Local WestStar alums attend Tennessee Soybean luncheon

Local alumni of the UT Martin WestStar Leadership Program attended the ninth Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival Barbecue Luncheon sponsored by Mayor Randy Brundige on Sept. 5 in Martin. Each year, Brundige invites WestStar alumni to attend the event and also visit the Tennessee Soybean Festival in downtown Martin. The luncheon is held at First State Bank. Pictured left to right from Weakley County are (front row) Jake Bynum, Melinda Goode, Lisha Tuck, Barbara Virgin and Carol Reed. In the back row are Bud Grimes, Bobby Goode, Andrew Hart, Jerry Brigance, Randy Hufstetler, John Bucy and Marvin Flatt.

UT Martin Fall Enrollment over 7,000

Fall semester enrollment has reached 7,042 students at the University of Tennessee at Martin, which includes students at the Martin campus and the university’s four centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley and McNairy County/Selmer.

Final enrollment is calculated after the 14th day of classes and is among several factors that determine funding for Tennessee public colleges and universities. Among positive numbers for the student body is a record average ACT score for the freshman class. Enrollment is down 5.1 percent from last year when 7,423 students attended the university in fall 2013. Factors affecting enrollment were the raising of admissions standards this fall and the loss of dual enrollment students in high schools where many are choosing to take these courses at community colleges. However, higher admissions standards contributed to the incoming freshman class holding the highest average ACT score in the university’s history at 22.8. Other positive enrollment numbers included a 10.1 percent increase in off-campus enrollment and a full-time online undergraduate enrollment increase of 16.5 percent.
Senator Gresham visits UTM Parsons Center

Senator Dolores Gresham visited students at the University of Tennessee at Martin Parsons Center enrolled in the Social Welfare Policy class instructed by Mrs. Amy McLean. Pictured above are Aren Ragsdale, Haley Mooney, Mrs. Amy McLean, Senator Dolores Gresham, Hannah Casteel, Amanda Browder and John Robertson.
Library is hosting annual fall festival on Saturday

The Ashland City Times  11:02 p.m. CDT October 1, 2014

The annual Fall Festival and Exploring Our Stories begin an active October at the Cheatham County Public Library.

Retired teachers and farmers will be featured at Exploring Our Stories, beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4.

Various speakers will share experiences in their life and Cheatham County, and University of Tennessee at Martin communications professor Dr. Arthur Hunt will portray Davy Crockett in a presentation based on Crockett's autobiography.

The Fall Festival will commence at noon.

A petting zoo, Scooter the dog, jump slide, face painting, golf cart train, pony rides, hay wagon rides, a fountain pen maker, Civil War re-enactors and so much more will be featured at the autumn event.

The Cheatham County Museum in the lower level of the library, as well as the Friends of the Library book sale room will also be open for visitors throughout the day. Free snacks and lemonade will be provided.

The monthly movie night will be Oct. 18. The feature presentation is the 2009 movie "Coraline."

"Coraline" is based on the 2002 novel by Neil Gaiman. It is a tale of an adventurous girl who discovers another world which is a strangely idealized version of her home. However, this other world holds sinister secrets.

Popcorn and juice drinks will be available to those who attend. The movie begins at 6 p.m. in the community room.

Thinking Thursdays, a new children's program for preschoolers, takes place each Thursday at 10 a.m.

Miss Shirley's Story Time also continues at 10 a.m. each Tuesday and Wednesday. A variety of activities will be offered to children who attend. Children may wear their Halloween costumes to Story Time on Oct. 28 and Oct. 29.

The Bookworms will discuss the historical novel "Moloka'i." The story is set in Hawaii a century ago. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion on Oct. 7 at 1 p.m. in the library board room.

Friends of the Library meet each third Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. This month's meeting is Oct. 21. Please contact the library for more information concerning membership.

On Saturday, Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. is the monthly Friends book sale in the lower level of the library. A wide variety of used books at reasonable prices are available for purchase.

The library will be closed for Columbus Day on Monday, Oct. 13. We will reopen on Oct. 14 at regular hours.

DVD's audio books, free WiFi and electronic books are also offered at the library. The genealogy room is open daily for research.

A monthly calendar is available at the front desk. For more information concerning the library, call 792-4828.

Walter Pitt is a library assistant at the Cheatham County Public Library in Ashland City.
The National FFA Organization has named Dr. James Butler, agricultural education professor at the University of Tennessee at Martin, a National VIP. The honor is the highest in the organization and recognizes Butler's significant contributions and dedication to FFA and agricultural education.

The FFA mission is to create a positive difference in the lives of students by developing leadership potential, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

"The VIP citation recognizes the dedicated individuals who contribute to the FFA mission of student success through their hard work and cooperation," said the National FFA Organization CEO Dwight Armstrong in a news release. "Without such strong and outstanding commitment, FFA would not be able to help build strong character in its members, who in turn build strong families, communities and industries."

Butler has a 25-year association with the National FFA Organization. During this time, he has served as a national proficiency judge and a national career development event judge. For the past 12 years, he has served as the co-coordinator for the national meats evaluation and technology career development event.

He has received the honorary state FFA degree and the Tennessee VIP Association VIP award. Butler has also served as a member of the career and technical education state staff in Tennessee and is a member of the Tennessee FFA Board of Directors and technical education state staff in Tennessee. Butler is the collegiate FFA board advisor and coordinates regional and state FFA career development events in livestock, equine and vet science.

'Davy Crockett' slated to visit library

An impersonator of Tennessee congressman and renowned deer hunter David Crockett will visit the Jackson-Madison County Library at noon Thursday, according to a news release.

University of Tennessee at Martin communications professor Dr. Arthur Hunt will portray the famous volunteer at the library in a presentation based on Crockett's departure to Texas, capturing the frontiersman's dress, voice and mannerisms.

"There are two Davy Crocketts," Hunt said in a news release. "The first one is the real Crockett who lived, married, hunted, politicked and died at the Alamo. The second Crockett is that of legend as reflected in theatrical productions, almanacs, books and films."

"Crockett's autobiography attempted to set the record straight," Hunt said, "while also advancing his political career in a possible U.S. presidential bid."

A portion of the autobiography is given to Crockett's bear-hunting adventures near what is now Reelfoot Lake. In one season alone, Crockett claims to have killed 58 bears in the area.

The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Jackson-Madison County Library and is open to the public.
They’ve got rhythm

Students from the University of Tennessee at Martin’s percussion ensemble play bongos and perform a traditional coming of age dance during a Tuesday presentation of “Roots of Rhythm” at the Krider Performing Arts Center. The program is directed by Julie Hill, associate professor of percussion at UTM, and celebrates the tradition and origins of percussion music. The group performed earlier in the day for students at Paris Elementary School.
Fall Preview Days scheduled at UTM

Fall Preview Days are set for October 4 and November 15 at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus. Current high school juniors and seniors are encouraged to attend with family members, but all students with an interest in UT Martin are welcome. Both Fall Preview Days include informational sessions, campus tours and academic fairs. Student organization representatives will also be on hand to discuss opportunities for campus involvement. The October 4 preview day will be held in the Boling University Center, while the November 15 event will be held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Register online at www.utm.edu and select “Register for Fall Preview Day” under the “Discover” menu. Additional information is also available by calling the Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020.

Humboldt Chronicle, Wednesday, October 1, 2014

UT Martin sets fall preview days for Oct. 4 and Nov. 15

Fall preview days are set for Oct. 4 and Nov. 15 at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus. Current high school juniors and seniors are encouraged to attend with family members, but all students with an interest in UT Martin are welcome. Both fall preview days include informational sessions, campus tours and academic fairs. Student organization representatives will also be on hand to discuss opportunities for campus involvement. The Oct. 4 preview day will be held in the Boling University Center, while the Nov. 15 event will be held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

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Ryan Thomas is a new English teacher and head softball coach at Humboldt High School. Originally from Henry, Tenn., he now resides in Paris. He graduated from Henry County High School in 1998. In 2002 he obtained his bachelor’s degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He is currently pursuing his master’s degree at Murray State University.

Thomas said his goals as a teacher in Humboldt are to prepare the students to be successful in life by stressing critical thinking skills and citing evidence. He wants the students to be prepared to be a contributing member of society which includes the ability to think and to express ideas in a peaceful way.

Mrs. Montgomery, his high school English teacher was his inspiration to teach. The biggest challenge he sees this year is to rid the students of the stigma that reading and writing are not skills that will be needed later in life.
UTM awarded equipment to benefit post-9/11 vets

Post-9/11 veterans will benefit from new technology provided to the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The university received a laptop computer, complete with Microsoft Office software and a Jabra voice headset made possible from an award through Syracuse University.

The award also includes access to free courses toward industrial certification for any post-9/11 veterans, not just those currently enrolled at UT Martin.

The Veterans Career Transition Program is operated under a grant to Syracuse University's Institute for Veterans and Military Families. The program is delivered entirely online at no cost to veterans or spouses.

The award to UT Martin, which is part of the Veterans Career Transition Program, has been opened to non-students and their families and includes various courses from business to human relations and many others. A complete list of courses offered can be found at http://vets.syr.edu/employment/vctp-learning-paths/.

The computer and headset are located in Clement Hall, accessible through the Student Services and Success Mentoring Center. Registration is open for seminars launching in January 2015. Those interested may apply at http://vets.syr.edu/VCTPlaptopUserApp or email Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls at accarls@utm.edu.

Phi Kappa Phi earns recognition

The Phi Kappa Phi Chapter at the University of Tennessee at Martin has been named a 2013-14 Chapter of Excellence, the highest chapter award recognized by the National Honor Society.

Chapter awards were presented at the 2014 Phi Kappa Phi Biennial Convention held last month in St. Louis.

Only 27 chapters out of more than 300 across the United States earned this honor. A chapter must meet high standards set by the association in areas such as officer training, awards, campus events, service projects, membership, publicity, communications and grant applications to become a Chapter of Excellence.

Dr. Chris Hill, chapter secretary and associate professor of English, accepted the award at the convention. Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, was chapter president for 2013-14 and Dr. Stephanie Kolitsch, professor of mathematics, is chapter president for 2014-15.

The UT Martin chapter was founded in 1971 and is the society's 127th chapter. To foster outstanding scholarship, the chapter annually sponsors two faculty lectures, honors outstanding freshmen and sophomores with certificates of recognition and presents a Phi Kappa Phi scholarship award to the top senior. The chapter also nominates one student for a national Phi Kappa Phi graduate fellowship.

Physics associate professor to present lecture on Oct. 7

Dr. Lionel Crews, associate professor of physics and director of Honors Programs at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will present the faculty lecture at the Phi Kappa Phi Fall Recognition Ceremony at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

The event will be held in Watkins Auditorium, located in the Boling University Center.

His talk will be titled, "Where Are We Going and Where We Have Been." The public is invited and there is no charge.

UT Martin's Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 127 was founded in 1971. PKP honors students, faculty and staff who have reached high levels of academic success. The organization is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

This event honors freshmen and sophomores who excel academically, and students will be recognized before peers, guests and PKP members.

Crews holds three degrees from Vanderbilt University in Nashville and came to UT Martin in 2000. He was appointed Honors Programs director in 2011 and mentors five University Scholar projects ranging from astronomy research to a science fiction novel.

Crews is also associate curator at the Pink Palace Museum system in Memphis and is the science committee chair for Discovery Park of America in Union City. He has participated in several grant programs with middle school teachers to improve middle school science education.

He is currently faculty adviser to the Tennessee Earth Science Teachers Association.

More information about UT Martin's Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 127 is available online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/pkp/. 
He said the architect, Memphis-based Fleming Associates, is now responsible for modifying the project, and Freire said the whole project needs to cost somewhere around $6.5 million. Once changes are made to the plan, it will be resubmitted for construction bids.

One possibility for saving money involves incorporating the new press box building into the current West grandstand instead of tearing down the grandstand and building an entirely new one (as was originally planned). The University of Tennessee system has hired a contractor to work with Fleming to keep costs low.

