death, which was March 9.

“I feel like maybe my dad had something to do with it,” Jones said.

Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.
— Nicholas Beadle, 425-9763

Van Jones’ selection a stellar achievement

Congratulations to Jackson-born attorney Van Jones. He has been named to a position in the Obama White House. In that position, he will oversee spending of stimulus money that is tabbed for “green” job. It is a huge honor for Jones, and an achievement of which we can all be proud.

Jones has long had an interest in “green” issues. The Jackson native, who graduated from Jackson Central-Merry High School and University of Tennessee Martin, is the bestselling author of “The Green Collar Economy.” He is the founder and president of Oakland, Calif.-based Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, and the president and founder of Green for All, an advocacy group that pushes for government commitment to create green work that could help the disadvantaged.

But that’s not all that makes him a good choice for this position. He is a Yale law graduate. He was named a “Young Global Leader” by the World Economic Forum. Time magazine named him an “Environmental Hero.”

Clearly, Jones has come a long way since he left Jackson all those years ago. He has done much to distinguish himself and to make his hometown proud. Now, he will have an opportunity to make a difference on a national stage. As someone who has spent years focusing on environmentally friendly jobs and trying to help the disadvantaged, he is uniquely qualified to handle the stimulus money tabbed for green jobs.

We are proud of all our native son has accomplished. He is proof that our local and state schools have the potential to foster world-class minds. He is proof that even a small southern town like Jackson can be the launching pad for someone to make a real difference. Van Jones certainly has. And when it comes to what he still might accomplish in his new position, the sky’s the limit.
City names Teachers of the Year

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Four Dyersburg educators were recently voted Teacher of the Year, an honor bestowed upon them by the educators who serve beside them each day.


Due to differences in grade-level categories for the Tennessee Teacher of the Year competition, only three of the educators will go on to represent Dyersburg City Schools for the next level of competition, the Northwest Area Teacher of the Year.

Arrington, Burkhead and Duncan have been chosen to represent Dyersburg in ninth through 12th grade, fifth through eighth grade and pre-K through fourth grade, respectively.

- DHS: Ruel DeVon Arrington

Ruel DeVon Arrington has served in the same position in the Dyersburg City School System for his entire teaching career.

For the past 28 years, he has taught U.S. History to DHS students, serving as sponsor to the student council from 1981 to 1985, and the yearbook staff from 1987 to 1988 and 1990 to 1991.

Also named DHS Teacher of the Year in 1986, Arrington has received 25 nominations by former students to Who’s Who Among American Teachers.

In his tenure, he has served on the Superintendent’s Advisory Committee, the National School of Excellence Commemoration Committee, the City Schools Curriculum Mapping/Assessment Committee, the DHS Attendance Committee and Curriculum Committee, as SACS Chairman for the DHS Students’ Activities Program and DHS Instructional and Organizational Program and as a SACS Visitation member. Other professional leadership and development activities include the DMS Curriculum Resource Analysis and seminars concerning 21st Century Classroom Training, Differentiated Assessment and Grading and Total Instructional Alignment.

He is a member of the National Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association and the Dyersburg Education Association.

He received a B.A. from Union University in 1981 and has completed graduate work at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

- DMS: Lyn Burkhead

Lyn Burkhead has been an educator for 20 years. In her tenure at DMS, she has taught both seventh- and eighth-graders social studies, science and language arts. She has also taught second-, third-, fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade classes in school systems throughout Indiana, Missouri and West Tennessee.

A graduate of Purdue University, Burkhead will receive her degree in Administration and Supervision from the University of Phoenix in June. But she already has experience in administration, serving as interim principal of Newbern Grammar School in 1998. She has also taken classes and received training from the University of Memphis and Cumberland University.

"It is all about the children," said Burkhead. "That's why we do the red tape and the mandates. We're their cheerleaders. A lot of the time, we're all they have. You remember those teachers that gave all they had to you. I think that's what all of us do. We give from the inside."

Burkhead is a member of the National Education Association and the Dyersburg Education Association, and a past member of the Dyersburg County Education Association, National Science Teachers Association and the Alpha Delta Delta Kappa Sorority for Women Educators. She has also served as DEA President, as a member of the Superintendent's Advisory Committee, Site Coordinator for DMS's 21st Century Grant, a member of the Instructional Leadership Team, the DMS Teacher/Student Advisory committee and co-chair for the DMS Water Garden.

She was named DMS Teacher of the Year in 2007 and Dyer County Teacher of the Year in 1996.

- DIS: Mike French

DIS third-grade teacher Mike French is currently in his sixth year as an educator.

He has also served the Dyersburg City School System in guidance/child development at DPS.

As an educator, he enjoys his daily duties and embraces the responsibility of being a role model.

"That is one of the main reasons I went into teaching," said French. "I felt it was a calling, without a doubt. I wanted to be a positive male role model in the life of so many who don’t have male role models. That’s why I chose the younger (age group). I love knowing that every day I get to go to a job where I get to have fun and enjoy the day. I love what I do. It’s refreshing to know I get to go to a job like that."

French is an advocate and representative of the Christian Educators Association International, Chair of the DIS Media Center, and DIS Curriculum Mapping representative. He is a seven-time winner of the DIS Spirit Classroom Award, a five-time winner of the Lifeline Blood Services Classroom Award and has received numerous "Best Teacher Ever" awards from his students since 2002.

(These are) cards and notes given to me on a regular basis from current and former students, as well as some parents," said French in his Teacher of the Year application. "These are the awards that matter most to me."

French attended Elementary Education programs at Dyersburg State Community College and Jackson State Community College, earning an Associate's Degree in Education from JSCC and his K-8 Elementary Education license, undergraduate degree in Learning Foundations and participating in the Masters of Education program at Union University. He is currently participating in the Educational Administration and Supervision License Program at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

- DPS: Lea Ann Duncan

DPS second-grade teacher Lea Ann Duncan has served in three positions this academic year.

Last fall, Duncan volunteered to lead the DPS S.M.A.R.T. room when the school found itself with an extra kindergarten teacher, although she had already prepared and set up for her kindergarten students when the opportunity presented itself. A few short months later, she agreed to take over for a second-grade teacher who left the school for medical reasons.

"I don’t consider (teaching) a job. It’s a passion," said Duncan. "Something I’ve always wanted to do and I wouldn’t change a thing. It’s better every year because I like the challenge. Every day and every year is different. I like that."

Duncan began her teaching career as a kindergarten teacher in 1984 in Miller, Mo. Since that time, she has taught first grade, third grade and sixth-grade History, and served as Missouri Accelerated Schools Coach and S.M.A.R.T. Room teacher and trainer for DPS.

Earning a Bachelor of Science in Education from School of the Ozarks (currently College of the Ozarks) and a Master of Science in Education from Southwest Missouri State University (currently Missouri State University), Duncan is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma and the National Education Association, and is a past member of the Missouri State Teacher’s Association.

In addition to her S.M.A.R.T. training, she has participated as a cooperating teacher for student teachers, as chair of the school improvement committee and a member of the textbook adoption committee and instructional leadership committee.


UTM claims two Tennessee Association of Residence Halls Awards

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently was recognized as School of the Year at the 2009 Tennessee Association of Residence Halls Leadership Conference. Ryan Martin, assistant director of housing, also was named state advisor of the year.

Schools in attendance at the recent conference hosted by UT-Martin were Belmont University, East Tennessee State University, Fisk University, University of Memphis, University of Tennessee Knoxville, Maryville College, Tennessee Technological University and UT-Martin. A total of 106 delegates attended.

Conference activities included programs and discussions on the following topics: recycling and conservation, health, interview skills and career options, and residence hall activities and events. Several social events rounded out the conference weekend programming.

Martin began at UT-Martin as a resident assistant while an undergraduate student in 1999. He worked in a variety of leadership roles in the residence halls and in the central housing office. In 2005, he joined the housing staff as the interim assistant director and, in 2007, was appointed permanently to the position. Martin has served in a variety of other roles as the Tennessee Association of College and University Housing Officers conference chair and most recently as the state advisor for the student-led group of the Tennessee Association of Residence Halls.

For more information about UT-Martin residence halls, call the Office of Student Housing at 731-881-7730.

Energy and the Environment: The Central Challenge of Sustainability’ lecture topic

Dr. Kimberly Gray, a noted engineer and environmental planner, will speak in the Watkins Auditorium of the Boling University Center on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin at 7:30 p.m., March 17. In addition to being on the Honors Programs Academic Speakers program, Gray will also appear as a Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer.

A native of Chicago, Gray received her Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Northwestern University, a Master of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Miami (Fla.), and a doctorate in environmental engineering from Johns Hopkins University. After serving as a research engineer at the Lyonnaise des Eaux in Paris, France, Gray returned to the United States in 1989 and served as first an assistant, and then associate professor in the Department of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences at the University of Notre Dame. In 1995, she moved to Northwestern University and is currently professor of civil and environmental engineering, as well as director of the Environmental Services Program and coordinator of Environmental Engineering and Science and associate director of the Institute of Environmental Catalysis at Northwestern.

Gray is active in research and in community affairs. She is the author of several monographs, book chapters, more than 50 journal articles, and is a member of the Institute of Policy Research at Northwestern. She served on the board of directors of the Chicago Redevelopment Initiative from 2002-06 and has been the director of the Institute of Sustainable Practices, a joint program operated by Northwestern University and Argonne National Laboratory, since 2007.

She has received numerous awards and honors, including recognition as an Aldo Leopold Leadership Fellow by the Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University, as well as the McCormick Excellence Award in Research, Teaching and Citizenship from Northwestern University in 2007.

“With energy costs increasing, supplies becoming more scarce, and the environmental effects of the burning of fossil fuels growing more pronounced, the nation needs to reconsider its energy policies,” said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. “Kimberly Gray has been active for the past two decades in the study of energy policy and energy sustainability. She has been active in the construction of both energy and environmental policy and her ideas in these areas will provoke a great deal of thought among the audience.”

Gurkin, Toops to present senior art exhibition

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will host another in its senior art exhibition offerings for the 2008-09 school year with an art exhibition representing the works of Elaine Gurkin, a visual art studio emphasis student from Moscow, and Christine Toops, also a visual art studio emphasis student from Fulton. The exhibition will begin with an opening reception, from 5-7 p.m., March 17, in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of UT Martin. The exhibition will continue through March 28. It will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

Faculty concert series continues on March 19

Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of music, and Dr. Robert Mancusi, assistant professor of music, will perform in a vocal recital at 7:30 p.m., March 19, at the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine and Performing Arts Building on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Yeung and Mancusi will perform several opera duets taken from “Le Nozze di Figaro”, “Don Giovanni”, “L’elisir d’amore” and “Porgy and Bess.” The recital will also include several Italian and French art songs of the 19th and 20th centuries and spirituals. Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, will accompany the two performers on the piano.

Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

For more information, please contact Yeung at 731-881-7408.
Workshops focus on steps businesses can take to survive economic downturn

The Tennessee Small Business Development Center and the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center announce two training sessions in Weakley County for small businesses in the surrounding area titled "Business Survival in Tough Economic Times."

"The free training event is designed to address a wide range of steps business owners can take to preserve cash and maintain business operations during the present national economic recession. It is critical for all businesses to fully explore all possible measures to offset reductions in cash flow and bottom line," said Patrick Geho, Tennessee Small Business Development Center state executive director.

"Small business is critical to Tennessee's economic well-being," said Gov. Phil Bredesen. "While recent research indicates Tennessee enjoys a comparative advantage over other southeastern states in respect to small-business growth, we must continue to take steps to assist small businesses, especially in these tough economic times. The Tennessee Small Business Development Center's work is an important part of our efforts to provide our small businesses with tools to help them succeed."

"I believe this is a very timely and much needed training series and I am excited that we can provide this free service when discretionary money is in very short supply," said Hollie Holt, REED Center coordinator. "Weakley County's December unemployment was at 9.6 percent, up 2.8 percent above 2006 when it averaged 6.8 percent. In December, the U.S. unemployment stood at 7.2 percent, while Tennessee unemployment stood at 7.9 percent, and these numbers have increased since that time."

Two sessions are offered to accommodate small-business owner's schedules. The first session will be offered in partnership with the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce from 5-6:30 p.m., March 12, at the chamber office in downtown Dresden. The alternative session is at the REED Center at 406 S. Lindell St. in downtown Martin, from noon-1:30 p.m., March 26.

To register for either session, 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.

WestStar alumni meet

Weakley County and Carroll County WestStar alumni recently met at Hig's Restaurant in McKenzie. Among those attending the meeting were, left to right, front row, Earl Wade, Huntingdon; Joanna Swafford, UT Martin director of development; LaRenda Scarbrough, Scarbrough Realty, Huntingdon; Kenny McBride, Carroll County Mayor; Bob Rutledge, Rutledge & Associates, McKenzie; back row, Martin Flatt, Weakley County Schools vocational education director, Martin; Jerry Brigance, TLM Associates, Sharon; Bobby Goode, USDA Rural Development area director, Dresden; and Charley Deal, WestStar assistant executive director and UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations. Also, in attendance was Virginia Grimes (not pictured), WestStar coordinator. Celebrating its 20th anniversary, WestStar is the state's oldest and largest regional leadership program.
Kosta is Rotary speaker

Dennis Kosta

Dennis Kosta with the University of Tennessee at Martin's Recycling Program spoke to Martin Rotary this past week about recycling in the city and the importance of keeping the environment clean.