Freire promised the project will happen and he's confident it will be done without any further delays, though he said he's "almost embarrassed" to have to push the timeline back.

"I can recognize criticism toward that, and skepticism," Freire said Wednesday by phone. He said he feels bad for the stakeholders, most notably football coach Jason Simpson and the football team but also fans who have donated to the project and students who will eventually use the new structure's space.

Freire said fundraising continues for the project. That money will go along with money generated from football road games against larger Football Bowl Subdivision schools to pay for the project's completion.

Freire said the football stadium in its current form, much of which hasn't changed in over four decades, does not meet the school's needs and so it must be improved.

"This is still going to happen," he said.
Applications are being accepted for UTM Leadership

Applications are being accepted to participate in UT Martin's WestStar Leadership Program. The program is the largest and oldest regional leadership development program in Tennessee and serves the 21 counties of West Tennessee. The program has produced 710 graduates in its 25-year history.

For application and additional information, contact WestStar at 731-881-7298 or online at www.utm.edu. The application deadline is Oct. 15. Anyone can apply to participate in the program, and nominations are accepted but not required. Class members will be competitively selected to participate in the 2015 program.

The WestStar program consists of eight specially designed seminar programs addressing contemporary major issues important to West Tennessee's development. Each seminar takes place over one-and-a-half days. The program begins Dec. 11 with an opening one-day retreat and ends June 18, 2015, with an evening graduation ceremony.

The WestStar mission is to identify, encourage and equip community-minded people who want to become more involved, want to help West Tennessee become a better place and are willing to accept assertive and dynamic leadership roles.

Participants learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Participants also become part of a growing network of other leaders who, through mutual support and assistance, shape West Tennessee's future.

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A teen summit, "Breaking the Chains" will meet from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, October 18th, at the University of Tennessee at Martin, Ripley Campus, 315 S. Washington St. Participants, ages 12-18, will learn about bullying, texting, respect, healthy eating, social media, self-esteem and positive actions unifying students everywhere.

The program is sponsored by Xi Lambda Omega and Zeta Lambda Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated and Dyersburg District United Methodist Women.
MONITORING THE WEATHER —
The UT Martin Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources was recently recognized for 75 years of service to the National Weather Service Cooperative Observer Program. Program volunteers take daily weather observations and send these observations to the National Weather Service and the National Climate Data Center. The Coop site is also the official climate site for Martin. Coop representatives were on campus Sept. 18 when they spoke to a synoptic meteorology class and later presented a plaque recognizing the 75 years of service. Pictured are Dr. Chris Karmosky, assistant professor of meteorology; Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, chair, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Todd Winters, dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Jim Belles, meteorologist-in-charge, Memphis National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office; Dr. Mark Simpson, professor of geography; and Zwemer Ingram, data acquisition program manager, Memphis National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office. Not pictured is Zach Maye, meteorological intern with the Memphis forecast office, who spoke to the UT Martin class about El Nino and the Southern Oscillation and also provided the current forecast for the upcoming winter season.
Physics faculty member to present Phi Kappa Phi lecture on Tuesday

Dr. Lionel Crews, associate professor of physics and director of Honors Programs at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will present the faculty lecture at the Phi Kappa Phi Fall Recognition Ceremony at 7 p.m. Oct. 7 in Watkins Auditorium, located in the Boling University Center. His talk is titled "Where Are We Going and Where We Have Been." The public is invited, and there is no admission charge.

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Price tag forces change of plans for UT Martin football stadium

A price tag much higher than expected will most likely result in a much different look to the facelift project for UT Martin’s Hardy M. Graham Stadium, the university announced Wednesday afternoon.

After discovering that the lowest of the bids from contractors was $2.5 million over the project’s estimated costs, the architect, UTM administrators are now going back to the drawing board.

“When we went together and opened all the bids, the lowest was $2.5 million over, or 50 percent over,” UTM athletic director Julio Freire said. “The architect gives estimates along the way at the three mile markers (design, schematic and design/development), and all three were consistent with what we had been told, so we were shocked when we got to the bid opening day, just shocked.”

Freire said the architect is now responsible for evaluating all phases of the project and determining areas to save money, then redesigning the project at his own expense to fit the original price of $5 million.

Also, by working closely with the university, the designer can’t cut 50 percent of the project’s cost by simply slicing the design in half.

“What you don’t want to happen is him coming back and saying, ‘OK, it’s really simple, folks. You wanted a 20,000 square foot building. Let’s make it 50 percent smaller, and here’s your 10,000 square foot building.’ You don’t want that, obviously. So, he has to work with us, the client, and look at all aspects.”

Construction is now expected to begin after the fall 2015 season once revised and approved plans are in place. The new look might wind up being similar to the current one.

In addition to providing a four-story structure accommodating media, concessions, hospitality, visitor and officials’ locker room, and hospitality and food service management classroom space, the project design included a complete replacement of the current bleacher structure and seating that would be integrated with the new press box structure on the stadium’s west side.

One of the areas where UT Martin is working with designers on creative solutions to reduce the project costs while still achieving the primary goals of the project and maintaining the original four-story concept is the concrete seating structure.

“The main thing we’re looking at here is the grandstand,” Freire said. “The grandstands were scheduled to come down in their entirety and new grandstands to be put up. They were not going to be concrete grandstands, and they weren’t going to be nearly as tall as these. So, a significant savings can occur if we leave the existing grandstands, refurbish them — for lack of a better term — and build this 20,000 square foot building behind them so it empties out into that row.”

This deviation from the original design approach offers a greater seating capacity, which allows the university to be responsive to those individuals who were concerned about the seating reduction.

“I have not noticed anything in the first three games that would indicate smaller seating capacity would be a bad thing,” Freire said, referring to the small attendance for the Skyhawks’ first three games of the 2014 season.

“But, in the defense of those people who say small is too small, I will say that I haven’t experienced a homecoming game at UTM. I haven’t experienced a Tennessee State band game at UTM and I haven’t experienced a game at UTM featuring two Top 20 teams. What I have seen is probably an unfair sampling of what really is there. If I’ve been impressed by anything, it’s been some re-energized student fans.”

Freire pointed out that the seating area will not be the only thing looked at when evaluating cost-cutting measures.

“There’s not a single part of this building or single floor that’s not going to be impacted,” Freire said.

“In the end, we’re going to end up achieving the goals we were looking for — an updated, state-of-the-art facility, 20,000 square foot, four-story press box with the grandstands in place. There will be some seating impacted, but nearly what it would have been.”

The AD indicated any concerns about the current concrete stability have already been addressed, noting that the facility has passed a structural engineering evaluation.

The project was originally approved by the UT Board of Trustees at its June meeting in Knoxville and continues to have full support of UT Martin’s administration.

UTM’s remaining home games this season are Oct. 9 against Tennessee Tech and the homecoming game Oct. 25 against Austin Peay.

DAVY CROCKETT IMPERSONATOR
BRINGS WOODSMAN TO LIFE

By Nathan Handley
contactus@jacksonsun.com

Arthur Hunt, a Davy Crockett impersonator, brought the famous Tennessee congressman and woodsman to life Thursday at the Jackson-Madison County Library.

Hunt, a communications professor at the University of Tennessee at Martin, performed as Crockett in an event sponsored by the Friends of the Jackson-Madison County Library. Hunt gave a half-hour presentation as Crockett and took questions from the audience.

“I picked up on the manner and the idioms of Davy Crockett from his autobiography,” Hunt said. “I've crafted my own version that may be different from what you've seen before.”

Hunt said he has been impersonating Crockett for about a year. He said he was inspired to do it after he read the book “Crockett of Tennessee.”

“I was at my dad's house ... and I couldn’t sleep,” Hunt said. “I picked up a copy of the book, and the idea struck me.”

Hunt then wrote a half-hour monologue. “This is Crockett at around 50 years old,” Hunt said. “He's about to go to Texas (and die at the Alamo), and he's explaining himself and telling his story.”

Hunt dressed like Crockett, wearing buckskin and a raccoon-skin cap and carrying a tomahawk and musket. He told stories from Crockett's life in Tennessee, including his childhood years, his experiences in Congress and his adventures hunting bear near Reelfoot Lake.

Hunt said he usually does about two events per month, while continuing full-time work as a speech professor at UT Martin.

Perry Burrows, president of the Friends of the Jackson-Madison County Library, said the group is made up of different individuals who are invested in the Jackson and Madison County community.

“We are all about bringing diverse talent here to the library, be it literary or something more like this,” Burrows said.

The group hosts an event the first Thursday of each month. They have events planned through May, Burrows said. The programs are free and open to the public.
Arthur Hunt performs as historical congressman and woodsman Davy Crockett at the Jackson-Madison County Library.
UT Martin honored for 75 years of weather service

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources has been recognized for 75 years of service to the National Weather Service Cooperative Observer Program. Volunteers take daily weather observations and send them to the National Weather Service and the National Climate Data Center. The co-op site is also the official climate site for Martin. Co-op representatives were on campus Sept. 18 when they spoke to a synoptic meteorology class and presented a plaque recognizing the 75 years of service. Pictured are Dr. Chris Karmesky, assistant professor of meteorology; Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, chairman of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; Dr. Todd Winters, dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Jim Belles, meteorologist-in-charge at the Memphis National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office; Dr. Mark Simpson, professor of geography; and Zvener Ingram, data acquisition program manager at the Memphis National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office. Not pictured is Zach Maye, meteorological intern with the Memphis forecast office, who spoke to the UT Martin class about El Nino and the Southern Oscillation and provided the current forecast for the upcoming winter.

http://www.thunderboltradio.com/

Science Bowl at UT-Martin

Posted on October 2, 2014 by Charles Choate in Local News

High schools in the area are invited to send teams to the 2014 Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee-Martin.

Competition will begin with a written test of 25 questions covering biology, chemistry and general science.

Eight schools will then be chosen for the Science Bowl competition based on the average total score of their top two highest scoring students.

Competition rules will be based on the classic television quiz show, "The G.E. College Bowl", which ran from 1958 thru 1970.

Registration for the school's is free, with a deadline set for October 20th.

Trophies and medallions will be presented to the winning teams and participants.
AG-BASED TOUR — Shane Joyner, live production manager for Tyson Foods in Union City and a University of Tennessee at Martin Natural Resources Management alumus, answered questions from attendees of the Non-land-grant Agriculture and Renewable Resources Universities annual meeting being held at UTM this week. Tennessee Farm Bureau sponsored a tour of local agricultural and agribusiness locations on Monday, including UT Martin Farms in Martin, Tyson Foods in Union City, Green Plains Renewable Energy near Rives, White Squirrel Winery in Kenton, Full Throttle Distillery in Trimble and Blue Bank Resort at Reelfoot Lake.

UTM hosting ag and renewable resources meeting

The University of Tennessee at Martin is hosting the national annual meeting of the Non-land-grant Agriculture and Renewable Resources Universities this week.

Around 40 deans, directors and department chairmen from non-land-grant colleges of agriculture from across the country have gathered this week for their annual meeting.

Registration was held on Sunday and was followed by a tour of local agricultural and agribusiness locations on Monday. Tennessee Farm Bureau sponsored the tour part of their meeting. Farm Bureau representatives worked with Dr. Todd Winters, dean of College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences at UT Martin, to coordinate and plan the various stops. They included:

- UT Martin Farms in Martin — The 640-acre UT Martin Field Laboratories, better known as the "Farms," highlighted its Rhodes Golf/ Turf Center and its Unmanned Aerial Vehicle program. In addition, information was provided about soybean production in West Tennessee and on the remainder of the farm.
- Tyson Foods in Union City — The visit consisted of a tour of the hatchery and processing plant that produces products for McDonald's. Tyson hosted lunch for the tour group.
- Green Plains Renewable Energy near Rives — Green Plains is a vertically-integrated ethanol producer based in Omaha. They currently have an ethanol production capacity of approximately 1.0 billion gallons per year with 12 plants located across the Midwest/Mid-south. Former UTM Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean Jim Byford was instrumental in establishing the local plant.
- White Squirrel Winery in Kenton — Sanderson Family Farm grows 21 acres of grapes for rich, flavorful wines on its 90-acre farm and vineyard in the rolling hills of northwest Tennessee.
- Full Throttle Distillery in Trimble — Michael Ballard of TruTV's reality show "Full Throttle Saloon" recently opened a distillery in his hometown of Trimble, producing "S’loonshine." 
- Blue Bank Resort at Reelfoot Lake — Reelfoot Lake is a shallow natural lake formed during the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-12 when the Mississippi River reversed course

(See Page 2, Col. 5)
UTM...

(Continued from Page 1) and flooded the area. The lake is noted for its bald cypress trees, bald eagles, fisheries and other birds and wildlife. It provides a wonderful field laboratory for the UTM Natural Resources Management program. A southern style dinner was served at the Blue Bank Resort.

Attendees were to be in session at UTM’s Boling University Center today, starting with a NARRU board meeting this morning and followed by a welcome from Winters and Dr. Jerald Ogg, UT Martin vice chancellor of academic affairs and provost.

“The Role and Responsibility of NARRU Institutions in Technology Transfer and Societal Acceptance” was to be moderated by Dr. Don Topliff, president-elect of NARRU. Panel members were to include Dr. Bob Montgomery of Monsanto; state Rep. Andy Holt, Tennessee House Agricultural Committee vice chairman and a diversified farmer; and Gen. John “Glad” Castellaw of Crockett Policy Institute and FarmSpace Systems. Castellaw was to also serve as a special speaker before an awards presentation ceremony.

Williams Sausage, located near Woodland Mills, sponsored lunch for the meeting, which was to be followed by information provided by Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy, director of National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

NLGCA project updates were to be given with Winters, legislative affairs chairman for NARRU, serving as the moderator. Panel members were to include Jason Evans of SUNY-Cobleskill, Steven Green of Arkansas State, Gary Webb of Missouri State, Craig Smith of Fort Hays State and Tony Brannon of Murray State.

New officers and board members were to be elected this afternoon and a board of directors meeting was to be held prior to a banquet this evening. Sponsoring the banquet were Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board, H&R Agripower, Farm Credit Mid-America and Syngenta.

Additional board of directors and business meetings and liaison and committee reports are scheduled for Wednesday. A box lunch, sponsored by Farm Credit MidAmerica, is to be served when the annual meeting adjourns at noon.
HELPING HANDS — The UT Martin Faculty Women's Club presented checks of support to area non-profit organizations during its 77th annual Get Acquainted Tea at the Dunnagan Alumni Center. The club annually provides academic scholarships, supports community non-profit organizations and participates in several university activities throughout the year. Attending the event and accepting checks were (back row, from left) Jake Bynum, Weakley County mayor, representing Reading Railroad and the Weakley County Back Pack Program; Dr. John Schommer, UT Martin professor of mathematics, Habitat for Humanity; Pam McElhaney, Carl Perkins Center for Child Abuse; and Doug Clark, St. John's Community Center; (front) Roberta Peacock, CE Weldon Public Library, and Betty Baker, We Care Ministries.
Local Group Tours UT Martin Parsons Center

By: Richard Rucker, Chairman Higher Education Committee

Members of the Fayette County Higher Education Executive Committee and Advisory Board, along with other local supporters of the effort to bring post-secondary education into Fayette County, traveled to the UT Martin Parsons Center last week for a special tour and luncheon hosted by State Senator Dolores Gresham.

The UT Martin Parsons Center Director, Kelli Deere, presented an action-filled tour complete with testimonies from current students at the rural facility who gave their heart-felt stories of how their lives have been changed by the availability of post-secondary instruction inside their home community.

Local civic leaders were present also, and enlightened everyone with how they were able to unite the citizens of rural Decatur County as they realized their dream of providing a local higher education facility that has increased the education level of the county and encouraged many citizens to complete their education process and live their lives within their home community.

Representatives of TLM Architects of Jackson, Tennessee participated in the tour and talked with the Fayette County contingency about the process needed to complete design and construction of the proposed higher education facility in Fayette County. TLM Architects designed the Parsons facility and have been retained to design and oversee construction of the Fayette County Higher Education Center.

UT Martin Executive Director of Extended Campus and Online Studies Dr. Tommy Cates, along with UT Martin Assistant Vice Chancellor Charley Deal, led discussions concerning curricula that are expected to be provided locally and the process of obtaining funding for construction of the local facility. They explained how UT Martin Parsons Center started as a 20,000 square foot facility and recently expanded to a 30,000 square foot facility due to the demand for a local source for post-secondary education in predominantly rural Decatur County.

The tour and presentations enabled the attendees to return to Fayette County with a renewed vigor and excitement as plans continue to develop toward the goal of providing post-secondary educational opportunities within Fayette County. Interested citizens are encouraged to monitor progress of the Executive Committee and Advisory Board through the website www.educating-fayette.com.
Students invited to enter UTM Science Bowl

High schools are invited to send teams to the 2014 Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin, sponsored by the university's award-winning Student Members of the American Chemical Society chapter. Teams can register by e-mail at SMACS@utm.edu or by calling 731-881-7450. Registration is free, and the deadline is Oct. 20.

Competition begins with a written test covering biology, chemistry and general science. The written test will have 25 questions from each of the three categories. There is no limit on the number of student entries from each school.

Eight schools will then be chosen from the written test for the afternoon bowl competition. Selection is based on comparing the average total score of two of each school's highest-scoring students. Competition rules are similar to "The G.E. College Bowl," a classic TV quiz show that originally aired from 1958-70.

Prizes include trophies for champion and runner-up schools and gold, silver and bronze medallions for all team members. Each participating school will receive a copy of The Merck Index, an internationally recognized handbook of chemical, pharmaceutical and biomedical information.

WestStar applications due Oct. 15

Application deadline for the UT Martin WestStar Leadership Program is October 15. The program is the largest and oldest regional leadership development program in Tennessee and serves the 21 counties of West Tennessee. The program has produced 710 graduates in its 25-year history.

For application and additional information, contact WestStar at 731-881-7298 or online at www.utm.edu.

Anyone can apply to participate in the program, and nominations are accepted but not required.

Class members will be competitively selected to participate in the 2015 program.
Summer getaway awesome experience

BY TREY JONES

What is Round Up all about? It is a weeklong summer retreat which is held every year at either the University of Tennessee at Martin or at Knoxville. This year it was held at UT Martin and it was a really awesome experience.

We got to stay on campus in the dorms, attend two dances, a pool party and two banquets. Round Up is open to any All-Star members and any project portfolio finalist in any project that 4-H offers.

This was my first year to attend Round Up. I was chosen as a finalist with my plant science portfolio. I had to wear a suit and go on an interview with a panel of four judges. They are very knowledgeable and you have to know you're what you're talking about.

I was honored to win first place in the state competition. I received a $500 college scholarship to any UT college. I also won first place with my tobacco display board, which is a $25 award.

During Round Up, the new state office elections are held. It was cool listening to their campaign speeches and voting for them. Another fun activity we got to do was attend the Discovery Park of America in Union City. It was also a good experience getting to tour the UT Martin campus. We had the opportunity to speak with teachers in each career choice offered there.

Trey Jones shows off his first-place prize for his tobacco display board at this year’s 4-H Roundup.

Round Up was an awesome experience and has provided me a better understanding of how 4-H works. I highly recommend it to all 4-H members.
College ag directors from around country tour area businesses at national meeting

KELLY CAMPBELL
kcampbell@stategazette.com

The University of Tennessee at Martin was selected to host this year's National Annual Meeting of the Non-land-grant Agricultural and Renewable Resources Universities (NARRU). Deans of agriculture, directors and department chairs from colleges and universities spanning from California, Texas, Arkansas, Illinois, Wisconsin, Alabama, Missouri and Tennessee gathered together to experience an informative and hands-on approach to the agribusinesses of Northwest Tennessee. The Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation sponsored a West Tennessee Agribusiness Tour as a part of the annual meeting.

Throughout the two-day meeting a majority of the information was presented on the campus of the university. As a part of the event, the coordinators of the meeting, Dr. Todd Winters, dean of the College of Agriculture and...
Continued from Page 1

Applied Sciences at UTM, and Matt Fennel, Tennessee Farm Bureau regional manager wanted to give the visitors a hands-on tour of the specialized agribusinesses and agriculture in West Tennessee. Several stops along the tour included the UT Martin Farms, Tyson Foods located in Union City, and Green Plains Renewable Energy located in Rives. The tour ventured a little closer to home with visits to Sanderson Family Farms in Kenton, Tenn. and Full Throttle Distillery in Trimble, Tenn.

Sanderson Family Farms includes peach trees, blackberries and an 18-acre vineyard with nine varieties of grapes producing 120,000 pounds for wine and jam manufacturing. The White Squirrel Winery is a part of the farm and recently celebrated its grand opening.

State Rep. Bill Sanderson owns the farm with his wife Marjie and they were on hand for the NARRU tour group to answer any questions that were presented. Samples of the White Squirrel Wine were also offered to the group. Sanderson Family Farm was one of the first vineyards in the state of Tennessee to use vertical shoot positioning trellising. The upright growth produces a more manicured hedge-style formation of the plants while giving easy access to the ground surrounding the stem base. This allows easy access to the base of the plant in order to eliminate weeds and prevent overexposure to heavy chemical use. The trellising style also exposes the fruit to more sunlight.

The “Green Hoe” cultivation implement used on the Sanderson Family Farm in the vineyard is also a Tennessee exclusive. Allowing cultivation under the trellis removes weeds while eliminating the use of harsh herbicides and toxins.

“We want to be responsible stewards of our earth. We recycle our used wine bottles by cutting off the top and hand-pouring soy candles with wood wicks. My wife Marjie, the artist, does the graphics for all of our labels,” said Sanderson.

Another stop along the tour was the Full Throttle Distillery in Trimble. Earlier this year, Michael Ballard opened the distillery and put the small town “back on the map.” Ballard’s chemist, Paul Higgs, originally from New Zealand and an alumnus of UT Martin introduced the crowd to the process of making “s’looonshine.” Higgs also explained how Ballard selected the small town as the location of his business and how the rebirth of the small town is on the horizon.

At the conclusion of the tour day, the NARRU group enjoyed a Southern-style meal at Blue Bank Resort in Tiptonville.
High schools invited to Science Bowl

High schools are invited to send teams to the 2014 Science Bowl on Nov. 8 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event is sponsored by the university's award-winning Student Members of the American Chemical Society chapter.

Teams can register by email at SMACS@utm.edu or by calling (731) 881-7450 or 881-7454. Science Bowl registration is free and the deadline is Oct. 20.

Competition begins with a written test covering biology, chemistry and general science. The written test will have 25 questions from each of the three categories. There is no limit on the number of student entries from each school.

Eight schools will then be chosen from the written test for the afternoon bowl competition. Selection is based on comparing the average total score of two of each school's highest-scoring students. Competition rules are similar to "The G.E. College Bowl," a classic TV quiz show that originally aired from 1958-70.

Prizes include trophies for champion and runner-up schools and gold, silver and bronze medallions for all team members.

Plus, each participating school will receive a copy of The Merck Index, an internationally recognized handbook of chemical, pharmaceutical and biomedical information. The Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society and Merck & Co. Inc. provide the handbook copies.

Science Bowl rules can be found online at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skaree/saacs/scibowlrules.html, and information from past Science Bowls can be found online at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skaree/scibowl/.

Yoga classes set for ADHD children

The University of Tennessee at Martin is now offering yoga classes for children suffering from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The classes begin Oct. 28 from 4-5 p.m. on the UT Martin campus and will continue Tuesdays through Dec. 2.

Several preliminary medical studies have found that the practice of yoga can reduce the symptoms of hyperactivity in children diagnosed with ADHD.

This playful and supportive class is geared toward 6- to 10-year-old children. Active children without a proper diagnosis of ADHD or ADD are also welcome to take this class. Students should bring yoga mats.

Instructor Kate Healy, director of Martin Yoga LLC, will be the instructor. The class is $60 per child.