UT Martin Interfraternity Council claims fifth consecutive top award

The University of Tennessee at Martin Interfraternity Council claimed the top award, the Overall Fraternity Excellence trophy, for the fifth consecutive year at the recent Southeastern Interfraternity Conference in Atlanta.

The Southeastern Interfraternity Conference represents more than 60 universities. Six were selected for the highest award with UT Martin leading the scoring by recording a 100 percent rating in all 11 categories of competition. The Overall Fraternal Excellence award is presented to the IFCs that score an 85 percent or higher in the competition categories.

The group also netted more awards than any other university attending the conference.

In addition to the overall award, the UT Martin IFC received first place in five programming award categories, including Excellence in Recruitment, third consecutive year; Excellence in Alumni Development and Excellence in Academic Achievement and Scholarship, two of the last five years; Excellence in Outstanding Educational Programming and Excellence in Risk Management and Judicial Procedures.

Louis Ragsdale, UT Martin Greek Life coordinator, and 14 IFC representatives attended the conference.

UT Martin Spring Preview Day is March 21

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Admissions will host Spring Preview Day, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 21, on the UT Martin campus.

Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. in Boling University Center. Welcoming remarks and an information session will follow at 10:30 a.m. in Watkins Auditorium.

At 11:30 a.m., an academic fair will be hosted in the Duncan Ballroom. Entertainment is scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m. with a campus tour to follow at 1:00 p.m.

Students may register for Spring Preview Day at http://www.utm.edu/admissions/spring_pdp.php. For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020.

Senior voice recital slated on March 22

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will present Karen Langdon’s senior recital at 3:00 p.m., March 22, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre at the Fine Arts Building. Langdon is a vocal music education major from Jackson. She sings in both the UT Martin University Singers and New Pacers Singers and is involved in lyric opera theatre.

Literature for the recital will include selections by Franz Schubert, Gabriel Faure, Samuel Barber and Sergei Rachmaninoff. Delana Easley, lecturer of music, will accompany Langdon on piano. The recital is free and the public is invited to attend.

For more information, please contact Dr. Amy Yeung at 731-881-7408.

3/11/09 8:19 AM

Jones, a Jackson-native attorney, appointed to White House job

THE JACKSON SUN
MARCH 10, 2009

Van Jones, a graduate of Jackson Central-Merry High School and the University of Tennessee at Martin, will serve with the White House's Council for Environmental Quality.

A Yale Law School graduate, Jones is the author of the bestselling book "The Green Collar Economy." He is also the founding president of Green For All, an organization that pushes "greening the ghetto" — or training residents of disadvantaged communities to work in burgeoning environmentally helpful job fields.

In college, Jones interned at The Jackson Sun and The Times of Shreveport, La. His late father was a junior high school principal in Jackson and his mother, who still lives in Jackson, is a retired JCMS teacher.
Over $1M in grants aid teacher development

The Tennessee Department of Education recently announced the award of two Math Science Partnership grants to the University of Tennessee at Martin: Project Institutes of Chemistry and Physics (ICaP) and Project Mathematical Applications, Technology and Content for High School Education Standards (MATCHES).

The MSP program awarded about $250,000 to each project per year for a combined total of more than $1 million to be spent on teacher professional development in West Tennessee over the next three years.

"UT Martin is proud of the working partnerships we have in place with school systems throughout the region and we welcome opportunities such as these to provide vehicles for collaborative efforts," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs. "Most importantly, these programs will help an entire generation of students prepare for a world in which math and science are becoming increasingly critical."

Project ICaP represents a partnership between the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, along with school systems in Union City, Weakley County and Jackson/Madison County. During a three-year period, a total of 60 teachers from grades 5-9 will receive instruction during summer institutes from Dr. Rosemary Effiong, associate professor of chemistry; Dr. Lionel Crews, assistant professor of physics; and Dr. Patricia Hewitt, professor of educational studies. ICaP will offer physical science content knowledge and modeling-guided inquiry instructional methods designed to address the new curriculum standards for science.

According to Effiong, ICaP project director, "...an academically well-prepared faculty is one of the essential components to success in teaching. By using the skills and knowledge that are gained in ICaP, participants will help their students to understand and explore scientific concepts as well as challenge them (students) to inquire and seek answers through scientific investigations."

Project MATCHES targets mathematics teachers in grades 7-12 and will be led by Dr. Stephanie Kolitsch and Dr. Desiree McCullough, associate professors of mathematics. Content of the summer institutes will focus on problem solving, geometry, probability, data analysis, algebra and applications in the context of Tennessee curriculum standards.

"This is a rare opportunity for meaningful professional development that incorporates technology, training and classroom activities," said Kolitsch, who recently completed a three-year math grant that targeted middle school teachers. "We hope to strengthen classroom teaching on the high school level by empowering teachers with new ideas for capturing the students' attention."

School systems in Huntingdon and Union City partnered with UT Martin on this project and teachers from their districts will receive preference in the application process; teachers from other school districts are encouraged to apply. Participating teachers must make a three-year commitment to the project and will receive computers, calculators, training, materials and, possibly, graduate credit.

UT Martin has traditionally offered teacher professional development to West Tennessee teachers.

"Once again, I am proud that the University of Tennessee at Martin is providing much needed professional development in math and sciences," said Dr. Mary Lee Hall, dean of College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. "This is so critical with the new high school standards under the American Diploma Project and the requirements for more math and science for graduation."

For more information about either of these programs, contact Effiong at (731) 881-7449 or Kolitsch at 881-7356.

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will host another in its senior art exhibition offerings for the 2008-09 school year with an art exhibition representing the works of Elaine Gurkin, a visual art studio emphasis student from Moscow, and Christine Toops, also a visual art studio emphasis student from Fulton.

The exhibition will begin with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of UT Martin.

The exhibition will continue through March 28. It will be free and open to the public.

RECEIVES AWARD — Ben Hager (right) of Union City was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he was congratulated by UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils or through their campus events and organizations.
Students create ad campaigns for law enforcement group

The Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police is considering two public service ad campaigns created by University of Tennessee at Martin students.

"Hometown Heroes" and "I am Tennessee law enforcement" were developed as part of UT Martin's Department of Communications' Principles of Advertising class.

Components of the campaigns also recently claimed two American Advertising Federation Student ADDY awards in the categories of radio and mixed media campaigns and advanced to District 7 competition, which includes seven southeastern states.

Martin Police Chief David Moore and Brownsville Police Chief Gil Kendrick requested students be enlisted to create a campaign that would help promote a more positive image of Tennessee law enforcement among 18- to 34-year-olds and one that could be used to recruit new officers.

"Law enforcement offices from entry level to executives constantly combat negative stereotypes of law enforcement promoted by many media reporting methods as well as television and movie depictions that, frankly, don't often relate the realities of our profession," Moore said. "Our goal is to infuse media markets with a more realistic image of law enforcement as a career for a community relations as well as a recruiting tool. What started as an idea of Chief Gil Kendrick from Brownsville turned into a unique opportunity to work with young people in a cooperative town/grown project that produced several professional and useable end products."

Communications majors worked in two teams to plan and prepare the campaign materials. The semester-long service-learning project required students to examine the target audiences' attitudes, beliefs and values.

The students then created and pitched two separate campaigns to the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police Executive Board and to the law enforcement roundtable that included Tennessee Commissioner of Safety Dave Mitchell and Governor's Highway Safety Office director Kendall Poole, who directs the office responsible for the "Click it or Ticket" and "Booze it and Lose it" campaigns.

The "Hometown Heroes" campaign portrayed Tennessee law enforcement officers as heroes who put their lives on the line for the public every day. The ads use common encounters with law enforcement that are typically perceived negatively and show the positive effect of those actions.

The "I am Tennessee law enforcement" campaign uses the slogan "Ordinary people with extraordinary jobs." The goal of the campaign is to portray law enforcement officers as everyday people who have extraordinary jobs.

Both campaigns use a combination of print, radio, TV and outdoor advertising.

Students in each campaign prepared the campaign plan book with relevant research findings, an explanation of the creative strategy, a proposed media plan and a proposed budget. The students also produced all of the campaign media materials, including production of the radio and TV spots and design of the print and outdoor ads.

"This project is a perfect example of the value of service learning," said Tracy Rutledge, UT Martin instructor of communications. "The students had hands-on experience working with a real client. It also provided the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police with two ideas for a campaign. Like many non-profits, the association doesn't have thousands of dollars to hire an advertising agency to generate campaign ideas. It was a win-win situation for both the students and the client."

Students involved in the project were visual communication emphasis majors Stephanie Lovett of Troy, Kassi Abney and Jennifer DeYeso, both of Martin, and Jackie Betts of Medina; public relations emphasis majors James Buchanan and Ryan Williams, both of Memphis, Allison Hagan of Jackson, Jonathan Kiser of Adamsville, Becky Parnell of Tiptonville, Joe Raccuglia of Franklin and Rebecca Wilkinson of Old Hickory; and broadcast emphasis majors Meghan Pinkley of Bondurant, Iowa, and Brooks Taylor of Jackson.

RECOGNIZED AS LEADER — Amy Sparkman (right) of Union City was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she was congratulated by Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority and in the community.
UNBSJ vice-president taking Saint John’s show on road
Published Wednesday, March 11th, 2009

Visit Robert MacKinnon will talk to the business community of Atlanta about the ins and outs of our industrial city

E. N. DAVIS
Telegraph-Journal

SAINT JOHN - Business people in Atlanta, Ga., will get a crash course on Saint John next week from Robert A. MacKinnon, vice-president, University of New Brunswick, Saint John campus.

MacKinnon has been invited to speak about Saint John as an industrial city in transition on Monday.

In what could be dubbed Saint John 101, MacKinnon’s wide-ranging talk will highlight what he has learned while overseeing the ongoing collaborative Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) project.

“What I learned through CURA is how integrated the whole urban region is. There are different municipalities surrounding Saint John, and unincorporated areas, but it functions as an urban and semi-urban region,” MacKinnon said.

“One of the unique things about Saint John is that it’s a small city but a very urban place. It’s got infrastructure and transportation challenges, growing suburbs, concentrated pockets of poverty. These are things that big cities are dealing with all the time. It will be interesting to see how they are dealing with it.”

He will give an overview of the city, incorporating a short history but focusing on topics like energy projects that are planned or underway, the socio-economic makeup of the city and the anti-poverty initiatives it has embraced.

“The PALS (Partners Assisting Local Schools) program, for example, should be modelled elsewhere in the world,” he said. “It’s a great program.”

The Great North in the Deep South lecture series is co-sponsored by the Canadian Consulate General, Atlanta, in partnership with Southface Energy Institute and the University of Tennessee at Martin, with which UNBSJ has developed a partnership.

“It’s been this good working relationship with the University of Tennessee that led to this invitation,” he said.

The audience will be made up mainly of people involved in economic development, urban planning, and the conversion of industrial spaces into healthy and sustainable green areas.

MacKinnon has also been invited to speak to community/university partnerships to the business faculty of Queens University on April 9.

“They’re applying for a CURA project,” he said.

“They want me to give the keynote address on developing a cultural, economic and environmental inventory.”
Top 10 students announced at Peabody High School

The Top 10 students in the Class of 2009 at Peabody High School have been announced. They include:

Matthew Russell Abbott, son of Debbie Abbott, is ranked second in his class with an average of 98.63 and a 4.0 GPA. Matthew is a four-year letterman of the Peabody Band of Gold and the Pep Band. Matthew has played football for the Golden Tide all four years of his tenure at Peabody. His senior year, Matthew was awarded the Pepsi Tide Pride Award by his football coaches. Matthew has started at defender for the PHS soccer team for the past three years. His freshman year, he was a member of the Tide baseball team.

Matthew is a four-year Academic Letterman. He has been acknowledged by Who’s Who Among American High School Students, National Honor Roll and the National Society of High School Scholars for his academic accomplishments. Matthew has been a member of the Beta Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Junior Rotary, Pep Club, Science Club, History Club, Future Business Leaders of America, and Spanish Club. He has served as class representative in Student Council. His freshman, sophomore and senior years was recognized this year by National Who’s Who in Student Council.

During his junior year, Matthew was selected as a Tennessee Boys State delegate. While attending Boys State, he was elected “alderman” and was selected as the state recipient of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship. Matthew was recently selected by the teachers at Peabody as an Outstanding Senior.

Matthew is a member of the United Pentecostal Church in Trenton. He plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall and major in Pre-Pharmacy with a concentration in Chemistry.

He has also participated on the PHS tennis team all four years. Jeremy is an active member of the Upward Bound program and currently is Scholar’s Bowl “A” Team captain. He has been a member of the Pep Club for three years and a backstage crew worker for Nite Lite Theatre his freshman and sophomore years.

He served as one of two Boys State delegates from PHS his junior year. Jeremy has also been actively involved in his community with Relay for Life the past six years and has been a member of the Boy Scouts of America since sixth grade. He has held several leadership positions such as quartermaster, patrol leader, and senior patrol leader. He also received his Eagle Scout award last year.