For more information or to register, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php or call the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082.
UTM stadium upgrade postponed until 2015

UTM Sports Information

A facelift project for Hardy M. Graham Stadium at the UT Martin is being delayed one year from this fall to address higher-than-expected bid costs for the project.

The project was originally approved by the UT Board of Trustees at its June meeting in Knoxville and continues to have full support of UT Martin's administration.

Construction is expected to begin after the fall 2015 season once revised and approved plans are in place.

The renovation project was designed to provide a four-story structure accommodating media, concessions, hospitality, visitor and officials' locker room, and hospitality and food service management classroom space.

The project design also included a complete replacement of the current bleacher structure and seating that would be integrated with the new press box structure on the stadium's west side.

Construction bids received for the project in late August were above the university bid target by approximately $2.5 million.

In response, UT Martin is now working with designers on creative solutions to reduce the project costs while still achieving the primary goals of the project and maintaining the original four-story concept.

The most significant cost-saving measure being evaluated is to maintain the current bleachers with some modifications and upgrades.

This deviation from the original design approach offers a greater seating capacity, which allows the university to be responsive to those individuals who were concerned about the seating reduction.

Skyhawk head football coach Jason Simpson and athletics director Julio Freire both expressed disappointment in the delay but recognize the financial situation and support the plans to move forward.

Chancellor Tom Rakes also stated his disappointment with the circumstances but supports the process moving forward in a reasoned and strategic manner.

The new timeline will also accommodate continued fundraising opportunities, and officials believe that Skyhawk football fans and those interested in the addition of new academic program offerings will be pleased with the revised plan.

The Camden Chronicle, Camden, TN 38320, Thursday, October 9, 2014

UTM holds Preview Day

STUDENTS ATTENDS FALL PREVIEW DAY
OCT. 4 AT UT MARTIN - Breydon Horton, left, and Cobey Abbott, of Camden, attended Fall Preview Day, Saturday, Oct. 4, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. A campus tour and an academic fair were offered, along with the opportunity to meet representatives from student organizations. The second and final Fall Preview Day begins at 9 a.m., Nov. 15, in the university's Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Students interested in attending UT Martin can register at www.utm.edu or call the Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020.
Speaker to discuss electronic recycling

Dr. Eric Harris will discuss “The Rise of Electronics Recycling in the U.S. – the business, the politics and key challenges for a maturing market” at 7:30 p.m. today (Thursday) as the first presenter in the 2014-15 Academic Speakers Series at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The presentation is free and open to the public and will be held in Watkins Auditorium, located in the Boling University Center.

The Academic Speakers Series annually brings top speakers to UT Martin to meet with the university’s Honors Programs students and to offer presentations that are open to the public. Honors Programs and other university organizations sponsor the series.

“The issue of recycling is one that may seem relatively simple to many people,” said Dr. Lionel Crews, Honors Programs director. “However, there are many issues surrounding the topic, such as the politics involved and the constantly growing need for high-tech electronics that are relatively unknown but yet still important to our future.

“Honors Programs is pleased to have Dr. Harris visit UT Martin to give us an insider’s view.”

Harris is the associate counsel and director of government and international affairs at the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries. He develops and advocates recycling policy for international, federal and state levels of government. Harris received his law degree from the University of Montana and his master of laws in international environmental law from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc., headquartered in Washington, D.C., is considered the “voice of the recycling industry.” ISIR represents more than 1,700 companies in 21 chapters nationwide that process, broker and consume scrap commodities, including metals, paper, plastics, glass, rubber, electronics and textiles.

http://www.wbbjtv.com/

UT Martin named a national best buy

By WBBJ 7 Eyewitness News Staff
By news@wbbjtv.com
Story Created: Oct 10, 2014 at 6:26 PM CDT
Story Updated: Oct 10, 2014 at 9:26 PM CDT

MARTIN, Tenn. -- For the 9th consecutive year, the University of Tennessee at Martin is listed as one of the best buys in the country.

UTM is one of three public Tennessee higher education institutions that made the list of “America’s 100 Best College Buys,” compiled by Institutional Research and Evaluation.

To qualify, a school must be a four-year, accredited institution and the entering freshman class must have a high school GPA or SAT/ACT score equal to or above the national average.

WestStar Leadership Program accepting applications until Wednesday

Applications are being accepted through Wednesday to participate in UT Martin’s WestStar Leadership Program.

It is the largest and oldest regional leadership development program in Tennessee and serves the 21 counties of West Tennessee.

The program has produced 710 graduates in its 25-year history.

For an application and additional information, contact WestStar at (731) 881-7298 or go online at www.utm.edu. Anyone can apply to participate in the program, and nominations are accepted but not required. Class members will be competitively selected to participate in the 2015 program.
UT Martin Named in 100 Best College Buys

By TROY TAYLOR

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed for the ninth consecutive year among "America's 100 Best College Buys," a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. (IRE). President Lewis Lindsey Jr. is impressed by UTM's ability to keep costs down through the recent economic downturn.

"Throughout the economic difficulties that America has experienced in the last decade, the University of Tennessee at Martin has continued to provide the high-quality educational opportunities and low costs that drive opportunity for students and fuel prosperity for the communities of Tennessee," Lindsey said.

To be considered for the designation "America's 100 Best College Buys," an institution must be an accredited, four-year institution offering bachelor's degrees and offer full residential facilities.

Additionally, the institution must have had an entering freshman class in fall 2013 with a high school grade point average and/or SAT/ACT score equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen, while keeping the out-of-state cost of attendance in 2014-15 for three quarters or two semesters below the national average cost of attendance or not exceeding the national average cost by more than 10 percent.

See the full list of 2014-2015 Best College Buys here.

The recognition follows two listings announced in recent months. In August, The Princeton Review named the university among the "Best in the Southeast" for 2015. The list is part of the company's website feature "2015 Best Colleges: Region by Region" posted at PrincetonReview.com. UT Martin has been included in this listing for 12 consecutive years.

In September, UT Martin was listed in the top tier for southern master's level universities in the 2015 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings and ranked for the first time among southern regional institutions in the "Best Colleges for Veterans" category.
UT Martin is listed for the ninth consecutive year among "America's 100 Best College Buys," a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc. The university is one of three public Tennessee higher education institutions listed. Students are pictured in front of the University Village Apartments.

UTM is one of ‘America’s 100 Best College Buys’ for 9th year

Story by UT Martin

MARTIN — The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed for the ninth consecutive year among "America's 100 Best College Buys," a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc. UT Martin is one of three public Tennessee higher education institutions listed.

"Throughout the economic difficulties that America has experienced in the last decade, the University of Tennessee at Martin has continued to provide the high-quality educational opportunities and low costs that drive opportunity for students and fuel prosperity for the communities of Tennessee," said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

To be considered for the designation "America's 100 Best College Buys," an institution must be an accredited, four-year institution offering bachelor's degrees. The institution also must offer full residential facilities, including residence halls and dining services.

Additionally, the institution must have had an entering freshman class in fall 2013 with a high school grade point average and/or an SAT or ACT score equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen. Also, the out-of-state cost of attendance in 2014-15 for three quarters or two semesters must be below the national average cost of attendance or not exceed the national average cost by more than 10 percent.

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Then in September, UT Martin continued in the top tier for Southern master's level universities in the 2015 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings. The university also was ranked for the first time among Southern regional institutions in the "Best Colleges for Veterans" category.
UT Martin Receives $2 Million Grant

By PARKER FRANKLIN, WKMS

The University of Tennessee at Martin has received a nearly $2 million-dollar US Department of Education grant aid in student advising and its veterinary science program.

The $1.9 million-dollar award will be spread out over the next five years. The grant comes through what’s known as the Title III Strengthening Institutions Program (http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleiii/index.html).

UT Martin Provost Jerald Ogg says the money will help foster new activities while protecting old ones in the face of continual budget cuts.

“This Title III program is especially helpful in that it enables us to think innovatively and to implement new initiatives without fear of undercutting resources from existing programs and services,” Ogg said.

This is the second time UT Martin has received such a grant in the last decade.

The university will first receive funds this month, followed by further allocations through September 2019.
UT Martin receives nearly $2M grant


By WBBJ 7 Eyewitness News Staff
By news@wbbjtv.com
October 14, 2014

MARTIN, Tenn. -- The U.S. Department of Education has awarded a five-year grant totaling nearly $2 million to the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The funding was awarded through the Title III Strengthening Institutions program. Funding for the program begins this month and continues through September 2019.

The allowance also will support the "Soaring Toward Success" project aimed at enhancing post-secondary success.

This is the second such award UT Martin has received in the past 10 years.

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The Weakley County Press
Tuesday, October 14, 2014

High schools invited to participate in science bowl at UT Martin

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Competition begins with a written test covering biology, chemistry and general science. The written test will have 25 questions from each of the three categories. There is no limit on the number of student entries from each school.

Eight schools will then be chosen from the written test for the afternoon bowl competition. Selection is based on comparing the average total score of two of each school's highest-scoring students. Competition rules are similar to "The G.E. College Bowl," a classic TV quiz show that originally aired from 1958-70.

Prizes include trophies for champion and runner-up schools and gold, silver and bronze medallions for all team members. Each participating school will receive a copy of The Merck Index, an internationally recognized handbook of chemical, pharmaceutical and biomedical information.

The Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society and Merck & Co., Inc. provide the handbook copies.

Science Bowl rules can be found at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairee/sacs/scibowlrules.html, and information from past Science Bowls can be found at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairee/scibowl/.
Aspiring young writers can improve their writing skills at the annual Young Writers Conference on Nov. 14 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The conference will run from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Boling University Center and is sponsored by the UT Martin Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

The one-day conference is designed for students in grades 9-12 who wish to improve their creative and professional writing abilities. The conference is open to students recommended by their teachers on the basis of academic merit and artistic promise. UT Martin faculty and visiting poet and writer Leslie LaChance will teach a series of writing workshops.

LaChance, one of the Young Writers Conference founders when she taught at UT Martin, now teaches literature and writing at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin. Her poems have appeared in a number of periodicals, and her collection “How She Got That Way” was published in 2013 by Toadlily Press in the chapbook quartet “Mend & Hone.”

“We’re delighted to have this year’s visiting author (LaChance) in the program. She’s an incredible writer and teacher, and it’s great that she can come back to UT Martin to headline a conference that she has worked to make such in years past,” said Dr. John Glass, assistant professor of English. “Also, we are collaborating again this year with the West Tennessee Writing Project to provide a professional development workshop for teachers.”

The workshop for teachers will focus on creating and maintaining a successful student writing organization in public schools. Other events include a luncheon, a reading and keynote address by LaChance and an open mic for students.

Students will have the opportunity to read works created during the conference or other original writing created at home or in school. Throughout the day, students will create pieces of writing, interact with other young writers from the region, and learn from accomplished writers and teachers of writing.

The conference registration fee is $10 for students and $20 for teachers and includes all workshops, readings and a luncheon. Teachers are encouraged, but are not required to attend along with their students. Teachers should follow their school policies in arranging for parent/guardian permissions for students who will attend the conference.

Registration is limited to 150 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms must be received by Nov. 7, along with payment to UT Martin for the conference registration fee. Participants can register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/conference.php or by regular mail.
Canned goods to be collected at homecoming

By CASEY DOWTY
Special to The Press

This idea started out as a mission. This was first year as president of the sociology club and I wanted to do something big. I wanted us to make a difference in our community and I wanted people to know that our small club could do big things.

I finally settled on the idea of a canned food drive. As a club, we do small canned food drives each semester. One for each of philanthropy organizations – the Carl Perkins Center and Santa’s Helpers. To be able to successfully fulfill this idea, I knew I had to partner with Rotaract, which coordinates the Can Sculpture Contest every year for UT Martin’s homecoming. Thankfully, the Rotaract members were very supportive of my idea and we are now partners in this effort.

I expanded this event to where people who are not participating in the Can Sculpture Contest may bring canned goods to the entrance of the homecoming football game. This includes students, faculty and community members. To encourage people to be involved with this effort, Chick-fil-A will be giving anyone who brings at least five cans to the game a coupon for a free Chick-Fil-A milkshake. I am hoping to trip the amount of cans that the Can Sculpture Contest would bring in by itself with the help of the community. Last year, it raised more than 10,000 pounds of canned goods.