Jeremy was voted Best Dressed by his senior class. Academically, Jeremy has been on the Honor Roll every semester and has also received an Academic Letter every year. He has a 32 ACT composite and has taken many honor courses at PHS and a couple of dual credit courses at DSCC.

Jeremy plans to attend either Cornell University in New York or University of Memphis and major in Hospitality Administration with a minor in International Business.

Paige Ritter

Paige Ritter, daughter of Dr. Michelle Hickerson and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ritter, is ranked sixth in her class with an average of 95.8 and a 3.8 GPA.

Paige has been a member of the Pep Club for four years and also has been a member of the annual staff her senior year. She has been a member of the Beta Club for three years and a member of the Science Club for two years.

Paige has also lettered in tennis three years, receiving awards such as the Rookie of the Year and Best Overall Doubles.

She has been on the Honor Roll the past three years and attended the Honors Banquet for the past two years and is an Academic Letterman.

She is also an active member of the Tennessee Career Association.

She is currently enrolled at Dyersburg State Community College and plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall.

Jeremy Keith Bratcher

Jeremy Keith Bratcher, son of Lanette Smith and the late Jimmy Bratcher, is ranked fifth in his class with an average of 97.63 and a 4.0 GPA.

Jeremy has been a member of the Peabody Band of Gold for all four years and has attended many honor bands including All-West two years and UT Martin all four years. He has also received many superior ratings from the UT Martin Solo and Ensemble competition. He is currently band captain and attended the Positive Performance Concepts Camp with the other band officers.

Jeremy has been a member of many clubs and extracurricular activities. He has been a member of the Beta Club and Science Club for three years and currently serves as the Beta Club sergeant-at-arms and the Science Club co-president. He has been a member of the Future Business Leaders of America for four years and has served as president of the club for the past two years and the activities coordinator his sophomore year. He is also currently the activities coordinator of the History Club. Jeremy has been a member of the Junior Rotary and Spanish Club for the past two years as well.
Joseph Wyatt Turner, III, son of Joey and Betty Turner, is ranked seventh in his class with an average of 94.91 and a 3.66 GPA.

Wyatt has been a member of the Bible Club, FCA, FBLA, Junior Rotary, and Pep Club for four years, a member of the Beta Club, Science Club, and Upward Bound for three years, a member of the PHS Student Council for two years, and a member of the History Club and PHS golf team his senior year.

Wyatt also is a graduate of the Gibson County Youth Leadership program.

He has been a member of the Band of Gold for four years, participating in the PHS Jazz Ensemble, the Solo and Ensemble Festival, and various honor bands. He served as a band captain his senior year and he holds the position of first chair in the saxophone section.

Wyatt currently plays in his church's orchestra at First Baptist Church in Dyer where he is an active member. He is also a member of the Gibson County Community Band.

Wyatt was recently selected as an Outstanding Senior by his teachers and Most Talented by his classmates.

Wyatt is currently enrolled at Dyersburg State and in the fall plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin to major in Pre-Pharmacy.

Lindsay Nichole Moore, daughter of Tony and Linda Moore, is ranked eighth in her class with an average of 94.823 and a 3.7 GPA.

Lindsay has been a member of the FFA, Beta Club, Science Club, Spanish Club, Junior Rotary, History Club, and Pep Club throughout her years at Peabody. Her senior year she served as secretary of the Peabody FFA Chapter.

She was a member of the Lady Tide soccer team for three years. She has been a statistician for the Lady Tide basketball team since her sophomore year.

Her junior year she attended the Youth Leadership Summit in Nashville, sponsored by the Tennessee Electric Cooperative Association. Lindsay received the DAR Citizenship award at the beginning of her senior year.

She was recently selected as an Outstanding Senior by her teachers.

Lindsay plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall and major in Physical Therapy.

2C/The Jackson Sun

Thursday, March 12, 2009

STUDENT RECITAL
Karen Langdon of Jackson will perform at 3 p.m. March 23 in Harriet Fulton Theatre at University of Tennessee Martin. No admission. Open to the public.

VOCAL RECITAL FEATURING DR. AMY YEUNG
Yeung and Dr. Robert Mancusi will perform several opera duets with accompaniment by Dr. Elaine Harriss. 7:30 p.m. March 19 in Harriet Fulton Theatre of Fine and Performing Arts building at University of Tennessee Martin.

48/The Jackson Sun

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

19 VOCAL RECITAL AT UT MARTIN
Vocal recital featuring Dr. Amy Yeung. Yeung and Dr. Robert Mancusi will perform several opera duets with accompaniment by Dr. Elaine Harriss. 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Harriet Fulton Theatre of Fine and Performing Arts building at University of Tennessee Martin.
Rector students to compete at engineering conference

Wednesday, March 11, 2009
Natalie Sigsby, Nathan Haynes and Alex Roofe of Rector, all civil engineering majors at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, will be among ASU engineering students in the university's student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) participating Thursday through Saturday, March 26-28, in the 2009 Deep South Conference, hosted by ASU.

The event will include 12 other universities and will be held in the Convocation Center and at Craighead Forest Park.

ASCE is a student organization which meets and competes annually in various events, including steel bridge, concrete canoe, surveying, environmental and a mystery category. Technical essays and presentations also are a portion of the competition.

Sigsby will compete in the women's endurance, women's sprint and co-ed concrete canoe races and serves as student chair of the environmental engineering competition. Roofe will compete in the concrete canoe men's endurance race, and Haynes will compete in surveying.

Other universities taking part in this year's event are Christian Brothers University, Jackson State University, University of Louisiana-Lafayette, Louisiana State University, Louisiana Tech University, McNeese State University, University of Memphis, University of Mississippi, Mississippi State University, University of New Orleans, Southern University and University of Tennessee-Martin.

Arkansas State's chapter is advised by Dr. Tom Parsons, professor and director of Civil Engineering.

"The Deep South region consists of universities from eastern Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana and western Tennessee," said Brad Marotti, president of ASU's ASCE student chapter. "This annual event allows the regional chapters to develop networking skills while participating in educational competition. The conference is held at each university once every 10 years, and this year is ASU's turn."
Arkansas State won back-to-back regional championships (2002-03) and is eight-time national competitors in steel bridge building.

The conference gets underway Thursday, March 26, with registration from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Convocation Center with a business meeting to follow at 7 p.m. Events start Friday (March 27) at 7:30 a.m. in the Convocation Center with a steel bridge aesthetics setup, followed by a captain's meeting and the setup of concrete canoe presentations.

Steel bridge competition runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., while concrete canoe presentation will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Environmental competition also begins at noon.

Friday's competition also includes the Mead paper which follows the "2009 National Daniel W. Mead Student Contest." The topic is "Sustainability and Civil Engineering," and participants are requested to write a paper to be formally presented at the conference.

Saturday's events shift to Craighead Park Forest, and the day opens with the concrete canoe competition setup beginning at 7 a.m. A canoe captain meeting and aesthetics judging of the concrete canoes is at 8 a.m. Surveying competition runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and a mystery competition is from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

In the mystery competition, engineering students are asked to use materials provided to them to accomplish a given task, interact with fellow students, build team work, and have fun. The task will be assigned at the time of competition.

For more information, contact Dr. Tom Parsons or Dr. Rick Clift at 870-972-2088 or through e-mail at tparsons@astate.edu or rclift@astate.edu.
Concert to benefit Carl Perkins Center

The Brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa will present "One Less Reason" headlining in concert on April 3, 2009, at the Fieldhouse on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin. The concert, which will begin at 7:00pm with three opening bands, is open to the public with a ticket price of $12 in advance and $15 at the door.

All proceeds from the concert and the week of events will benefit their philanthropy, the Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse located in Martin.

Opening for "One Less Reason" will be "Another Society", "Sore Eyes", and "Ten 56". The concert is the finale to the Fraternity's week long of events "Phi Sig Follies" which kick off Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month for the local charity. The events consist of mud volleyball tournament, air band/karaoke contest and several other Greek competitions.

Tickets to the concert are now available from any Phi Sig Fraternity Brother, the Weakley County Carl Perkins Center or by visiting www.phisigfollies.com. The show is general admission with doors opening at 6:00pm and concert beginning at 7:00pm. For more information call Dale Hendon, Phi Sig Follies Chairman, at 731-446-0016, the Carl Perkins Center at 731-587-0768 or visit the web site.

Senior art exhibition begins March 17

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will host another in its senior art exhibition offerings for the 2008-09 school year with an art exhibition representing the works of Elaine Gurkin, a visual art studio emphasis student from Moscow, and Christine Toops, also a visual art studio emphasis student from Fulton. The exhibition will begin with an opening reception, from 5-7 p.m., March 17, in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of UT Martin. The exhibition will continue through March 28. It will be free and open to the public. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 881-7400.

UTM Turf Club plans fund raiser

The University of Tennessee at Martin Turf Club plans a fund raiser at 9 a.m., May 2, at the C.E. Weldon Public Library, during the Martin Beautiful Spring Seminar Series. Prizes being awarded include a John Deere String Trimmer and Hand Blower. Two winners will be selected. Tickets may be purchased through April 24 at $5 per ticket. Winners do not have to be present to win. Proceeds from the fund raiser will be used to send a UT Martin team to the 2010 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Turf Bowl. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Austin Hines at davahine@utm.edu.
African-American conference scheduled

“Challenges and Opportunities” is the theme of the 11th annual African American Leadership Conference set for 8:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m. April 7 at the West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research in Jackson.

The conference is made possible by WestStar Leadership, Tennessee Access & Diversity Initiatives, Walmart, Gibson County Utility District, First South Bank, Hardin County Government, the City of Covington, City of Brownsville, West Tennessee Healthcare and the University of Tennessee Institute of Public Service.

Keynote speaker will be Beverly Robertson, National Civil Rights Museum president. She is principal of TRUST Marketing and Communications Consortium and has over 25 years’ experience in public/community relations, communications, strategic planning and research.

Registration and a continental breakfast are set for 8:30-9 a.m. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes and David Belote, WestStar executive director, will speak from 9-9:15, followed by Ms. Robertson from 9:15-10.

“Opportunities and Challenges for the Non-Traditional Student” will be the topic of a 10-10:45 a.m. panel moderated by Youlanda Jones, UT Martin Ripley Center director, and Glenn Baker, recruiter/training coordinator for the Tennessee Technology Center in Covington. “Economy Crisis” is the topic of Martha Perine Beard, senior branch executive of the Memphis Region of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, from 11-11:45 a.m.

“The Networking Game” will be presented by Sharon Taylor McKinney of the Business Enterprise Resource Office, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development in Memphis, from 11:45-noon, followed by lunch from noon-1 p.m. “Fitness and Exercise” will be the last session of the day with Dr. Jayson Cannon, a Covington chiropractor, from 1:15-1:45 p.m. Award presentations are set for 1:45-2.

The fee is $35 per person or $60 for two, which includes breakfast and lunch. For more information, contact Virginia Grimes at (731) 881-7298 or vgrimes@utm.edu.

UT Martin students earn ADDY advertising awards

Components of two ad campaigns developed by University of Tennessee at Martin students recently claimed American Advertising Federation student ADDY Awards in annual competition.

The student ADDY competition is a part of the overall competition.

The West Tennessee chapter of the AAF sponsored the West Tennessee regional AADDY competition that UT Martin students entered. The student entries are evaluated by the same judges as the professional entries and held to the same criteria. The judges for the West Tennessee AADDY competition included an advertising agency owner, a media production professional and a graphic designer.

The students accepted the awards at the West Tennessee AADDY banquet hosted on Union University’s campus in Jackson. Both entries advanced to the District 7 regional competition that includes seven southeastern states.

The winning entries were components of two image campaign proposals created for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police during the fall Principles of Advertising class offered in the Department of Communications. The students were responsible for conducting research and developing a background for the campaign, developing a creative strategy, proposing a media schedule and budget and producing campaign media samples. Representatives from the two campaigns presented the ideas to the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police and other state public safety officials in Nashville last month.

The “Hometown Heroes” 30-second radio public service announcement won a silver award in the student AADDY radio category. The PSA was one component of an overall campaign for Tennessee Law Enforcement. The students on this team and their majors were Kassi Abney of Martin, Jackie Betts of Medina and Stephanie Lovett of Troy, all visual communication majors; Becky Parnell of Tiptonville, Jonathan Kiser of Adamsville and James Buchanan of Memphis, all public relations majors; and Brooks Taylor of Jackson, a broadcasting major. The students created the concept, wrote the script and produced the radio spot, with assistance from Lana Carpenter of Martin, a 2008 broadcasting graduate and an employee of WCMT radio station.

The “I am Tennessee Law Enforcement” campaign won top honors and a gold award with an AADDY in the mixed media campaign category for the combination of the 30-second radio PSA, two print advertisements and a billboard design. Students on this team were Jennifer DeYeeso of Martin, a visual communication major; Allison Hagic of Three Way, Rebecca Wilkinson of Old Hickory and Ryan Williams of Memphis, all public relations majors; Meghan Pinkley of Bondurant, Iowa, and Joe Racuglia of Franklin, public relations 2008 graduates; and Martina Conley of Clarksville, a broadcasting major and the only one not enrolled in the class, who provided substantial production assistance on the radio PSA. The students created the concept for the campaign, wrote the radio script and produced the artwork.
WHO'S WHO HONOREE — Kelsey Sigman of Union City recently received the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin Who's Who Award Ceremony, where she was congratulated by UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes. The Who's Who Award is one of the most prestigious honors given to students who have proven strength and character in academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service. The award process was established in 1934 and is conferred by more than 1,900 schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

OC STUDENT HONORED — Ashton Kendall (right) of Troy was recently awarded the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he was congratulated by UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils or through their campus events and organizations.

UT Martin students garner ADDY advertising awards

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GOLD STUDENT ADDY – Communication majors from the University of Tennessee at Martin received a gold ADDY in the mixed media campaign category for their 30-second “I am Tennessee Law Enforcement” radio spot, a print advertisement and a billboard design produced as part of an advertising campaign for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police. Students pictured, from left, are Martina Conley, broadcasting major from Clarksville; Allison Hagan, a public relations major from Three Way; Jennifer DeYos, a visual communication major from Martin; and Tracy Rutledge, instructor of visual communication and public relations at UT Martin.
LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES EMERGING LEADER AWARD - Chase Mitchell and Kristen McAdams were recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Creek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Dr. Margaret Toston (left), vice chancellor for student affairs, presented the award to Kristen McAdams.

PHILLIPS RECEIVES UT MARTIN HONOR - Tucker Phillips of Humboldt recently received the Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges Award at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin Who’s Who Award Ceremony. The Who’s Who Award is one of the most prestigious honors given to students who have proven strength and character in academic achievement, extracurricular activities and community service. Pictured with Phillips is Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor.

SCOTT RECEIVES LEADER AWARD - Staria Scott of Medina was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Pictured (from left) are Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs and Scott.
Harris Chiropractic adds Dr. McBride

Dr. Kyle McBride has joined Harris Chiropractic Wellness Center at 709 South First St. in Union City.

The center is owned by Dr. Matthew S. Harris, D.C.

McBride graduated from Obion County Central High School in 2001 and then earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Tennessee at Martin, graduating cum laude in August 2005. Upon graduation from UT Martin, he entered Logan College of Chiropractic in St. Louis to obtain a doctorate in chiropractic, again graduating with cum laude honors.

While attending Logan, he also pursued a master's degree in sports science and rehabilitation, which he will have completed in April.

At Harris Chiropractic Wellness Center, McBride will be offering the latest in chiropractic care; sports science and rehabilitation procedures; and spinal decompression therapy, which is the latest non-surgical technology to help those suffering from conditions such as sciatica, bulging discs, herniated discs, facet syndrome and certain cases of spinal stenosis.

McBride is a certified decompression therapy practitioner by the Kennedy Decompression Technique and is very excited about the opportunity to bring this technology back to the area.

"Many people in this area have traveled to Paducah (Ky.), Jackson or even Memphis to receive this type of therapy and at Harris Chiropractic it is very affordable and close to home," he said.

Harris Chiropractic Wellness Center is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:45-11:30 a.m. and 1:45-6 p.m. and Tuesdays from 1:45-5:30 p.m.

For more information, call Harris Chiropractic Wellness Center at 885-3399.

First female justice to speak at UTM

Tennessee Supreme Court Chief Justice Janice Holder will speak at the University of Tennessee at Martin, at 7 p.m., March 23, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center for the Friends of the Paul Meek Library. Holder will talk about her experience as chief justice and her history-setting journey and role as Tennessee’s first female chief justice. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact 881-7071.

Calhoun joins law firm in Nashville

Colin Brett Calhoun, a 2000 honors graduate of South Fulton High School, has joined the law firm of Sobel, Poss & Moore, PLLC. in Nashville as an associate attorney.

He is the son of Robert and Suzanne Calhoun of South Fulton.

While attending the University of Tennessee at Martin, Calhoun was very active in many organizations and associations and received many honors, including being elected as Phi Kappa Phi, the oldest and largest collegiate honor society dedicated to the recognition and promotion of academic excellence in all disciplines. He was also a member of Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society, Kappa Alpha Order and was the recipient of the Outstanding Criminal Justice Student Award.

Calhoun graduated summa cum laude from UT Martin in 2004.

His track record of excellence continued into his time at the Nashville School of Law, where he was one of four students chosen to serve as a school representative in the Harry Phillips American Inn of Court for the 2007-08 academic year. He was ranked 14th out of 112 fellow students and graduated in the top 13 percent of his class. In May 2008, he was conferred a doctor of jurisprudence degree.

In July 2008, Calhoun successfully passed the Tennessee Bar Examination on his first attempt. In November, he was sworn in by the Tennessee Supreme Court and was admitted to the Tennessee Bar.

As an associate attorney, Calhoun's practice with Sobel, Poss & Moore focuses on estate planning and administration, federal income, estate and gift taxation, state and local taxation, commercial law, business organization and dissolution, shareholder derivative litigation, complex civil litigation and indigent criminal representation.

Sobel, Poss & Moore was founded by former members of the Finch & McBroom law practice and boasts decades of experience and a practice area surrounding Middle Tennessee and beyond. The firm offers legal services across a variety of practice areas including personal injury, business law, criminal defense, domestic relations and estate planning.
Students garner ADDY advertising awards

UT Martin students garner Components of two ad campaigns developed by University of Tennessee at Martin students recently claimed American Advertising Federation student ADDY Awards in annual competition. The student ADDY competition is a part of the overall competition.

The West Tennessee chapter of the AAF sponsored the West Tennessee regional ADDY competition that UT Martin students entered. The student entries are evaluated by the same judges as the professional entries and held to the same criteria. The judges for the West Tennessee ADDY competition included an advertising agency owner, a media production professional and a graphic designer.

The students accepted the awards at the West Tennessee ADDY banquet hosted on Union University’s campus in Jackson. Both entries advanced to the District 7 regional competition that includes seven southeastern states.

The winning entries were components of two image campaign proposals created for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police during the fall Principles of Advertising class offered in the Department of Communications. The students were responsible for conducting research and developing a background for the campaign, developing a creative strategy, proposing a media schedule and budget and producing campaign media samples. Representatives from the two campaigns presented the ideas to the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police and other state public safety officials in Nashville last month.

The “Hometown Heroes” 30-second radio public service announcement won a silver award in the student ADDY radio category. The PSA was one component of an overall campaign for Tennessee Law Enforcement. The students on this team and their majors were Kassi Abney, Martin, Jackie Bettie, Medina, Stephanie Lovett, Troy, (visual communication majors); Becky Parnell, Tiptonville, Jonathan Kiser, Adamsville, James Buchanan, Memphis, (public relations majors); and Brooks Taylor, Jackson, (broadcasting major).

The students created the concept, wrote the script and produced the radio spot (with assistance from Lana Carpenter, Martin, 2008 broadcasting graduate and WCMT employee).

The “I am Tennessee Law Enforcement” campaign won top honors and a gold award with an ADDY in the mixed media campaign category for the combination of the 30-second radio PSA, two print advertisements and a billboard design. Students on this team were Jennifer DeYeso, Martin, (visual communication major); Allison Hagin, Three Way, Rebecca Wilkinson, Old Hickory, Ryan Williams, Memphis, (public relations majors); Meghan Pinkley, Bondurant, Iowa, and Joe Raccuglia, Franklin, (public relations ‘08 graduate); Martina Conley, Clarksville, (broadcasting major and the only one not enrolled in the class), provided substantial production assistance on the radio PSA. The students created the concept for the campaign, wrote the radio script and produced the artwork.

GOLD STUDENT ADDY – Communication majors from the University of Tennessee at Martin received a gold ADDY in the mixed media campaign category for their 30-second “I am Tennessee Law Enforcement” radio spot, a print advertisement and a billboard design produced as part of an advertising campaign for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police. The Student ADDY Competition was sponsored by the West Tennessee Chapter of the American Advertising Federation. Students pictured, from left, are Martina Conley, broadcasting major from Clarksville; Allison Hagin, a public relations major from Three Way; Jennifer DeYeso, a visual communication major from Martin; and Tracy Rutledge, instructor of visual communication and public relations at UT Martin.

SILVER STUDENT ADDY – Communication majors from the University of Tennessee at Martin received a silver ADDY in the radio category for their 30-second “Hometown Heroes” radio spot produced as part of an advertising campaign for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police. The Student ADDY Competition was sponsored by the West Tennessee Chapter of the American Advertising Federation. Students pictured, from left, are Jonathan Kiser, public relations major from Adamsville; Becky Parnell, a public relations major from Tiptonville; Jackie Bettie, a visual communication major from Medina; Kassi Abney, a visual communication major from Martin; and James Buchanan, a public relations major from Memphis.
UTM Recycles! receives state award and grant

UTM Recycles! at the University of Tennessee at Martin recently was recognized with an Award of Excellence in the public education category at the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)/Keep Tennessee Beautiful (KTNB) 2009 Biennial State Conference in Nashville.

The award was presented by TDOT Commissioner Gerald F. Nicely during the Awards of Excellence banquet, which was held the first night of the conference.

A plaque and $1,000 grant check to enhance recycling efforts were awarded for the organization’s efforts.

KTNB recognizes the environmental achievements and legacies of people and organizations working to improve their community’s appearance through public education programs.

The event recognized 24 winners from around the state. Grant checks totaling $40,000 were presented.

Earlier this year, recycling efforts at UT Martin gained recognition and a $1,000 Wal-Mart Foundation community grant. The grant will benefit the newly opened UT Martin Recycling Center, located on Moody Street. The new, larger facility provides additional room for processing and storing and better dock access.

The expanded recycling center also was featured in the Tennessee Recycling Coalition weekly online newsletter in February.

UTM Recycles! partners and sponsors include the American Democracy Project, the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts, the UT Martin Physical Plant, Sodexo and university student organizations, including the Agronomy Club, Tri-Beta and Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society.

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

To learn how to join UTM Recycles! and/or volunteer at an event, contact Dr. Angie MacKewn at 731-881-7370 or amackewn@utm.edu.
African American Conference set

"Challenges and Opportunities" is the theme of the 11th annual African American Leadership Conference, slated 8:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., April 7, at the West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research, in Jackson.

This conference is made possible by WestStar Leadership, Tennessee Access & Diversity Initiatives, Wal-Mart, Gibson County Utility District, First South Bank, Hardin County Government, City of Covington, City of Brownsville, West Tennessee Healthcare and the University of Tennessee Institute of Public Service.

This year's keynote speaker is Beverly Robertson, National Civil Rights Museum president. Robertson is also principal of TRUST Marketing and Communications Consortium. She has more than 25 years experience in public/community relations, communications, strategic planning and research.

A graduate of Memphis State University, she completed post-graduate management courses through the Wharton School of Business. She has been featured in numerous publications, including Essence, The New York Times, Ebony, Black Enterprise and Redbook Magazine.

Registration and a continental breakfast is slated from 8:30-9 a.m. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes and David Belote, UT Martin WestStar executive director, will speak from 9-9:15 a.m., followed by Robertson from 9:15-10 a.m. "Opportunities and Challenges for the Non-Traditional Student" is the topic of a 10-10:45 a.m. panel, moderated by Youlanda Jones, UT Martin Ripley Center director, and Glenn Baker, recruiter/training coordinator, Tennessee Technology Center in Covington. "Economy Crisis" is the topic of Martha Perine Beard, senior branch executive of the Memphis Region of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, from 11-11:45 a.m.

A graduate of Clark Atlanta University, she received a master's degree in economics at Washington University and completed special studies at Harvard University and Yale University. "The Networking Game" will be presented by Sharon Taylor McKinney, Business Enterprise Resource Office, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, Memphis, from 11:45-noon, followed by lunch from noon-1 p.m. "Fitness and Exercise" is the last session of the day with Dr. Jayson Cannon, Covington chiropractor, from 1:15-1:45 p.m. Award presentations are slated for 1:45-2 p.m.

To register, mail form to WestStar, UT Martin, 321 Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238. E-mail registrations to vgrimes@utm.edu or fax to 881-7019. The registration deadline is April 1.

The conference fee is $35 per person/$60 for two. The fee includes breakfast and lunch. For more information, contact Virginia Grimes at 881-7298 or vgrimes@utm.edu.
UTM Recycles! receives state award and grant

Posted: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 10:01 am

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UTM Spring Preview Day is March 21

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Admissions will host Spring Preview Day, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, March 21, on the UT Martin campus.

Registration begins at 10 a.m. in Boling University Center. Welcoming remarks and an information session will follow at 10:30 a.m. in Watkins Auditorium. At 11:30 a.m., an academic fair will be hosted in the Duncan Ballroom. Entertainment is scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m. with a campus tour to follow at 1 p.m.

Students may register for Spring Preview Day at http://www.utm.edu/admissions/spring_pd.htm. For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020.
First female justice to speak Monday

Tennessee Supreme Court Chief Justice Janice Holder will speak at the University of Tennessee at Martin 7 p.m. Monday in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center for the Friends of the Paul Meck Library.

Holder will talk about her experience as chief justice and her history-setting journey and role as Tennessee’s first female chief justice.