Because this event is centered on homecoming, I wanted the football team to kick things off. I thought this would be a good way to have them support and give back to their community and, in return, receive equal support from the community at their game. This charitable event will be helping We Care Ministries, Santa’s Helpers and the Carl Perkins Center. Once I received approval from head football coach Jason Simpson, our team really put things into motion. In only two weeks time, they have raised more than 1,981 cans and they are still pushing. Their goal is to reach at least 2,000 cans, and I believe they can do it.

Overall, I am hoping that this event will have participation from students, athletes, faculty and community members. We need all the support we can get to help our community organizations. Please remember to support our football team at their final home game, which is homecoming Oct. 25. Bring canned goods in our effort to help our community.

UTM named among ‘America’s 100 Best College Buys’

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed for the ninth consecutive year among “America’s 100 Best College Buys,” a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. UT Martin is one of three public Tennessee higher education institutions listed.

“Throughout the economic difficulties that America has experienced in the last decade, the University of Tennessee at Martin has continued to provide the high-quality educational opportunities and low costs that drive opportunity for students and fuel prosperity for the communities of Tennessee,” said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

To be considered for the designation “America’s 100 Best College Buys,” an institution must be an accredited, four-year institution offering bachelor’s degrees. The institution must also offer full residential facilities, including residence halls and dining services.

Additionally, the institution must have had an entering freshman class in fall 2013 with a high school grade point average and/or SAT/ACT score equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen. Also, the out-of-state cost of attendance in 2014-15 for three quarters or two semesters must be below the national average cost of attendance or not exceed the national average cost by more than 10 percent.

“UT Martin continues to earn and receive recognition for educational value,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. “High-quality academic programs offered at a reasonable cost make UT Martin stand out in a competitive higher education marketplace.”

The recognition follows two listings announced in recent months. In August, The Princeton Review named the university among the “Best in the Southeast” for 2015. The list is part of the company’s website feature “2015 Best Colleges: Region by Region” posted at PrincetonReview.com. UT Martin has been included in this listing for 12 consecutive years.

Then in September, UT Martin continued in the top tier for southern master’s level universities in the 2015 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings. The university was also ranked for the first time among southern regional institutions in the “Best Colleges for Veterans” category.
Butler receives highest national FFA award

The National FFA Organization recently named Dr. James Butler, agricultural education professor at the University of Tennessee at Martin, a National VIP. The honor is the highest in the organization and recognizes Butler's significant contributions and dedication to FFA and agricultural education.

The FFA mission is to create a positive difference in the lives of students by developing leadership potential, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. "The VIP citation recognizes the dedicated individuals who contribute to the FFA mission of student success through their hard work and cooperation," said the National FFA Organization CEO Dwight Armstrong in a news release. "Without such strong and outstanding commitment, FFA would not be able to help build strong character in its members, who in turn build strong families, communities and industries."

Butler has a 25-year association with the National FFA Organization. During this time, he has served as a national proficiency judge and a national career development event judge. For the past 12 years, he has served as the co-coordinator for the national meats evaluation and technology career development event. He has received the honorary state FFA degree and the Tennessee VIP Association VIP award. Butler has also served as a member of the career and technical education state staff in Tennessee and is a member of the Tennessee FFA board of directors and technical education state staff in Tennessee. Butler is the collegiate FFA board advisor and coordinates regional and state FFA career development events in livestock, equine and vet science.

PAL officials speak at UTM Ripley Center

The Anti-Drug Coalition of Lauderdale County gave a presentation to the "Drug and Behavior" class at the University of Tennessee at Martin Ripley Center on Sept. 24. The presentation included new drug trends among youth such as the "The Purple Drank," which includes prescription strength cough syrup and sprite. The Drugs and Behavior class also received information on how to spot drug use in teens. The Drug and Behavior class is taught by Mrs. Lisa Kent of Professional Care Services. The next coalition meeting will be held at the UTM Ripley Center on Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. Anyone from the public can attend. The anti-drug coalition encourages all concerned citizens to get involved in the fight for children. For more information, contact Xavier Lawrence Andrews, PAL Coordinator, at 612-6337 or email xandrews@utm.edu.
WestStar Alumni Visit the Dresden Farmers Market

WestStar Leadership Program alumni and staff visited the new Farmers Market on Oct. 8 in Dresden. WestStar alumni county groups meet at least quarterly to learn more about resources and opportunities in West Tennessee communities. The facility opened during the 2014 Iris Festival and then opened for the first time as a farmers market on June 28. The facility was made possible by two USDA grants and the city of Dresden. The facility is named the Terry Oliver Plaza in honor of UT Martin alum and former Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture Terry Oliver. Lauren Bean (pictured far right), a 2014 UT Martin agricultural business graduate, was recently named Dresden community development director and provided information to the group about the facility. Pictured left to right (foreground) are Steve Vantrease, Dr. Tom Payne, Melinda Goode, and Jeanna Swafford, all WestStar alums; back row-top, Andrew Hart and Ray Stevenson, both WestStar alums; Charley Deal, WestStar executive director and program alum; and Virginia Grimes, WestStar coordinator, Jerry Brigance, WestStar alum, and Jordan Jones, WestStar staff member.
Pre-Med Scholars Program Recognizes Students

Students and other participants in the UT Martin Pre-Med Scholars Program were recognized at a reception Sept. 27 at the university’s Dunagan Alumni Center. The two-year program includes a series of shadowing opportunities, a subject-specific Medical College Admissions Test review and a test-prep course at the conclusion of the program. Now in its second year, the program involves area physicians and Volunteer Community Hospital in Martin. Pictured at the reception were back row: Dinah Batchelor, a sophomore from Martin; Dr. Richard Helgeson, dean, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences; Renate Meckl, a sophomore from Oconomowoc, Wis.; Joshua Diltz, a sophomore from Albuquerque, N.M.; Saumil Patel, a senior from Martin; Dr. Nikhil Patel, physician; Dr. Jack Grubaugh, chair, Department of Biological Sciences; Dr. Walter Fletcher, physician; Dr. David Jones, physician; Mikaela Hardy, a sophomore from South Fulton; Austin Hazlewood, a sophomore from Martin; Ben Reeves, a junior from Knoxville; Ashley Mendez, a senior from Memphis; Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor; and Kristina Pitz, health sciences pre-professional program coordinator. Pictured seated on the front row were: Breanna Martin, a sophomore from Glenson; Danielle Davolt, a junior from Dyersburg; Alli McClure, a junior from Huntington; and Amber Thompson, a senior from Arlington.
UT Martin Young Writers Conference Set For Nov. 14

Aspiring young writers can improve their writing skills at the annual Young Writers Conference, Friday, Nov. 14, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The conference will run from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Boling University Center and is sponsored by the UT Martin Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

The one-day conference is designed for students in grades 9-12 who wish to improve their creative and professional writing abilities. The conference is open to students recommended by their teachers on the basis of academic merit and artistic promise. UT Martin faculty and visiting poet and writer Leslie LaChance will teach a series of writing workshops.

LaChance, one of the Young Writers Conference founders when she taught at UT Martin, now teaches literature and writing at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin, Tenn. Her poems have appeared in a number of periodicals, and her collection “How She Got That Way” was published in 2013 by Toadlily Press in the chapbook quartet “Mend & Hone.”

The workshop for teachers will focus on creating and maintaining a successful student writing organization in public schools. Other events include a luncheon, a reading and keynote address by LaChance and an open mic for students.

Students will have the opportunity to read works created during the conference or other original writing created at home or in school. Throughout the day, students will create pieces of writing, interact with other young writers from the region, and learn from accomplished writers and teachers of writing.

The conference registration fee is $10 for students and $20 for teachers and includes all workshops, readings and a luncheon. Teachers are encouraged, but are not required to attend along with their students. Teachers should follow their school policies in arranging for parent/guardian permissions for students who will attend the conference.

Registration is limited to 150 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms must be received by Nov. 7, along with payment to UT Martin for the conference registration fee. Participants can register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/conference.php or by regular mail.

For more information about the conference or to register, contact Glass in the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages at 731-881-7288, or by email at jglass@utrn.edu.
UT Martin Receives US Department of Education $1.9 Million Grant

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded a five-year grant totaling $1,972,725 to the University of Tennessee at Martin. The grant was awarded through the Title III Strengthening Institutions program and represents the second such award that UT Martin has received in the past 10 years. Funding for the program begins this month and continues through September 2019.

The university’s “Soaring Toward Success Project” will enhance students’ post-secondary success and improve productivity. Both goals align with two of the five UT System Strategic Plan goals of enhancing educational excellence and ensuring efficiency and effectiveness.

"Sponsored funding increasingly provides essential financial resources to campuses in the UT System as costs continue to increase and state appropriations continue to flatten or decrease," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. "This Title III program is especially helpful in that it enables us to think innovatively and to implement new initiatives without fear of undercutting resources from existing programs and services."

One of the grant’s intended outcomes is to create a “culture of evidence” that results in data-driven decision making on issues of resource allocation and student success. Other activities funded through the program will include developing a comprehensive, student-centered advising system, leadership development, and Faculty Teaching and Learning Communities, as well as the enhancement of the university’s veterinary science program.

Program implementation objectives will benefit from collaboration between the divisions of academic and student affairs. Sociology professor Michelle Horton will serve as project director, and Dr. George Daniel, coordinator of student affairs program evaluation, will serve as project co-directors.

“This grant will provide dollars to strengthen UT Martin’s infrastructure in terms of data-driven decision making in our academic programs,” Horton said. “As a faculty member, I also value the resources that will assist our advising process and those that will provide mentoring for our new faculty.”

Horton said that current advising software is outdated for both student and faculty use. The software purchased through the grant will enable students to forecast multiple academic pathways to achieving their academic goals. Faculty advisers will see where students have gaps in meeting degree requirements and where they can pursue minors and other options. "UT Martin takes great pride in our teaching mission, and we anticipate that the impact of this funding will improve on that legacy of excellence in the classroom," she added.

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(See Page 14, Col. 3)

Handgun carry classes to be offered at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin is now offering a handgun carry class for students at least 21 years old.

The class will be offered 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, as well as Nov. 15 and Dec. 13, on the Martin campus.

The handgun carry class will present the student with the minimum requirements mandated by the State of Tennessee to obtain a handgun carry permit. The class will cover the use, operation and basic cleaning of a handgun. The first four-hour block will be devoted to classroom instruction and the written exam. The second four-hour block will be for firing-range instruction and the practical exam.

The student must score a minimum 70 percent on both the written exam and practical exam to successfully complete the course.

Upon successful completion, students will be able to apply for a handgun carry permit from the state. Students must be 21 years of age and have no felony convictions and will need to bring a handgun, 50 rounds of ammunition appropriate for the handgun, pen or pencil, paper and hearing and eye protection.

For more information about the class, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php or call Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082.

UT Martin...

(Continued from Page 1)

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The funding will also help to expand the veterinary health technology option in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. Capacity is currently 80 total students, but demand has run as high as 200 students applying to pursue the option.

"UT Martin offers the only four-year public (veterinary health technology) program of its kind in Tennessee and we have already met our enrollment capacity based on our existing facilities," said Dr. Jason Roberts, veterinarian and UT Martin assistant professor of animal science, who also oversees the newly-accredited option. "This grant will fund the expansion of our enrollment through necessary renovations to expand classrooms, laboratories, office space and companion animal kennels."
Rotarians hear UTM Athletic Director speak on ‘Tickets for Children’

UTM Athletic Director Julio Freire was the guest speaker recently at the Rotary Club of Fulton. He moved to Martin, Tenn. eight months ago, and was most recently senior associate athletic director for development at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Born in Tijuana, Mexico he grew up in the United States where he has been a former student athlete, high school teacher, principal, and athletic director.

A dynamic and inspirational speaker, Freire indicated he is prepared to take the UTM athletic program to the next level.