UTM Recycles! earns award for public education efforts

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Student ADDY winners

Communication majors from the University of Tennessee at Martin received a silver ADDY in the radio category for their 30-second “Hometown Heroes” radio spot produced as part of an advertising campaign for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police. The Student ADDY Competition was sponsored by the West Tennessee Chapter of the American Advertising Federation. Participating students included Jonathan Kiser, public relations major from Adamsville (left); Becky Parnell, public relations major from Tiptonville; Jackie Bettie, visual communication major from Medina; Kassi Abney, visual communication major from Martin; and James Buchanan, public relations major from Memphis.
UTM Recycles! receives TDOT/KTnB 2009 Award of Excellence and Wal-Mart grant

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Neel to serve as president of nine-state SASFAA

Sandy Neel

Sandy Neel, University of Tennessee at Martin Student Financial Assistance director, was elected as president of the Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators for 2010-11 at the recent annual conference. She will serve as president-elect for 2009-10.

SASFAA includes nine southern states - Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

As a result of her election, she will also serve as a National Association of Financial Aid Administrators Board voting member. The NAFAA serves all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

She has been a member of SASFAA and NASFAA for 23 years. She served as SASFAA secretary from 2004-2006 and vice president from 2006-2007. She also served on the Tennessee Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators executive board as newsletter editor and conference chair.

Neel, who previously served as assistant director for scholarships and training at the University of Louisville, joined UT-Martin in July 2004. She has a bachelor of science degree in counseling and psychology and a master’s degree in education from UofL. She had 18 years experience in financial assistance at UofL. She served as president of the Kentucky Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators in 2000-2001 and served on the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority Board from 2002-2004. She also is a member of the Graduate Association of Personnel in Student Affairs.
UT Martin students garner ADDY advertising awards

Components of two ad campaigns developed by University of Tennessee at Martin students recently claimed American Advertising Federation student ADDY Awards in annual competition. The student ADDY competition is a part of the overall competition.

The West Tennessee chapter of the AAF sponsored the West Tennessee regional ADDY competition that UT Martin students entered. The student entries are evaluated by the same judges as the professional entries and held to the same criteria. The judges for the West Tennessee ADDY competition included an advertising agency owner, a media production professional and a graphic designer.

The students accepted the awards at the West Tennessee ADDY banquet hosted on Union University’s campus in Jackson. Both entries advanced to the District 7 regional competition that includes seven southeastern states.

The winning entries were components of two image campaign proposals created for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police during the fall Principles of Advertising class offered in the Department of Communications. The students were responsible for conducting research and developing a background for the campaign, developing a creative strategy, proposing a media schedule and budget and producing campaign media samples. Representatives from the two campaigns presented the ideas to the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police and other state public from the two campaigns presented the ideas to the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police and other state public safety officials in Nashville last month.

The “Hometown Heroes” 30-second radio public service announcement won a silver award in the student ADDY radio category. The PSA was one component of an overall campaign for Tennessee Law Enforcement. The students on this team and their majors were Kassi Abney, Martin; Jackie Bettie, Medina; Stephanie Lovett, Troy, visual communication majors; Becky Parnell, Tiptonville, Jonathan Kiser, Adamsville, James Buchanan, Memphis, public relations majors; and Brooks Taylor, Jackson, broadcasting major.

The students created the concept, wrote the script and produced the radio spot (with assistance from Lana Carpenter, Martin, 2008 broadcasting graduate and WCMT employee).

The “I am Tennessee Law Enforcement” campaign won top honors and a gold award with an ADDY in the mixed media campaign category for the combination of the 30-second radio PSA, two print advertisements and a billboard design. Students on this team were Jennifer DeYeso, Martin, (visual communication major); Allison Hagan, Three Way; Rebecca Wilkinson, Old Hickory; Ryan Williams, Memphis, public relations majors; Meghan Pinkley, Bondurant, Iowa; and Joe Racculgia, Franklin, public relations ‘08 graduate; Martina Conley, Clarksville, broadcasting major and the only one not enrolled in the class), provided substantial production assistance on the radio PSA. The students created the concept for the campaign, wrote the radio script and produced the artwork.

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Legacy of WestStar: 20 years of developing the region’s leaders

In a 20-year history, the WestStar leadership program at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has spurred many of its 500-plus graduates to take responsibility for the growth and development of their state, communities, and counties. Graduates have gained elected office, been driving forces in countless local and regional initiatives and have taken volunteerism to new heights. Still others have made it a priority to see that the networks and collaborations formed by class members during the program thrive and that WestStar continues to prepare to assume future leadership roles.

WestStar, serving 21 counties of West Tennessee, is the state’s oldest and largest leadership program.

"WestStar was a dream that a regional approach to leadership development would help identify and inspire civic-minded people to become more involved in the economic and social growth of the entire region," said Dr. Bob Smith, WestStar co-founder, who also helped create numerous individual community leadership programs. Smith, now president of Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania, and still a WestStar supporter, added that problems and opportunities do not know political boundaries. The vision was that “a new generation of leaders would see a compelling agenda for positive change through collaboration and regional thinking than competing within small fiefdoms.”

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor emeritus, also a co-founder, served as executive director for six years. David Belote is the current executive director, with Charley Deal serving as the assistant director. Virginia Grimes has served as WestStar coordinator for 19 years, organizing seminars, conference and other WestStar projects and programs.

"WestStar is an important part of UT Martin's economic development and outreach missions," said Dunagan. "What could be more valuable than helping sharpen the leadership skills of the region’s business and governmental leaders?"

"I’ve seen the WestStar experience inspire individuals to take on significant leadership roles," said Grimes. "They see the importance of being involved and making a difference in local communities and in the region."

WestStar was created in 1989 at UT Martin to serve the multi-county area by providing leadership development training for selected participants. Class members typically have a diverse range of professions and volunteer leadership experiences. There are chambers of commerce and economic development professionals, bankers, government personnel, educators and business executives. What they have in common is a strong devotion to their civic responsibility.

The program consists of seven specifically designed seminar programs addressing contemporary issues important to the future of West Tennessee. Each seminar takes place over a two-day period from January through May in various locations throughout Middle and West Tennessee. Topics vary, year to year, depending on changing events in the region.

Focusing on the challenges and potentials in West Tennessee, WestStar stresses the importance of regional and civic responsibility for progress and prosperity. From sessions about economic development and government to education and tourism, presenters are some of the most knowledgeable people in their fields.

"TACL (Tennessee Association of Community Leadership), a volunteer-driven association created to assist and foster the development of leadership programs across the state, turns to WestStar frequently in the sharing of ideas, programs and insights, as the premier regional leadership program," said Judy Renshaw, TACL historian and director of Leadership Jackson. "WestStar is an integral part of the development of leadership not only in West Tennessee, but across the state. We have every reason to be proud of that heritage of developing future leaders from our communities and for Tennessee."

Recognizing the benefits of WestStar, sponsors assist with the development program each year. Sponsors include First Bank, First State Bank, Haywood County/City of Brownsville, Gibson County Utility District, Tennessee Valley Authority, The TENERGY Corp., TLM Associates, Inc., USDA Rural Development, West Tennessee Healthcare and West Tennessee Industrial Association.

Seeking to make changes via government, some WestStar graduates have sought and been elected to local and state public offices after completing the program.

"For me, WestStar was the North Star, a guiding light for my future. WestStar brought to light the possibility of my serving the people of Tennessee in public office," said Dolores Gresham, 2000 class member, former three-term 94th district state representative, who recently was elected to the 26th state senate seat.

Dr. David Gordon, Covington mayor, had a similar experience as a member of the 2002 class. "WestStar showed me many available opportunities through which a positive impact could be made on West Tennessee and my home community. It also gave me a push toward public service," said Gordon.

WestStar not only develops class members each year, but also has offered a number of leadership opportunities to the public. Among those are the annual African-American Leadership Conference, the Working Women’s Conference and the Economic Development Conference, in addition to assisting with youth leadership development. The organization maintains a Web site and speakers bureau and has published and offered online versions of regional festival and dining guides.

Another aspect of WestStar is an alumni base whose goal it is to maintain and expand the network and collaboration of leaders after each class graduates.

"The WestStar program has created a great networking opportunity over the past 20 years and has made West Tennessee a better place to live, work, and raise a family," said Dennis Henderson, president of TLM Associates, Inc., in Jackson, a member of the 2001 class, Board of Trustee member and current WestStar Alumni Council president. "The old saying ‘two heads are better than one’ can be rewritten to say ‘over 550 WestStar alumni are better than one’ meaning those alumni are a ‘community’ of individuals making a difference. The continuation of WestStar is critical to the leadership development in West Tennessee."
Locals receive awards at Vision Summit

A recent Vision Summit at the University of Tennessee at Martin focused on the future of service learning, civic engagement, community service and student leadership at the university. UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes, Dr. Mike McCullough, American Democracy Project director, and other administrators and staff participated in presentations, panels and group discussions. J. Houston Gordon, of Covington, UT Martin alumnus, was the summit keynote speaker. Gordon reflected on his family’s long relationship with UT Martin and why he believes in and financially supports the university. Information gathered will be compiled and used for planning purposes. The summit was closed with the presentation of awards to students, faculty and staff, who support ADP.

Dr. Paula Gale, professor of soil science, received the faculty service ADP award. She is pictured with McCullough, left, and Gordon.

Lorrie Mallari, of Martin, received the student service ADP award. She is pictured with McCullough, left, and Gordon.

Dr. Heidi Huse, assistant professor of English, received the faculty service ADP award. She is pictured with McCullough, left, and Gordon.

Dr. George Daniel, center, Student Success Center director, received the ADP award for administrator service. He is pictured with McCullough, left, and Gordon.
Applications increase for sixth consecutive year at UT Martin

Applications for summer and fall admission at the University of Tennessee at Martin have increased by 15 percent over the same period last year, according to the Office of Admissions.

"While not all applications translate into enrollments, we are pleased to see a continued increase as a reflection of student interest in the quality of our academic offerings and campus programming," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT-Martin chancellor. "This is particularly significant considering our recent increase in academic standards."

This is the sixth consecutive year that application numbers have increased. A recent report showed that by January 3, 2009, 2,131 students had applied for admission to UT Martin, up from 1,901 by that date in 2008. Also, there has been a 20 percent increase in housing applications this year.

Students who plan to attend UT-Martin and have not applied should note that February 1 is the deadline for scholarship applications.

"The number of applications has increased simply because UT-Martin offers features and services students want," said Judy Rayburn, UT-Martin director of the Office of Admissions. "We think students tend to make their decisions based on a school's atmosphere. Students are looking for more personal attention. They are looking at the size of the university and the opportunity to be involved in campus activities." She added. "Students who choose UT-Martin like the fact that their classes are going to be smaller and taught by faculty, not graduate students, and they like the fact that they will have access to those faculty members outside of class."

Rayburn said that in addition to strong programs, proximity to home, cost of attendance and apartment-style housing also are important considerations when students choose to apply to UT-Martin.

"I am pleased to see the growing interest and value attributed to a UT-Martin degree," Rakes added. "Continuation of our on-going planning involving on- and off-campus initiatives ensures that our students have access to a world-class education."

For application information, visit the UT-Martin admissions homepage at www.utm.edu/admis.php or call 1-800-829-UTML.

Research Symposium at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin and Murray State University chapters of Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, recently held their seventh annual Joint Research Symposium at Martin. Thirteen papers were presented. Several of the symposium participants include: first row, Dr. Wafaa M. Fawzy (presenter, MSU); Dr. Nancy W. Hinds (UT Martin); Dr. Edie J. Banner (presenter, MSU); Dr. Robbie L. Montgomery (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Rosemary I. Effiong (UT Martin); Dr. Paula M. Gale (presenter, UT Martin); Sara Gale (presenter, Archeological Unit, Georgia Department of Transportation); Walls Wimbish (student presenter, UT Martin); middle row, Dr. S.K. Aliree (UT Martin Sigma Xi vice president); Dr. Tom Blanchard (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Otha Britton (UT Martin Sigma Xi treasurer); Dr. B. Dawn Wilkins (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Emery Gather (UT Martin); Dr. R. Mark Simpson (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Misganaw Getach (UT Martin); back row, Dr. R. Daniel Johnson (presenter, MSU Sigma Xi vice president); Dr. Michael Kempf (presenter, UT Martin); Dr. Richard Helgeson (UT Martin Sigma Xi president); Dr. Jozsef Devenyi (UT Martin); Dr. Matthew Pritchett (UT Martin); Dr. Louis Kollisch (UT Martin Sigma Xi secretary); Dr. Bradley Ray (presenter, UT Martin), Not pictured: Dr. Paul 1. Higgs (presenter, UT Martin) and Dr. Willis Shem (UT Martin).
Calhoun joins law firm

Colin Brett Calhoun, a 2000 honors graduate of South Fulton High School, has joined the law firm of Sobel, Poss & Moore, PLLC, in Nashville as an associate attorney.

He is the son of Robert and Suzanne Calhoun of South Fulton.

While attending the University of Tennessee at Martin, Calhoun was very active in many organizations and associations and received many honors, including being elected to Phi Kappa Phi, the oldest and largest collegiate honor society dedicated to the recognition and promotion of academic excellence in all disciplines. He was also a member of Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honor Society, Kappa Alpha Order and was the recipient of the Outstanding Criminal Justice Student Award.

Calhoun graduated summa cum laude from UT Martin in 2004.

His track record of excellence continued into his time at the Nashville School of Law, where he was one of four students chosen to serve as a school representative in the Harry Phillips American Inn of Court for the 2007-08 academic year. He was ranked 14th out of 112 fellow students and graduated in the top 13 percent of his class. In May 2008, he was conferred a doctor of jurisprudence degree.

In July 2008, Calhoun successfully passed the Tennessee Bar Examination on his first attempt. In November, he was sworn in by the Tennessee Supreme Court and was admitted to the Tennessee Bar.

As an associate attorney, Calhoun's practice with Sobel, Poss & Moore, focuses on estate planning and administration, federal income, estate and gift taxation, state and local taxation, commercial law, business organization and dissolution, shareholder derivative litigation and indigent criminal representation.

Sobel, Poss & Moore, founded by former members of the Finch & McBroom law practice and boasts decades of experience and a practice area surrounding Middle Tennessee and beyond. The firm offers legal services across a variety of practice areas including personal injury, business law, criminal defense, domestic relations and estate planning.
A TRADITION CONTINUES — Last week, the Brothers of Alpha Tau Omega at the University of Tennessee at Martin moved closer to reaching their goal of raising $1 million for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Their traditional St. Jude Push consumed the spring break for fraternity members. Their journey began in Union City on Monday, continued to Dyersburg on Tuesday, Covington on Wednesday and ended at the doors of St. Jude in Memphis on a cold and wet Thursday morning. Leading up to the Push, members gave blood platelets throughout the year and held events that earned $100,000 for the wheelbarrow push. By next spring break, the brothers hope to reach their goal of donating more than $1 million to St. Jude, which will place them among the top chapters of Alpha Tau Omega in the nation in charity giving.

WESTVIEW AND UTM HOST CONCERT FESTIVAL — The annual West Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association Concert Ratings Festival was held recently on the UTM campus. Twenty-five middle and high school bands from across west Tennessee played before judges and were awarded a rating based on the performance of prepared music and also sight-read music. The Martin/Sharon Middle School band gave an outstanding performance and received an "excellent" on both. Westview served as the host band and also performed, and was awarded an "excellent" on prepared music and a coveted "superior" on sight-read music. The groups are directed by Mike Tucker and Joe Farmer.
WestStar marks two decades of developing region’s leaders

In a 20-year history, the WestStar leadership program at the University of Tennessee at Martin has spurred many of its 500-plus graduates to take responsibility for the growth and development of their state, communities and counties.

Graduates have gained elective office, been driving forces in countless local and regional initiatives and have taken volunteerism to new heights.

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The program consists of seven specially-designed seminar programs addressing contemporary issues important to the future of West Tennessee. Each seminar takes place over a two-day period in January through May in various locations throughout Middle and West Tennessee.

Topics vary year to year, depending on changing events in the region.

Focusing on the challenges and potentials in West Tennessee, WestStar stresses the importance of regional and civic responsibility for progress and prosperity. From sessions about economic development and government to education and tourism, presenters are some of the most knowledgeable people in their fields.

TACL (Tennessee Association of Community Leadership), a volunteer-driven association created to assist and foster the development of leadership programs across the state, turns to WestStar frequently in the sharing of ideas, programs and insights, as the premier regional leadership program,” said Judy Renshaw, TACL historian and director of Leadership Jackson.

“WestStar is an integral part of the development of leadership not only in West Tennessee, but across the state. We have every reason to be proud of that heritage of developing future leaders for our communities and for Tennessee.”

Recognizing the benefits of WestStar, sponsors assist with the development program each year. Sponsors include First Bank, First State Bank, Haywood County/City of Brownsville, Gibson County Utility District, Tennessee Valley Authority, The TENERGY Corp., TLM Associates Inc., USDA Rural Development, West Tennessee Healthcare and West Tennessee Industrial Association.

Seeking to make changes via government, some WestStar graduates have sought and been elected to local and state public offices after completing the program.

WestStar not only develops class members each year, but also has offered a number of leadership opportunities to the public. Among those are the annual African-American Leadership Conference, the Working Women’s Conference and the Economic Development Conference, in addition to assisting with youth leadership development.

The organization maintains a Web site and speakers bureau and has published and offered online versions of regional festivals and dining guides.

Another aspect of WestStar is an alumni base whose goal it is to maintain and expand the network and collaboration of leaders after each class graduates.

“The WestStar program has created a great networking opportunity over the past 20 years and has made West Tennessee a better place to live, work, play and raise a family,” said Dennis Henderson, president of TLM Associates Inc. in Jackson, a member of the 2001 class, Board of Trustees member and current WestStar Alumni Council president. “The old saying ‘two heads are better than one’ can be rewritten to say ‘over 550 WestStar alumni are better than one,’ meaning those alumni are a ‘community’ of individuals making a difference. The continuation of WestStar is critical to the leadership development in West Tennessee.”
Don Parks promoted with First State

Don Parks has been promoted to financial sales representative for First State in the Union City office at 100 East Reelfoot Ave.

"Don will be a tremendous asset to First State customers due to his ability and willingness to make sure they understand every aspect of their deposit relationship and investment opportunity," said Andy Page, regional president of First State Bank in Union City.

"His responsibility will be to match the needs of the customer with the appropriate banking or investment product while providing exceptional customer service. He will enhance the Obion County market's ability to be a community partner resulting from his participation in various organizations and clubs."

"I feel privileged to be a part of the First State team because of the community involvement and the excellent customers we serve," Parks said. "First State is a community financial institution that strives to exceed customer expectations. Realizing the current economic environment, I am learning that solid and truthful advice, with outstanding service, will develop long-term financial relationships. I am excited about this great opportunity to provide banking and investment services to current and potential First State customers."

Parks attended Obion County Central High School in Troy and graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture business with a minor in business administration. He has worked for First State in various part-time positions since he was a freshman at UT Martin.

He is currently a member of the Union City Jaycees and serves on the board for Obion County Habitat for Humanity.

First State Bank has 28 full-service banking locations in 24 communities throughout West and Middle Tennessee. It is owned by Community First Bancshares Inc., a holding company headquartered in Union City.

Workshop slated for women in business

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the Tennessee Small Business Development Center at Jackson State Community College are offering a small business workshop for women in small business or those considering starting a small business.

"Opportunities for Women in Small Business" will be held 9 a.m.-1 p.m. April 8 at the The Lindell in downtown Martin.

Laurie Gamble, Bank of Humboldt vice president and owner of McDonald's of Humboldt, and Dana Chamberlin, Mary Kay Cosmetics Inc. future executive senior sales director, will share their experiences as women in the business world.

A panel of small business resource specialists and owners will educate the group on resources available to women-owned businesses. The panel will include Sherry Brown, First Citizens National Bank vice president and loan officer; Pam Freeman Rockwell, Sally Lane's Candy Farm co-owner; Janna Hellums, Tennessee Economic & Community Development Business Development Division/BERO jobs development specialist; and Shelia Ervin, owner of Celebrations by Shelia in Union City.

The cost for the workshop is $20, which includes lunch and materials. For a registration form, e-mail Hollie Holt at reed@utm.edu or call (731) 587-7333.
Brigadier General William M. "Mike" Maloan, of the Tennessee Army National Guard, was promoted to the rank of Major General during ceremonies recently at the offices of the National Guard Association of Tennessee in Nashville. Major General Gus Hargett, Tennessee's Adjutant General, officially pinned on the second star for a large group of family and friends.

Maj.Gen. Maloan now assumes duties as Deputy Commander of the Tennessee Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Nashville. In this capacity he is responsible for readiness and effectiveness in training and logistics for the Guard's state and federal missions.

He also directs, supervises and coordinates the Joint Force Headquarters staff.

In his civilian occupation, the general serves as Presiding Judge and Chancellor of the 27th Judicial District for Weakley and Obion Counties in West Tennessee.

A veteran of 26 years in the National Guard, Maj. Gen. Maloan began his career as an enlisted Airman with the 164th Support Squadron in Memphis (now the 164th Air Wing). He received a direct commission as 1st Lieutenant in 1988.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee-Martin and Juris Doctor (Law) from Memphis State University. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Command General Staff College and holds a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

The Maloans reside in Martin. Mrs. Maloan is the former Sharon Forsythe of Martin.

'Henry V' to be shown

The fourth Department of English 2008-09 film, "Henry V," will be shown at 7 p.m., March 24, in Watkins Auditorium on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin. This movie is the final installment in the film series, "Power and Political Intrigue in Literature." The story centers on the newly crowned king of England who goes to battle for the throne of France. Told by the master storyteller Shakespeare, the film confronts the power issues that can arise between church and state. This movie will be free and open to the public. For more information contact, Dr. Heidi Huse, assistant professor of English, at 881-7280.

UTM recital today

Karen Langdon of Jackson will perform a recital at 3 p.m. today in the Harriet Fulton Theatre at the University of Tennessee Martin.

The recital had incorrectly been listed for Monday in previous editions of The Jackson Sun.

No admission will be charged. The event is open to the public.
Midsouth computer science, IT workers to meet at UT Martin

Computer Science and Information Systems professionals from the Midsouth region will attend the annual meeting of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges (CCSC) meeting at the University of Tennessee at Martin, April 3-4.

The keynote speaker for the conference is Dr. Robert M. Panoff, founder and executive director of Shodor Education Foundation, who will speak on "Computational Thinking Across the Curriculum: The Power and the Peril." Sessions dedicated to workshops, tutorials and panel discussions will continue throughout the conference. Twenty-two teams of students will compete in a programming contest in Boling University Center, April 3. At the awards banquet April 3, Dr. Jesse Poore, co-founder of the University of Tennessee-Oak Ridge National Laboratory Joint Institute for Computational Sciences and director of the UT-Oak Ridge National Laboratory Science Alliance, will speak on research opportunities at Oak Ridge National Labs and the Science Alliance.

Dr. Otha Britton, professor of computer science, is the local site chair for the conference; Bob Bradley, instructor of computer science, is the local chair for the student programming contest; and Dr. Jim Clark, Department of Computer Science and Information Systems chair, is serving as vendor/local registration chair. Dr. Bryan Foltz, assistant professor of information systems, is chairing a panel discussion, and Clark is leading a tutorial session at the conference. Most sessions will be held in the Boling University Center.

For information regarding the conference, visit the CCSC Web site: http://www.cscs-ns.org/ or call the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems at 881-7573.

"Opportunities for Women in Small Business' workshop offered

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the Tennessee Small Business Development Center at Jackson State Community College are offering a small business workshop for women in small business or those considering starting a small business.

"Opportunities for Women in Small Business" will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., April 8, at the The Lindell in downtown Martin. The workshop will focus on the opportunities for women in the small business world and women interested in starting a business. Participants will gain newfound motivation and inspiration and obtain business information from guest speakers. Real-world experiences and many resources available for business owners will be shared.

Laurie Gamble, Bank of Humboldt vice president and owner of McDonald's of Humboldt, and Dana Chamberlin, Mary Kay Cosmetics Inc., future executive senior sales director, will share with attendees their experiences as women in the business world.

A panel of small business resource specialists and owners will educate the group on the many resources available to women-owned businesses. Sherry Brown, First Citizens National Bank vice president and loan officer; Pam Freeman Rockwell, Sally Lane's Candy Farm co-owner; Janna Hellums, Tennessee Economic & Community Development Business Development Division/BERO jobs development specialist; and Shelia Ervin, Celebrations By Shelia owner, will make up the panel.

The cost for the workshop is $20, which includes lunch and materials. For a registration form, e-mail Hollie Holt at reed@utm.edu or call 587-7333.

'Friends' donation marks Women's History Month

Through money raised from a fall book sale and donations, the Friends of the Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin has donated $1,500 for the purchase of new library books in honor of March as Women's History Month and the university's Women's Studies minor.


Abbott, Moore to perform in junior percussion recital

Jacob Abbott, of Rutherford, and Jeff Moore, of Dyersburg, will perform a duo junior percussion recital at 7:30 p.m., on March 23, in the Harriet Fulton Theater of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin. Abbott will premiere an arrangement of Imogen Heap's "Hide and Seek" for percussion ensemble, while Moore will debut an arrangement for drum set, bass guitar and piano. Featured composers will include Ben Wahlin, Paul Smadbeck, David Freedman, Dave Samuels, B. Michael Williams and Eckhard Kopetzki. Music will include a new work, "Crystal Butterfly" for marimba and CD playback, "Irish Bodhran" and a multiple percussion work, "Canned Heat." The duo will also play a lightening-fast marimba and vibraphone composition with jazz chords and improvisation. This concert will be free and open to the public. For more information contact, Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music and director of percussion studies, at 881-7418.
'Genesis: The Scientific Quest for Life's Origins' is topic of Academic Speakers Series on April 2

Dr. Robert M. Hazen, one of the most versatile scientists active today, will speak in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin at 7:30 p.m., April 2. His lecture title is "Genesis: The Scientific Quest for Life's Origins." In addition to being part of the Academic Speakers Series, sponsored by UT Martin Honors Programs, Hazen will also appear as a Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer.

After earning his bachelor's and master's degrees in earth science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Hazen completed his doctorate in mineralogy and crystallography at Harvard University. He received a NATO Postdoctoral Fellowship at Cambridge University in England, before returning to the United States and beginning his association with the Carnegie Institution in 1978. Since 1989, he has held joint appointments with the Carnegie Institution and as Clarence Robinson Professor of Earth Science at George Mason University.