Freire also discussed a new “Tickets for Children” program that he has initiated. Those who buy season tickets to either UTM football or basketball may attend games that fits schedules, but if unable to attend, the tickets may be turned back into UTM Athletics, and, in turn, tickets will go to underprivileged children in the area who might not have a chance otherwise to attend a Skyhawk game.

He said this will get more people in the stands cheering the Skyhawks to victory, and the season ticket sales help to support the university teams with each purchase.

He says his goal for UTM student athletes is that they will excel socially, educationally, and athletically, and sees great potential for UTM and its athletic program.
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**SEE GRANT, PAGE 7**
GRANT
FROM PAGE 1

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UT Martin students strive
to help orphans in Nepal

By SAMI MOBLEY
Special to The Press

Age doesn’t always determine ability to make a difference in peoples’ lives. For a group of students at UT Martin, they’re taking advantage of their youth and skills to make a difference in the community and across the world.

This summer, John Sellers, a local photographer and student at UT Martin, launched a humanitarian organization titled Letters in Motion. The organization is a non-profit which has one goal: to make a difference on the lives of orphans in Nepal.

Letters In Motion aims to take 10 college students to Nepal by 2015. In the time there, they will build an orphanage, create informative movies to boost the population’s understanding of the issue of children needing help, write letters to orphans and raise money for future efforts.

To Sellers, helping orphans in Nepal is a personal matter. Before their tragic death in a plane crash in 1992, Sellers’ aunt and uncle cared for one child as part of their mission work in Nepal. Following their death, his grandparents took over the work and it blossomed.

"It grew exponentially," Sellers said. "A small orphanage became a home for these orphans in 20 years."

Sellers’ parents live in Nepal, teaching English while doing mission work with orphans.

Currently, the team is only active at UT Martin. However, in the future the organization aims to become a staple at universities in the south. Their goal in the next decade is to be active at Bethel, Union, Knoxville and Murray.

HELPING OTHERS — UT Martin students recently met to discuss the progress of Letters in Motion, a non-profit effort to help orphans in Nepal.

In order for the dream of Letters In Motion to become a reality, individuals must become a part of the action.

The organization will be hosting its first car wash fundraiser Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Advanced Auto Parts in Martin. The fundraiser will be raising money toward travel funds for their 2015 trip to Nepal.

"I have this burden for Nepal, and I wanted other people to see it," Sellers said. "To assist in their dream of helping orphans, T-shirts with the organization’s logo can be purchased at http://www.golettersinmotion.com/.
UT MARTIN RECEIVES US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION $1.9 MILLION GRANT

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Dr. Jason Roberts, veterinarian and assistant professor of animal science, is pictured in this file photo with former UT Martin students Jessica Phelps and Justin Hatler, both second-year students in the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. Funding from the recently awarded Title III Strengthening Institutions program grant will help to expand UT Martin's veterinary health technology option in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.

UT MARTIN YOUNG WRITERS CONFERENCE SET FOR NOV. 14

MARTIN, Tenn. — Aspiring young writers can improve their writing skills at the annual Young Writers Conference, Friday, Nov. 14, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The conference will run from 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Boling University Center and is sponsored by the UT Martin Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

The workshop for teachers will focus on creating and maintaining a successful student writing organization in public schools. Registration is limited to 150 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms must be received by Nov. 7, along with payment to UT Martin for the conference registration fee. Participants can register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/conference.php or by regular mail. For more information about the conference or to register, contact Glass in the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages at 731-881-7288, or by email at jglass@utm.edu.
UT Martin gets $1.9M grant

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UT Martin gets 5-year, $1.9M federal grant

Funding to assist infrastructure, expand veterinary program

Story by UT Martin

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High school teams invited to Science Bowl at UT Martin

High school teams are invited to send teams to the 2014 Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin, sponsored by the university's award-winning Student Members of the American Chemical Society chapter.

Teams may register by email at SMACS@utm.edu or by calling (731) 881-7450 or (731) 881-7454. Registration is free, and the deadline is Monday.

Competition begins with a written test covering biology, chemistry and general science, according to a news release. The written test will have 25 questions from each of the three categories. There is no limit on the number of student entries from each school.

Eight schools will be chosen from the written test for the afternoon bowl competition. Selection is based on comparing the average total score of two of each school's highest-scoring students, the release said. Competition rules are similar to "The G.E. College Bowl," a TV quiz show that originally aired from 1958-70.

Prizes include trophies for champion and runner-up schools and gold, silver and bronze medallions for all team members. Each participating school will receive a copy of The Merck Index, an internationally recognized handbook of chemical, pharmaceutical and biomedical information, according to the release. The Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society and Merck & Co. Inc. will provide the handbook copies.

Science Bowl rules can be found at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairee/saacs/scibowl/rules.html, and information from past Science Bowls can be found at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairee/scibowl/
UT-Martin Homecoming Week

Posted on October 20, 2014 by Charles Choate in Local News

Homecoming week begins on the campus of UT-Martin today, with daily activities scheduled.

This year's theme is "Streaking Back to Martin" with alumni, students and visitors on the campus for the celebration.

This year's Quad City will feature a laser tag dome, along with student organization tents, food vendors and the Skyhawk Marching Band leading the football team through their Skyhawk Walk.

UT-Martin will host Austin Peay on Saturday for their Homecoming game.

The week will also include the Letterwinner's Breakfast and Athletic Hall of Fame induction on Saturday morning.

This afternoon, the Rope Pull will take place at Pacer Pond starting at 4:00.

Deadline near to enter UT-Martin Science Bowl

Posted: Oct 20, 2014 5:04 AM CDT
Updated: Oct 20, 2014 5:05 AM CDT

MARTIN (AP) - Time is running out for high schools to register to send teams to the 2014 Science Bowl next month at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The university says competition Nov. 8 starts off with a written test. Topics covered include biology, chemistry and general science.

The afternoon bowl competition will feature eight teams chosen from the written test.

Trophies will be given to champion and runner-up schools, with medallions going to team members.

Register by email at SMACS@utm.edu or by calling (731) 881-7450 or (731) 881-7454.

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UTM performances planned

The Friends of Music at UTM will have an evening of performances by the faculty of UTM’s Department of Music this evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Bill and Roberta Blakenship Recital Hall.

The Faculty Showcase will showcase the superb musicianship of UTM music’s own artist teachers in a panorama of musical styles, instrumental ensembles, and composers from Bach, Strauss and Schumann to those of the modern era.

Admission is free—donations will be accepted to benefit students of the UTM Department of Music.

The public is invited to attend and share this evening of wonderful music making.

Homecoming underway at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s quadrangle will transform Saturday into the focal point for Homecoming 2014 as more than 80 tents and other gathering points welcome alumni, students and visitors to campus. Homecoming weekend begins Friday and ends Sunday.

Quad City celebrates its 10th year by offering food and family activities leading up to the UT Martin and Austin Peay State University football game that kicks off at 2 p.m. in Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

This year’s Quad City features a laser tag dome measuring 120 feet across, along with student organization tents, food vendors and the Skyhawk Marching Band’s leading the football team’s Skyhawk Walk at 11 a.m. through Quad City. This year’s “Streaking Back to Martin” theme is featured at utmforever.com where complete Homecoming 2014 information is available.

Homecoming week kicked off Monday. Here is the schedule for the rest of the week:

**Today**

**Greek Day**

- 4 p.m. – Rope Pull, area by Pacer Pond
- 7 p.m. – Lip Sync, northwest corner, Kathleen and Tom Elam Center (rain plan, 8 p.m., Thursday, Elam Center)

**Wednesday**

**Organization Day**

- 4 p.m. – Rope Pull, area by Pacer Pond

**Thursday**

**Faculty and Staff Day**

- 4 p.m. – Rope Pull, area by Pacer Pond
- 7 p.m. – PRSSA Womanless Revue, Watkins Auditorium

**Friday**

**Blue and Orange Day**

- 3:30 p.m. – Rope Pull Championships, area by Pacer Pond
- 6 p.m. – Skyhawk Volleyball vs. Belmont, Skyhawk Fieldhouse
- 7 p.m. – Pyramid and Pep Rally, Elam Center ($5 per person charge)
- 7 p.m. – University Choirs Dessert Evening, Fine Arts Building

**Saturday**

- 7:30 a.m. – Letterwinner’s Breakfast/Athletics Hall of Fame Inductions, Student Life Center
- 10:30 a.m. – Quad City opens
- 11 a.m. – Football Team Skyhawk Walk, Quad by Paul Meek Library
- 2 p.m. – Skyhawks vs. Austin Peay State University, Hardy M. Graham Stadium

- 5:30 p.m. – Black Alumni Reception, Duncan Ballroom, Boling University Center
- 7 p.m. – Young Alumni Reception, Stables Tap Room, Downtown Martin
- 7 p.m. – NPHC Step Show, Kathleen and Tom Elam Center
- 7 p.m. – University Choirs Dessert Evening, Fine Arts Building

**Sunday**

- 10 a.m. – Walk in the Quad
- 10:30 a.m. – Homecoming Brunch, Sodexo Skyhawk Dining Hall, Boling University Center
UTM to honor Horbelt, Dunn, Smith during Homecoming

Posted on October 21, 2014 by Steve James in Local News

Legendary women’s basketball coach Lin Dunn, President Emeritus of Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania Dr. Bob Smith, and WPSD Local 6’s Jennifer Horbelt, will be honored during the Skyhawks’ homecoming game against Austin Peay at Hardy Graham Stadium.

Coach Dunn will receive the Outstanding Alumni Award, Dr. Smith will be awarded the Chancellor’s Award for University Service, and Horbelt will receive the Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

Dunn, a Dresden native, received her bachelor’s degree from UTM in 1969, and her master’s degree in 1970 from UT-Knoxville. Regarded as a pioneer in women’s basketball history, Dunn lead her teams to the NCAA Final Four and WNBA finals. She was inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame earlier this year.

Smith was UT Martin dean of arts and sciences, during which time he was a co-founder of the university’s WestStar Leadership Program that is entering its 26th year.

Horbelt is the co-anchor of WPSD Local 6’s 5:00, 6:00, and 10:00 evening newscasts. She began her WPSD career while still a UTM student, working her way from intern, to reporter, to evening anchor, all while covering a wide range of stories.
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UTM Professor Selected to Governor's Education Advisory Team

A UT Martin professor has been appointed to review Tennessee's math standards. Governor Bill Haslam announced that Stephanie Kolitsch will serve on the Mathematics Standards Review and Development Committee.

Haslam has asked The State Board of Education to appoint the Mathematics Standards Committee along with an English Language Arts Standards Review and Development Committee, each with three advisory teams. Kolitsch will lead the Mathematics Advisory Team for grades 9-12.

Kolitsch is professor of mathematics and director of the West Tennessee STEM Center for Learning at U-T Martin. Each advisory team will review Tennessee's current standards and make recommendations to their committee, which will then propose changes to the State Board of Education.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes is pleased with Kolitsch’s selection and recognized her previous work in representing the university and mathematics education.

"We’re proud to have Dr. Kolitsch involved in this important statewide work," Rakes said. "She has represented the university well in other review efforts and will be a valuable resource person for Governor Haslam and Tennessee education."
UTM to honor three alumni during homecoming

Dr. Robert M. Smith, president emeritus of Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania; WPSD Local 6's Jennifer Horbelt, retired WNBA coach Lin Dunn and Dr. Bob Smith, president emeritus of Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania, will be honored during the 2 p.m. homecoming football game against Austin Peay State University on Saturday at Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

Horbelt will receive the Outstanding Young Alumni Award, recognizing an alumnus or alumna for outstanding achievement in his or her chosen profession.

Smith will receive the Chancellors’ Award for University Service, recognizing his outstanding service to UTM.

Horbelt, who was raised in Houston, Texas, and received her communications degree in 2007, is the co-anchor of WPSD Local 6's 5, 6 and 10 p.m. newscasts alongside Todd Faulkner; the release said.

She began her career at WPSD in Paducah, Ky., while still a UTM student, working her way from intern to reporter to evening anchor.