Dr. Robert Hazen

Hazen is the author of more than 20 books and more than 330 articles on science, history and music. His works demonstrate an ability to speak to both scholars and the general public. His scholarly works include "Comparative Crystal Chemistry" (1982) and "High-Temperature and High-Pressure Crystal Chemistry" (2000). Some of his books directed to the general audience include "The Breakthrough: The Race for the Supercomputer" (1988), "Why Aren't Black Holes Black: Unanswered Questions at the Frontiers of Science" (1998), "Science Matters: Achieving Scientific Literacy" (1991), which sold more than 200,000 copies and has been translated into a dozen languages, and, most recently, "Genesis: The Scientific Quest for Life's Origins" (2005).

Hazen is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and is a former president of the Mineralogical Society of America (2004-05). He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Mineralogical Society of America Award (1982), the American Chemical Society Isupov Prize (1986), the Educational Press Association Award (1992), and the Elizabeth Wood Science Writing Award (1998). In addition, he sits on several boards and committees, many of which strive to expand the scientific knowledge of Americans, including NOVA, Encyclopedia Americana and the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Revising Science and Creationism.

In addition to his work in the sciences, Hazen is an accomplished professional trumpeter who has performed with numerous ensembles around the world including the Metropolitan, New York City, Boston, and Washington operas, the Bolshoi and Kirov ballets, the Boston and National symmetric and the Orchestre de Paris. He has sat on the board of directors of the National Philharmonic Orchestra since 2003.

"Robert Hazen is truly a Renaissance Man, with great talent in a variety of areas. He is among the most prominent scientists in the United States today, one whose curiosity is evident from the wide variety of his interests," said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. "We will explore the fruits of his latest work and examine the origins of life. As a member of the committee to revise the National Academy of Sciences standards on evolution, Dr. Hazen has played an important role in the area of evolution and creationism. His thoughts upon these matters should be both enlightening and provocative."

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Dance Ensemble presents spring production March 29

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will present the annual UT Martin dance ensemble spring concert, "Story Without Words," at 3 p.m., March 29, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. Tickets are $3 for UT Martin students with ID and $5 for adults and $3 for children at the door.

This year's ensemble, under the direction of dance professor, Sarah McCormick, includes student choreography for six of the 11 pieces. There will be a variety of dance styles from African to contemporary and from hip-hop to modern.

For more information, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 881-7400.

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Gambill, Johnson to present senior art exhibit

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will host another senior art exhibition for the 2008-09 school year with an art exhibition representing the works of Christopher Johnson, a graphic design emphasis student from Sharon, and Brad Gambill, also a graphic design emphasis student from Nashville. The exhibition will begin with an opening reception, from 5-7 p.m., March 31, in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of UT Martin. The exhibition will continue through April 9. It will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 881-7400.
Saunders is spring featured scholar

Richard L. Saunders, the University of Tennessee at Martin Featured Scholar for spring semester, was honored at a recent reception at Paul Meek Library.

Saunders is currently serving as associate professor of library science. He received a bachelor of science in history and a master of science in Western American history from Utah State University in 1987 and 1989, respectively. He also completed his MLIS, a professional library credential, at Brigham Young University in 1992. He is currently working on a doctorate in 20th century U.S. history from the University of Memphis.

Saunders is curator of Special Collections / University Archives and director of the J. Houston Gordon Museum at UT Martin. Before coming to UT Martin, he worked in the manuscripts section at the University of Utah main library, at Montana State University in Bozeman and in the production side of commercial publishing. He now focuses on special collections library work in the context of West Tennessee's regional history and genealogy. He has published widely on Yellowstone literature, early Utah printing, Montana history, historian Dale L. Morgan, Tennessee novelist Harry Harrison Kroll and the Civil Rights movements of the 1950s and '60s.

A sample of Saunders' publications and accomplishments is on display in the Paul Meek Library on the UT Martin campus.

The Paris Post-Intelligencer, Paris, Tenn., Tuesday, March 24, 2009

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Wins UTM service award

Denis Gordon (right) of Paris recently won the University Service Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The University Service Award recognizes students who have been an important part of life on campus and in the Greek community, whether through their chapter, the Greek councils, or through their campus events and organizations. Pictured with Gordon is chancellor Tom Rakes.
Women in small business workshop offered

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the Tennessee Small Business Development Center at Jackson State Community College are offering a small business workshop for women in small business or those considering starting a small business.

"Opportunities for Women in Small Business" will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., April 8, at the The Lindell in downtown Martin. The workshop will focus on the opportunities for women in the small business world and women interested in starting a business. Participants will gain newfound motivation and inspiration and obtain business information from guest speakers. Real-world experiences and many resources available for business owners will be shared.

Laurie Gamble, Bank of Humboldt vice president and owner of McDonald's of Humboldt, and Dana Chamberlin, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Inc., future executive senior sales director, will share with attendees their experiences as women in the business world.

A panel of small business resource specialists and owners will educate the group on the many resources available to women-owned businesses. Sherry Brown, First Citizens National Bank vice president and loan officer, Pam Freeman Rockwell, Sally Lane's Candy Farm co-owner, Janna Hellums, Tennessee Economic and Community Development Business Development Division/BERO jobs development specialist; and Shelia Ervin, Celebrations By Shelia owner, will make up the panel.

The cost for the workshop is $20, which includes lunch and materials. For a registration form, e-mail Hollie Holt at reed@utm.edu or call 731-587-7333.
Components of two ad campaigns developed by University of Tennessee at Martin students recently claimed American Advertising Federation student ADDY Awards in annual competition. The student ADDY competition is a part of the overall competition.

The West Tennessee chapter of the AAF sponsored the West Tennessee regional ADDY competition that UT Martin students entered. The student entries are evaluated by the same judges as the professional entries and held to the same criteria. The judges for the West Tennessee ADDY competition included an advertising agency owner, a media production professional and a graphic designer.

The students accepted the awards at the West Tennessee ADDY banquet hosted on Union University’s campus in Jackson.

Both entries advanced to the District 7 regional competition that includes seven southeastern states.

The winning entries were components of two image campaign proposals created for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police during the fall Principles of Advertising class offered in the Department of Communications. The students were responsible for conducting research and developing a background for the campaign, developing a creative strategy, proposing a media schedule and budget and producing campaign media samples. Representatives from the two campaigns presented the ideas to the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police and other state public safety officials in Nashville last month.

The “Hometown Heroes” 30-second radio public service announcement won a silver award in the student ADDY radio category. The PSA was one component of an overall campaign for Tennessee Law Enforcement. Jackie Bettie, of Medina, was a member of this group. The students created the concept, wrote the script and produced the radio spot (with assistance from Lana Carpenter, Martin, 2008 broadcasting graduate and WCMT employee).

The “I am Tennessee Law Enforcement” campaign won top honors and a gold award with an ADDY in the mixed media campaign category for the combination of the 30-second radio PSA, two print advertisements and a billboard design. Allison Hagin, of Three Way, was a member of this team.

GOLD STUDENT ADDY - Communication majors from the University of Tennessee at Martin received a gold ADDY in the mixed media campaign category for their 30-second “I am Tennessee Law Enforcement” radio spot, a print advertisement and a billboard design produced as part of an advertising campaign for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police. The Student ADDY Competition was sponsored by the West Tennessee Chapter of the American Advertising Federation. Students pictured are (from left) Martina Conley from Clarksville, Allison Hagin, from Three Way, Jennifer DeYeso from Martin and Tracy Rutledge, instructor at UT Martin.

SILVER STUDENT ADDY - Communication majors from the University of Tennessee at Martin received a silver ADDY in the radio category for their 30-second “Hometown Heroes” radio spot produced as part of an advertising campaign for the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police. The Student ADDY Competition was sponsored by the West Tennessee Chapter of the American Advertising Federation. Students pictured are (from left) Jonathan Kiser from Adamsville, Becky Parnell from Tiptonville, Jackie Bettie from Medina, Kassi Abney from Martin and James Buchanan from Memphis.
Computer, information systems focus of meeting at UT Martin

Computer Science and Information Systems professionals from the MidSouth region will attend the annual meeting of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges (CCSC) meeting at the University of Tennessee at Martin April 3-4.

The keynote speaker for the conference will be Dr. Robert M. Panoff, founder and executive director of Shodor Education Foundation, who will speak on "Computational Thinking Across the Curriculum: The Power and the Peril."

Sessions dedicated to workshops, tutorials and panel discussions will continue throughout the conference. Twenty-two teams of students will compete in a programming contest in Boling University Center April 3. At the awards banquet April 3, Dr. Jesse Poore, co-founder of the University of Tennessee-Oak Ridge National Laboratory Joint Institute for Computational Sciences and director of the UT-Oak Ridge National Laboratory Science Alliance, will speak on research opportunities at Oak Ridge National Labs and the Science Alliance.

Dr. Otha Britton, professor of computer science, is the local site chair for the conference; Bob Bradley, instructor of computer science, is the local chair for the student programming contest; and Dr. Jim Clark, Department of Computer Science and Information Systems chair, is serving as vendor/local registration chair. Dr. Bryan Foltz, assistant professor of information systems, is chairing a panel discussion and Clark is leading a tutorial session at the conference.

Most sessions will be held in the Boling University Center.

For information regarding the conference, visit the CCSC Web site at http://www.ccsc-tn.org or call the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems at (731) 881-7573.

Maloan promoted to major general in National Guard

Brig. Gen. William M. "Mike" Maloan (center) of Martin receives his second star after being promoted to the rank of major general in the Tennessee National Guard. Pinning the new star on Maloan is Maj. Gen. Gus Hargett, Tennessee’s adjutant general, while Maloan’s wife, Sharon, observes. In his civilian occupation, Maloan serves as presiding judge and chancellor of the 27th Judicial District for Obion and Weakley counties.

Brig. Gen. William M. "Mike" Maloan of the Tennessee Army National Guard was recently promoted to the rank of major general during ceremonies at the offices of the National Guard Association of Tennessee in Nashville.

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A veteran of 26 years in the National Guard, Maloan began his career as an enlisted Airman with the 164th Support Squadron in Memphis (now the 164th Air Wing). He received a direct commission as 1st lieutenant in 1988.

He earned a bachelor of science degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin and juris doctor (law) from the former Memphis State University, now the University of Memphis. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Command General Staff College and holds a master of strategic studies degree from the U.S. Army War College.

Maloan and his wife, the former Sharon Forsythe of Martin, reside in Martin.
**Featured Scholar honored with UT Martin reception**

Richard L. Saunders, the University of Tennessee at Martin Featured Scholar for spring semester, was honored at a recent reception at Paul Meek Library.

Saunders is currently serving as associate professor of library science. He received a bachelor of science degree in history and a master of science degree in Western American history from Utah State University in 1987 and 1989, respectively. He also completed his MLIS, a professional library credential, at Brigham Young University in 1992.

He is currently working on a doctorate, in 20th Century U.S. history from the University of Memphis. Saunders is curator of Special Collections/University Archives and director of the J. Houston Gordon Museum at UT Martin. Before coming to UT Martin, he worked in the manuscripts section at the University of Utah main library, at Montana State University in Bozeman and in the production side of commercial publishing. He now focuses on special collections library work in the context of West Tennessee’s regional history and genealogy. He has published widely on Yellowstone literature, early Utah printing, Montana history, historian Dale L. Morgan, Tennessee novelist Harry Harrison Kroll and the Civil Rights movements of the 1950s and ‘60s.

A sample of Saunders’ publications and accomplishments is on display in the Paul Meek Library on the UT Martin campus.

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**Opportunities for Women in Small Business’ workshop offered**

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The cost for the workshop is $20, which includes lunch and materials. For a registration form, email Hollie Holt at reed@utm.edu or call 731-587-7333.

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**AAUW conference to be held at UTM**

The American Association of University Women Martin Branch is hosting the AAUW of Tennessee State Conference, March 27-28. The theme is “Beyond Sustainability: AAUW Leading the Way.” Participants will learn social responsibility related to sustainability and ways to take action. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Mary E. Rogge, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Social Work associate professor. The conference will also feature Kate C. Farrar, director of the AAUW Leadership and Training Institute, AAUW headquarters in Washington, D.C. She will share ways to create opportunities for leadership development and ways to get involved in the community to further AAUW’s mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. For more conference information, contact Dr. Sue Byrd, AAUW Martin Branch planning committee chair, at 881-7103 or sbyrd@utm.edu.

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**UTM Dance Ensemble presents Spring Production**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will present the annual UT Martin dance ensemble spring concert, “Story without Words,” at 3:00 p.m., March 29, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. Tickets are $5.00 for UT Martin students with ID and $8.00 for adults and $5.00 for children at the door.

This year’s ensemble, under the direction of dance professor Sarah McCormick, includes student choreography for six of the 11 pieces. There will be a variety of dance styles from African to contemporary and from hip-hop to modern.

For more information, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.
Mozart masterpiece to be presented

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music is presenting one of the masterpieces of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, “The Magic Flute,” at 7:30 p.m., April 4 and 5 p.m., April 5 in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building.

The cast features young talent from the Department of Music, including Josh Gatlin, of Union City; Chris Backner, Gina cherry and Mikayla Thrash, all of Ripley; Matthew Cook and Kimberly Kraft, both of Martin; Te’rell Douglas and Karen Langdon, both of Jackson; Aaron Hand of Fairview; Erin Horton of Murfreesboro; Sarah Jenkins of Cordova; Brittnay Joyner of Friendship; and Patrick Nugent, Linzie Tedford, Brittnay Thompson and Michael Gore, all of Memphis.

Dr. Robert Mancusi, assistant professor of music, and his children will also take part in the production.

Mancusi, who also serves as the stage director, will direct the production. Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of music, will direct the music. Dr. Scott Roberts, associate professor of music, will provide the accompaniment.

Admission for adults is $5. Students with UT Martin ID and children younger than age 12 will be admitted free.

Faculty featured in recital

Solo works and duets will feature the use of delay pedal marimba, paint sticku sticks on vibraphone, two drum sets, multiple snare drums, crazy sound effects and marimbas and pan- deiros.

The recital is free and open to the public.

For more information about the event, contact Hill at (731) 881-7418.

Exhibition includes two local students

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts and the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt are presenting this year’s Artists of the 21st Century competitive exhibition of college artists from the southern states.

Artists chosen are from Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee and Virginia.

This year’s juror is Troy Cornette, a glass artist and educator from the West Tennessee area. Cornette selected 28 works of art from 25 artists that will be on display in the exhibition ranging from painting to photography and various three-dimensional media. Fifty-three artists from eight states submitted works for the competition that is in its eighth year.

UT Martin had 10 student artists selected for the competition. Among them are Angie Hinjosa and Jeremy “James” Bell, both of Union City.

The exhibition will run from Wednesday through April 24, with the opening reception to kick off from 5-7 p.m. Thursday at the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt. Awards will be announced at about 6:30 p.m.

The West Tennessee Regional Art Center is located at 1200 Main St. in Humboldt and is open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. For more information, contact director Bill Hickerson at (731) 784-1787.

Parisian honored

Colin Paschall (right) of Paris was recently awarded the Emerging Leader Award during the Greek Awards for 2009 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Emerging Leader Award recognizes students who have already begun to excel and become true leaders on campus, in their fraternity or sorority, and in the community. Pictured with Paschall is Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs.
UT Martin to host lecture by scientist

Dr. Robert M. Hazen, one of the most versatile scientists active today, will speak in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

His lecture title is “Genesis: The Scientific Quest for Life’s Origins.”

In addition to being part of the Academic Speakers Series, sponsored by UT Martin Honors Programs, Hazen will also appear as a Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer.

After earning his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in earth science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Hazen completed his doctorate in mineralogy and crystallography at Harvard University. He received a NATO Postdoctoral Fellowship at Cambridge University in England before returning to the United States and beginning his association with the Carnegie Institution in 1978. Since 1989, he has held joint appointments with the Carnegie Institution and as Clarence Robinson Professor of Earth Science at George Mason University.

Hazen is the author of more than 20 books and more than 350 articles on science, history and music. His works demonstrate an ability to speak to both scholars and the general public. His scholarly works include “Comparative Crystal Chemistry” (1982) and “High-Temperature and High-Pressure Crystal Chemistry” (2000).

Some of his books directed to the general audience include “The Breakthrough: The Race for the Supercomputer” (1988); “Why Aren’t Black Holes Black: Unanswered Questions at the Frontiers of Science” (1998); “Science Matters: Achieving Scientific Literacy” (1991), which sold more than 200,000 copies and has been translated into a dozen languages; and, most recently, “Genesis: The Scientific Quest for Life’s Origins” (2005).

Hazen is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and is a former president of the Mineralogical Society of America (2004-05). He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Mineralogical Society of America Award (1982), the American Chemical Society Ipatieff Prize (1986), the Educational Press Association Award (1992) and the Elizabeth Wood Science Writing Award (1998). In addition, he sits on several boards and committees, many of which strive to expand the scientific knowledge of Americans, including NOVA, Encyclopaedia Americana and the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Revising Science and Creationism.

In addition to his work in the sciences, Hazen is an accomplished professional trumpeter who has performed with numerous ensembles around the world, including the Metropolis, New York City, Boston and Washington operas, the Bolshoi and Kirov ballets, the Boston and National symphonies and the Orchestre de Paris. He has sat on the board of directors of the National Philharmonic Orchestra since 2003.

“Robert Hazen is truly a Renaissance Man, with great talent in a variety of areas. He is among the most prominent scientists in the United States today, one whose curiosity is evident from the wide variety of his interests,” said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director.

“We will explore the fruits of his latest work and examine the origins of life. As a member of the committee to revise the National Academy of Sciences standards on evolution, Dr. Hazen has played an important role in the area of evolution and creationism. His thoughts upon these matters should be both enlightening and provocative.”

ECCE April Photography II course slated

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is offering the second part of its digital photography class: Digital Photography Part II. This course will be from 6:30-9 p.m., April 7-28, on Tuesdays. Created for people with creative photography and advanced skills, this course is primarily designed as a follow-up to the Intro Part I course. However, it is open to anyone who is already thoroughly familiar with digital photography and understands the manual operation of his or her digital camera. Students will learn the more advanced capabilities of their equipment, as well as the creative use of filters, tripods, multiple lenses, flash photography, etc. Wildlife, landscape, flower and fine art, nighttime as well as general digital photography will also be covered. The registration fee is $75. A tripod is required for this class. This course will be limited to four evenings; each class is two and a half hours in length, either in the classroom or in the field. Plus, an extra half-day field trip on a weekend is usually scheduled when it is convenient with most of the class. The instructor, Dr. Tom Gallien, has more than 35 years of photographic experience including 10 years of digital camera use. To register, contact ECCE at 881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

Upcoming opera production

‘The Magic Flute’ set

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music presents one of the masterpieces of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. “The Magic Flute,” at 7:30 p.m., April 4 and 5, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. The cast features young talent from the Department of Music: Chris Buckner, of Ripley; Ginna Cherry, of Ripley; Matthew Cook, of Martin; Te’Rell Douglas, of Jackson; Josh Gatlin, of Union City; Michael Gore, of Memphis; Aaron Hand, of Fairview; Erin Horton, of Murfreesboro; Sarah Jenkins, of Cordova; Britney Joyner, of Friendship; Kimberly Kraft, of Martin; Karen Langdon, of Jackson; Patrick Nugent, of Memphis; Linzie Tedford, of Memphis; Brittany Thompson, of Memphis; and Mikayla Thrash, of Ripley. Dr. Robert Mancusi, assistant professor of music, and his children will also take part in the production. Mancusi, who also serves as the stage director, directs the production. Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of music, directs the music for this production. Dr. Scott Roberts, associate professor of music, will provide the accompaniment. Admission for adults is $5. Students with UT Martin ID and children younger than 12 years old will be admitted free. For more information, contact the Department of Music at 881-7402.
Partnership with Canadian university yields global benefits

During a four-day visit to the Midouth, Dr. Robert MacKinnon, vice president of the University of New Brunswick Saint John, met with UT Martin chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes and Dr. Paul Crapo, UT Martin Center for Global Studies director, to continue developing ties between their institutions.

Initially formed in 2005, to date this partnership has involved visits by official delegations to both campuses, a UT Martin travel-study program to Saint John, two faculty guest lecturers from UNB Saint John, and faculty exchanges between the Departments of English and Nursing. Future plans include semester-long student exchanges and expansion of departments participating in collaborative projects.

"I think the partnership with UT Martin has been tremendous for both our students and our faculty, as well as the institution," said MacKinnon. "To have that kind of exchange of ideas among partner institutions is really important. It opens up both campuses to a wider world. From a student’s point of view, to learn about the South and Tennessee ... through the eyes of your faculty on our campus — that has been fabulous."

Speaking about future research collaborations and travel-study opportunities, he added, "I think there are all kinds of potential advantages to the partnership."

Rakes stressed the importance of the relationship for UT Martin faculty and students, noting that Canada is the United States’ largest trading partner and that Tennessee and New Brunswick are participants in the recent Southeastern United States-Canada agreement which links states in the eastern U.S. with Canadian provinces.

MacKinnon credited Crapo with structuring the partnership with a strong foundation to endure inevitable changes on each campus. "Our partnership is now firmly grounded and set to grow and flourish in the years to come."

College artists compete

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts and the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt are proud to present this year’s Artists of the 21st Century competitive exhibition of college artists from the Southern states. Artists chosen are from Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee and Virginia. This year’s juror is Trey Cornette, a glass artist and educator from the West Tennessee area. Cornette selected 28 works of art from 25 artists that will be on display in the exhibition ranging from painting, photography and various three-dimensional media. Fifty-three artists from eight states submitted works for the competition that is in its eighth year. UT Martin had 10 student artists selected for the competition, including Martin residents David Frazier and Theresa Kimmy.

The exhibition will run from April 1-24, with the opening reception to kick off from 5-7 p.m., April 2, at the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt. Awards will be announced at approximately 6:30 p.m. The West Tennessee Regional Art Center is located at 1200 Main St. in Humboldt, and is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday to Friday. For more information, contact Bill Hickerson, WTRAC director, at (731) 784-1787.

Students’ chamber concert is April 7

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will present a concert of student chamber music at 7:30 p.m., April 7, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. The groups represented will include the trumpet ensemble, clarinet choir, saxophone quartet, brass quintet and horn choir. Admission is free, and the concert is open to the public. For more information, contact the Department of Music at 881-7402.

Jazz Ensemble to perform April 8

The University of Tennessee at Martin jazz ensemble will perform the end of the semester concert at 7:30 p.m., April 8, in Harriet Fulton Theater of the Fine Arts Building. The group will play original arrangements of the Count Basie, Duke Ellington and Stan Kenton big bands, as well as the music of Joe Henderson, Dizzy Gillespie and Lee Morgan. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Department of Music at 881-7402.

UT Martin percussion studio to perform chamber concert

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music percussion studio will perform chamber works at 7:30 p.m., April 2, in Recital Hall 142 of the Fine Arts Building. Works will include the music of Dr. Scott Roberts, associate professor of music, Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music, and the grand finale will feature virtuoso percussionist Dr. Dan Moore, vibraphone and electronic percussion specialist from the University of Iowa. This concert will be free and open to the public. For more information, contact Hill at 881-7403.
Free tax preparation offered by UTM students

The University of Tennessee at Martin student chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants will partner with the United Way of West Tennessee and the First State Bank of Sharon to sponsor a free federal income tax preparation/filing assistance session. This event will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., April 4, in the first floor computer lab, Room 124, in the Business Administration Building. Several UT Martin accounting majors, who have passed an IRS tax preparation certification program, and bank employees will perform this free tax preparation and filing service. The Department of Computer Science and Information Systems in the College of Business and Public Affairs will provide the facilities and technical support. This service is not intended for lengthy or complex tax returns. The primary clients targeted are students who need to file to get excess withholdings refunded and students and other persons who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit. No appointment is necessary. The service is provided on a first-come, first served basis. For more information, contact Dr. Ken VanVuren, UT Martin assistant professor of accounting, at 881-7397.

UTM track standout is new Fitness Director at Milan

By Steve Short

Tymikia Glenn found opportunities in sports.
Now she wants to help children in the Milan area find similar success.

Ms. Glenn is the new Fitness Director at the Milan Family YMCA. She is helping organize several programs being offered to the community, including a Pairing It Down weight loss contest, Healthy Kids Day, and a Junior Olympics competition set for April 25.

“My goal for this community and beyond is to make healthy living a lifestyle and not just something people do to lose weight,” she said.

“As Fitness Director I am responsible for the fitness center and the group exercise classes. I offer fitness assessments, evaluations and personalized exercise plans tailored to your fitness needs.”

A native of Memphis, Glenn said she turned to sports as an alternative to the street life that lures many children.

She excelled on the track team at Memphis Central High School, competing in several events, including the 100-meter and 400-meter hurdles and triple jump.

Earning a college athletic scholarship, Glenn attended the Univ. of Tenn. Martin and set numerous school records in women’s track. She said she currently owns 8 records in track and field at UTM, including the fastest time for females in the 60 meter hurdles and 60 meter dash indoors. She held the UTM record for 400 meter hurdles until recently.

She graduated from UTM with a B.S. in Health and Human Per-
NEW FITNESS DIRECTOR – Tymikia Glenn, a former track and field athlete at the Univ. of Tenn. Martin who owns eight school records, is the new Fitness Director at the Milan Family YMCA. She is helping organize several Y programs being offered to the community and non-YMCA members, including a Pairing It Down weight loss contest, Healthy Kids Day, and a Junior Olympics competition for children 8-13 set for April 25.

UT Martin to host piano lessons for busy people

UT Martin will host a piano class, Instant Piano for Hopelessly Busy People, on April 15, 6-9:30 p.m. It is a beginning class in chord piano where in one session, students will learn all the chords needed to play any pop song, any style, any key, reading chord symbols, not notes. They will also learn how to embellish songs using the secrets and magical shortcuts of professional piano players.

If students don’t know treble clef, they can send a SASE for a free pamphlet to Music Masters, 90 Molly Lane, Ringgold, GA 30736. To register, call (800) 482-5199.

Milan’s Smith receives Dean’s Scholarship

Five Gibson County residents, including one from Milan, have been awarded scholarships to the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2009-2010 academic year. Ross Smith, son of Lori Grimes and Tony Smith, both of Milan, will be a freshman. He received the Dean’s Scholarship.