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She also interviewed President Barack Obama during his 2012 campaign and Jimmy Fallon shortly before he became host of "The Tonight Show."

Horbelt returned to Paducah and her current position at WPSD earlier this year.

Dunn, a Drexel native, received her bachelor’s degree in health, physical education and English in 1969 from UT Martin and a master’s degree in 1970 from UT Knoxville, according to the release.

Regarded as a pioneer in women’s basketball history, her coaching career preceded passage of Title IX legislation in the 1970s and includes trips to the NCAA Final Four and WNBA finals.

Dunn’s collegiate coaching career began at Austin Peay State University and later included head coaching positions at the University of Mississippi, Purdue University and Miami University.

She left Purdue, Miami and Austin Peay as the winningest coach at each school.

On the national level, Dunn served on the USA Basketball Team staffs for the 1992 Olympics and the 1990 gold medal-winning World Championship and Goodwill Game teams. She was head coach of the 1995 bronze medal-winning USA Jones Cup team and also served for eight years on the USA Basketball Team selection committee.

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An Associated Press story that appeared on ESPN-W credits Dunn with 664 college and professional wins, which includes the WNBA post-season. Her 23 postseason WNBA wins place her third all-time in the league. The story also noted that her final 16 years of coaching were spent in the WNBA, and she was a head coach during the final three years of her career.

She was named to the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame, the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame and the UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame, all in 2010. In 2012, she was named the Purdue Athletics Hall of Fame, and in June, she became a member of the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame.

Smith holds degrees from Temple University, Ohio University and Wichita State University.

He served for nine years as president of Slippery Rock Rock University in Pennsylvania, the university’s provost, according to the release.

Before his time at Slippery Rock, Smith was UT Martin dean of arts and sciences, during which time he was a co-founder of the university’s West-Star Leadership Program that is entering its 26th year. He had previously served as associate dean of the Wichita State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, as associate dean and acting dean of the University College of Continuing Education, and chairman of the Wichita State Department of Communications.

Smith’s work in enrollment management at UT Martin and Slippery Rock University led to double-digit increases in enrollment. Under his guidance, Slippery Rock University made rapid advancements, including a 22 percent increase in enrollment while improving its academic reputation, a 10 percent increase in retention and a 24 percent increase in graduation rates, the release said.

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Smith was a faculty member for the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers’ Presidential Seminars on Strategic Enrollment Management. He was selected as a “First-Year Student Advocate” by the National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition, and he received AACRAO’s inaugural Strategic Enrollment Management Leadership award.

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National Chemistry Week program set

The University of Tennessee at Martin chapter of the Student Members of the American Chemical Society will host the annual National Chemistry Week program of the Kentucky Lake Section at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Boling University Center, according to a news release.

SMACS from Union University, Bethel University, UT Martin and Murray State will present a special program of chemistry demonstrations.

The UTM SMACS chapter is hosting the undergraduate programs at the 66th Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Nashville, and the KLS-ACS is coordinating a Global Innovation Grant project for the first Web-based Poster Symposium on Water, Energy and Health in India and the U.S. Proclamations for the celebration of National Chemistry Week were issued by Martin mayor Randy Brundige and Weakley County mayor Jake Bynum. Pictured are (seated, l to r) KLS chair Dr. Bomana Loganathan, of Murray, Mayor Brundige, Mayor Bynum and UTM SMACS president Krysten A. Harris of Union City. Standing (l to r) are KLS past chair Dr. Phillip Shelton and SERMACS program co-chair Dr. Abigail Shelton, both UT Martin chemistry faculty members, SMACS officers Stephanie Gourley, of Martin, Dwight Johnson, of Brownsville, Kristan McCrillis, of Bradford, Layla Gargus, of Martin, and the faculty advisor Dr. S. K. Airee.
Quad City's 10th year highlights event at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin's quadangle will transform Saturday into the focal point for Homecoming 2014 as more than 80 tents and other gathering points welcome alumni, students and visitors to campus.

Homecoming weekend begins Friday and ends Sunday.

Quad City celebrates its 10th year by offering food and family activities leading up to the UT Martin and Austin Peay State University football game that kicks off at 2 p.m. Saturday in Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

This year's Quad City features a laser tag dome measuring 120 feet across, along with student organization tents, food vendors and the Skyhawk Marching Band's leading the football team's Skyhawk Walk at 11 a.m. through Quad City. This year's "Streaking Back to Martin" theme is featured at utmforever.com, where complete Homecoming 2014 information is available.

Remaining scheduled events include:
- Today (Organization Day) — 4 p.m., rope pull at the area by Pacer Pond.
- Thursday (Faculty and Staff Day) — 4 p.m., rope pull at the area by Pacer Pond; and 7 p.m., PRSSA Womanless Revue at Watkins Auditorium.
- Friday (Blue and Orange Day) — 3:30 p.m., rope pull championships at the area by Pacer Pond; 6 p.m., Skyhawk Volleyball vs. Belmont at Skyhawk Fieldhouse; 7 p.m., Pyramid and Pep Rally at Elam Center ($5 per person charge); and 7 p.m., University Choirs Dessert Evening at the Fine Arts Building.
- Saturday — 7:30 a.m., Letterwinner's Breakfast/Athletics Hall of Fame Inductions at the Student Life Center; 10:30 a.m., Quad City opens; 11 a.m., football team Skyhawk Walk at the Quad by Paul Meek Library; 2 p.m., Skyhawks vs. Austin Peay State University at Hardy M. Graham Stadium; 5:30 p.m., Black Alumni Reception in Duncan Ballroom of Boling University Center; 7 p.m., Young Alumni Reception at the Stables Tap Room in downtown Martin; 7 p.m., NPHC Step Show at Kathleen and Tom Elam Center; and 7 p.m., University Choirs Dessert Evening at the Fine Arts Building.
- Sunday — 10 a.m., Walk in the Quad; and 10:30 a.m., Homecoming Brunch in Sodexo Skyhawk Dining Hall of Boling University Center.
RECEPTION RECOGNITION — Students and other participants in the University of Tennessee at Martin Pre-Med Scholars Program were recognized at a reception recently at the university’s Dunagan Alumni Center. The two-year program includes a series of shadowing opportunities, a subject-specific Medical College Admissions Test review and a test-prep course at the conclusion of the program. Now in its second year, the program involves area physicians and Volunteer Community Hospital in Martin. Among those gathered at the reception were (from left, seated) Breanna Martin, a sophomore from Gleason; Danielle Davolt, a junior from Dyersburg; Alli McClure, a junior from Huntingdon; Amber Thompson, a senior from Arlington; (standing) Dinah Batchelor, a sophomore from Martin; Dr. Richard Helgeson, dean of the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences; Renate Meckl, a sophomore from Oconomowoc, Wis.; Joshua Diltz, a sophomore from Albuquerque, N.M.; Saumil Patel, a senior from Martin; Dr. Nikhil Patel, physician; Dr. Jack Grubaugh, chair of the Department of Biological Sciences; Dr. Walter Fletcher, physician; Dr. David Jones, physician; Mikaela Hardy, a sophomore from South Fulton; Austin Hazlewood, a sophomore from Martin; Ben Reeves, a junior from Knoxville; Ashley Mendez, a senior from Memphis; Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor; and Kristina Pitz, health sciences pre-professional program coordinator.
World War I expert to present program at UT Martin Friday

Dr. Vincent Sherry, a World War I expert and English scholar, will present “Bare Death: The Failing Sacrifice of the Great War” at 6 p.m. Friday as the 2014-15 Academic Speakers Series continues at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The presentation is free and open to the public and will be held in Campbell Auditorium, located in the Andy Holt Humanities Building.

The Academic Speakers Series annually brings top speakers to UT Martin to meet with the university’s Honors Programs students and to offer presentations that are open to the public. Honors Programs and other university organizations sponsor the series.

“I personally know comparatively little about World War I, a war that started one hundred years ago this past June and seems to always be overshadowed by World War II,” said Dr. Lionel Crews, director of Honors Programs. “Therefore I am honored to have Dr. Sherry come to UT Martin to share his extensive knowledge with us.”

Sherry is the Howard Nemerov Professor in the Humanities and professor of English at Washington University in St. Louis. He teaches and writes about modernist literatures in English.


Sherry has edited the “Cambridge Companion to the Literature of the First World War” and is editor of the forthcoming “Cambridge History of Modernism.” He is currently working on “A Literary History of the European War of 1914-1918.”

To find a complete list of 2014-15 speakers visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/honors/ and select “Academic Speakers Program.”

VINCENT SHERRY

Call 885-7126 for more information.
Snapshots from Homecoming 2014:

Photos by Nathan Morgan / UT Martin University Relations
Quad City’s 10th year highlights

Homecoming weekend

UT Martin’s quadrangle will transform Saturday into the focal point for Homecoming 2014 as more than 80 tents and other gathering points welcome alumni, students and visitors to campus. Homecoming weekend begins Friday and ends Sunday.

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Scheduled events include:

**TODAY**

**Faculty and Staff Day**
- 4 p.m. – Rope Pull, area by Pacer Pond.
- 7 p.m. – PRSSA Womanless Revue, Watkins Auditorium.

**FRIDAY**

**Blue and Orange day**
- 3:30 p.m. – Rope Pull Championships, area by Pacer Pond.
- 6 p.m. – Skyhawk Volleyball vs. Belmont, Skyhawk Fieldhouse.
- 7 p.m. – Pyramid and Pep Rally, Elam Center ($5 per person charge).
- 7 p.m. – University Choirs Dessert Evening, Fine Arts Building.

**SATURDAY**
- 7:30 a.m. – Letterwinner’s Breakfast/Athletics Hall of Fame Inductions, Student Life Center.
- 10:30 a.m. – Quad City opens.
- 11 a.m. – Football Team Skyhawk Walk, Quad by Paul Meek Library.
- 2 p.m. – Skyhawks vs. Austin Peay State University, Hardy M. Graham Stadium.
- 5:30 p.m. – Black Alumni Reception, Duncan Ballroom, Boling University Center.
- 7 p.m. – Young Alumni Reception, Stables Tap Room, Downtown Martin.
- 7 p.m. – NPHC Step Show, Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.
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**SUNDAY**
- 10 a.m. – Walk in the Quad.
- 10:30 a.m. – Homecoming Brunch, Sodexo Skyhawk Dining Hall, Boling University Center.
IGNITING INNOVATION

Nov. 1 • University of Tennessee at Martin

Student Life Center • 7 p.m.

IGNITING INNOVATION GUEST SPEAKERS

DANIEL BURKE  BRYAN HUDDESTON  ROBBIE GOLDSMITH
The Ned Ray McWherter Institute for Collaboration and Innovation operates on the idea that every flame begins with a spark. The newly-established institute seeks to uncover, maximize and empower the potential of passionate and motivated students by transforming them into extraordinary capable innovators who are fully prepared and uniquely inspired to impact society.

Those carefully selected students – known as McWherter Innovators – are hoping to pass that passion on to other students and the community Nov. 1 when they present “Igniting Innovation,” a special 7 p.m. event inside UT Martin’s Student Life Center (the old gym). The public is encouraged to attend this free event.

“Our hope for this event is to inspire the students and the local community’s entrepreneurial spirit,” said Martin native Zoë Stringer, a junior fashion merchandising major who is one of 17 current McWherter Innovators. “There is a wealth of potential at the university, and we want to spark that potential in a way that positively impacts our town, our community and our society.”

Bryan Huddleston, Robbie Goldsmith and Daniel Burke – all established business professionals and entrepreneurs – will serve as special guest speakers for the event.

“By speaking about their experiences and sharing their advice, we hope the students find guidance and inspiration in their stories,” Stringer said.

Huddleston is the president and CEO of the Nashville Technology Council, which develops, connects and promotes Middle Tennessee’s technology community. Huddleston has lived in Tennessee for most of his life and has been a Nashville resident since 1995. He previously worked at Microsoft for eight years.

He has held previous positions as a mentor, product manager, developer and business development. He has been active in the startup community by being a mentor at JumpStart Foundry and the Entrepreneur Center, and is an investor in three startups. He sits on multiple community boards, including the Lipscomb University SCI advisory board, Nashville State Foundation, Women in Technology, Nashville Entrepreneur Center and Bethany Christian Services.

Goldsmith works at the Nashville Entrepreneur Center and is the director of community engagement and music. He is a young Nashville entrepreneur and is currently launching Pre-Flight, a “pre-accelerator” program and a music technology accelerator program. He has created several startups, the first while attending college at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Upon graduation with a business administration major, he got his corporate experience with Enterprise Holdings, completing its management-training program, becoming a branch manager overseeing multiple locations. Since then, he has launched One4 Ventures, LLC. He created an online platform where visitors to Nashville can customize weekend trips to Nashville. He is currently growing One4 Ventures, as well as growing the Entrepreneur Center’s community of members and programs, and living life to the fullest. As a hobby, he travels the world playing professional paintball and is ranked in the top 100 in the world.

Burke is the owner and president of Burke Financial Group, which provides personal, business and estate planning. He spent three years as a partner for a Fortune 100 company, where he was named “Rookie of the Year” and twice named “Partner of the Year.”

After gaining valuable expertise in the financial field, Burke had the desire to start a firm servicing all financial needs, from basic to sophisticated planning. He practices a process-driven approach and customizes each plan to fit a client’s individual needs. Why is he so passionate about his company, community, and clients? “Because everyone needs a plan,” he said.

Daniel grew up in Middle Tennessee and earned a BSBA in finance from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He lives in Nashville with his wife Liz, a psychiatric nurse practitioner pursuing her doctorate at Vanderbilt University. His community involvement includes volunteering with various nonprofits and serving on the boards of the Nashville Junior Chamber and The Phoenix Club of Nashville.

SELECTING THE INNOVATORS

By identifying students with special gifts and talents for creative thinking, teamwork and the passion and drive to make a true difference by simply making things happen, the McWherter Institute believes it can help to build a better future for West Tennessee.

The plan is simple: take carefully selected second-year students from different disciplines across the university to serve as McWherter Innovators, and over the next three years, help them to identify and build upon their strengths, connect with mentors within the university and the community, increase their awareness of domestic and international culture and engage in business and public service ventures. The McWherter Institute also believes that cultivating diverse teams of passionate individuals who think globally, yet act locally, will yield a tremendous impact on the region.

But it doesn’t just end with graduation. The skills, perspectives and collaborative styles honed through experience will continue to serve McWherter Innovators as they enter their careers and work with other visionaries to strengthen their communities, thus leading to expanding horizons for the region. Sparks from one flame will kindle others across the range of human endeavor and inspire a vibrant culture of collaboration and innovation.
When Stringer first read the motto on the McWherter Institute application, she said she knew she wanted to be a member. "It is an organization meant to embrace the power of innovation, curiosity, and passion for making a difference. Being a McWherter Innovator means I am getting knowledge and experiences that I wouldn't have otherwise," Stringer said. "Each of my many experiences are helping me to get a head start on my career, and that is a priceless gift to a college student. I know that with my education at UTM and my involvement in the Innovator program, I will be better prepared for my future."

"As a native of Weakley County, I grew up knowing who Ned Ray McWherter was and what wonderful things he did for this county and this state. Being part of an organization named after him is a tremendous honor as well as a tremendous responsibility. The name McWherter means something to every person in Weakley County, and we hope to live up to those expectations in some way."

Rebecca Lund, a sophomore accounting and finance major from Martin, is the third Weakley Countyian to be selected as a McWherter Innovator. The remaining 14 McWherter Innovators are mostly from West Tennessee.

Caroline Parish is a junior political science major from Huntingdon.

"The Ned McWherter Institute for Collaboration and Innovation is a beacon of opportunity for me," Parish said. "When I first joined the institute in 2013, I had no idea how many wonderful doors it would open for me. I have made numerous connections within our community and state as a whole. I'm very thankful to be a part of something so prestigious and worthy during my college years at UTM."

The board of directors for the McWherter Institute are J. Houston Gordon, Andren J. Loughry – chair, Ashton Jennings – interim director, Betty Ann Tanner, Dr. Margaret Perry, Dr. Randy Perry, Hal Willis Jr., Tom Hyde, Crawford Gallimore, Dr. Stephen Mansfield, Mike McWherter and Phillip Clendenin.

Faculty managers for the McWherter Institute are Diane Austin, Dr. Teresa Collard, Dr. Robbie Montgomery, Dr. Thomas Payne, Dr. Jason Roberts and Dr. Katherine Stumpo. They represent each of the university’s five colleges. Working in partnership with the director, faculty managers’ responsibilities include the development, implementation, and delivery of programs.
MEET THE McWHERTER INNOVATORS

Zoe Stringer
JUNIOR
Martin

Caroline Parish
JUNIOR
Huntingdon

Ana Whitten
JUNIOR
Selmer

Maryanna McClure
JUNIOR
Dyersburg

Kristen Welch
SOPHOMORE
Beach Bluff

Andrea Murrell
SOPHOMORE
Memphis

Rachael Wolters
SOPHOMORE
Culleoka

Hollie Townes
JUNIOR
Gleason

Hallie Belle Smith
SOPHOMORE
Chattanooga

Shelby Johnson
SOPHOMORE
Chapmansboro

Emily McCartney
SOPHOMORE
South Fulton

Rebecca Lund
SOPHOMORE
Martin
GO SKYHAWKS! — UT Martin Skyhawk fans are pictured at Graham Stadium earlier this season where fans will gather again Saturday at 2 p.m. for the Homecoming 2014 football game with Austin Peay State University. Quad City celebrates its 10th year starting at 10:30 that morning by offering food and family activities leading up to kickoff. This year’s “Streaking Back to Martin” theme is featured at utmforever.com, where complete Homecoming 2014 information is available.
World War I expert to speak

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See Speaker, Page 5
HOMECOMING:
UTM to honor Horbelt, Dunn and Smith at Saturday’s game

An accomplished television news anchor and reporter, a legendary basketball coach and a former dean, college president and co-founder of the WestStar Leadership Program will be honored during Homecoming 2014 at the University of Tennessee at Martin Friday through Sunday.

WPSD Local 6’s Jennifer Horbelt, retired WNBA coach Lin Dunn and Dr. Bob Smith, president emeritus of Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania, will be honored during the 2 p.m. Homecoming football game against Austin Peay State University on Saturday at Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

The individual awards are:
• Jennifer Horbelt, Outstanding Young Alumni Award, recognizing outstanding achievement in the recipient’s chosen profession (recipient must not be more than 40 years of age)
• Lin Dunn, Outstanding Alumni Award, recognizing an alumnus or alumna for outstanding achievement in his/her chosen profession
• Dr. Robert M. Smith, Chancellor’s Award for University Service, recognizing outstanding service to UT Martin.

Horbelt, who was raised in Houston, Texas, and received her communications degree in 2001, is the co-anchor of WPSD Local 6’s 5, 6 and 10 p.m. newscasts alongside Todd Faulkner.

She began her WPSD career while still a UT Martin student, working her way from intern, to reporter, to evening anchor, all while covering a wide range of stories.

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She also interviewed President Barack Obama during his 2012 campaign and Jimmy Fallon shortly before he became host of The Tonight Show. Horbelt returned to Paducah and her current position at WPSD earlier this year.

See Honorees, Page 8
**Honorees from Page I**

Dunn, a Dresden native, received her bachelor’s degree in health, physical education and English in 1969 from UT Martin and a master’s degree in 1970 from UT Knoxville. Regarded as a pioneer in women’s basketball history, her coaching career preceded passage of Title IX legislation in the 1970s and includes trips to the NCAA Final Four and WNBA finals.

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Before his time at Slippery Rock, Smith was UT Martin dean of arts and sciences, during which time he was a co-founder of the university’s WestStar Leadership Program that is entering its 26th year. He had previously served as associate dean of the Wichita State University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, as associate dean and acting dean of the University College and Continuing Education, and chair of the Wichita State Department of Communications.

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He was an early advocate of performance metrics and performance funding. At Slippery Rock University, Smith led a cultural transformation that became a model for analytical data-driven decision-making that received commendation in 2012 by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. He co-chaired the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education’s revisions of performance funding that received praise from the Lumina Foundation, and he has been a frequent speaker and panelist on institutional performance, performance metrics and incentive funding models.

Smith’s longtime work on strategic communication with the Council for Advancement and Support of Education led to two CASE awards for teaching excellence, including the organization’s prestigious Crystal Apple Award.

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**‘Streaking’ was once more than a homecoming theme at UT Martin**

By Sami Mobley
Special to The Press

UT Martin has chosen “Streaking Back to Martin” as this year’s homecoming theme, which has raised a few eyebrows. Coincidental or otherwise, the theme has caused some to recall that “streaking” is a part of the school’s history.

The spring of 1974 was one that would always hold fame. As the semester started, so did the fad of streaking, which was already popular at other universities. As reported in the 1974 UT Martin yearbook, “After a ten dollar bet, one young man in his birthday suit streaked down a hollowed-out hall of McCord, and UT Martin streaking was born.”

After multiple incidents of streaking on campus, the Streakers Club, as they became known, organized the largest streak on campus to date. The night of March 14—a Thursday—went down in history as 2,000 people gathered from the University Center to residence halls to witness that unforgettable night. People witnessing consisted of high school students, adults, residents of Martin, fellow students and people who traveled to watch a mass streaking across campus. (Note: The original photo in the yearbook did not contain the strategically placed black boxes over certain body parts.)

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**WE’RE GOING STREAKING!” — The 1974 UT Martin yearbook documented an incident in the spring of that year in which more than 2,000 people gathered to watch a mass streaking across campus. (Note: The original photo in the yearbook did not contain the strategically placed black boxes over certain body parts.)**
The University of Tennessee at Martin will transform the quad during Homecoming 2014 as more than eighty tents and other gathering points welcome alumni, students and visitors to campus. Homecoming weekend begins Friday and ends Sunday.

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Schedule of events include:

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- 4 p.m. — Rope Pull, area by Pacer Pond
- 7 p.m. — PRSSA Womanless Revue, Watkins Auditorium

**Friday (Blue and Orange Day)**

**Sunday (Brunch)**
- 10 a.m. — Walk in the Quad
- 10:30 a.m. — Homecoming Brunch, Sodexo Skyhawk Dining Hall, Boling University Center

**Saturday (Game Day)**
- 7:30 a.m. — Letter-winner’s Breakfast/Athletics Hall of Fame Inductions, Student Life Center
- 10:30 a.m. — Quad City opens
- 11 a.m. — Football Team Skyhawk Walk, Quad by Paul Meek Library
- 2 p.m. — Skyhawks vs. Austin Peay State University, Hardy M. Graham Stadium
- 5:30 p.m. — Black Alumni Reception, Duncan Ballroom, Boling University Center
- 7 p.m. — Young Alumni Reception, Stables Tap Room, Downtown Martin
- 7 p.m. — NPHC Step Show, Kathleen and Tom Elam Center

**UT Martin Skyhawk fans are pictured at Graham Stadium earlier this season where fans will gather again at 2 p.m. Saturday for the Homecoming 2014 football game with Austin Peay State University. Quad City celebrates its 10th year starting at 10:30 a.m. Saturday with food and family activities.**

**UTM Continued from Page B1**

- 3:30 p.m. — Rope Pull Championships, area by Pacer Pond
- 6 p.m. — Skyhawk Volleyball vs. Belmont, Skyhawk Fieldhouse
- 7 p.m. — Pyramid Pep Rally, Elam Center ($5 per person)
- 7 p.m. — University Choirs Dessert Evening, Fine Arts Building

**UT Martin**

**WWII expert to speak Friday at UT Martin**

The University of Tennessee at Martin will continue its Academic Speakers Series on Friday with a presentation by a World War I expert.

Vincent Sherry, an English scholar, will present “Bare Death: The Failing Sacrifice of the Great War” at 6 p.m. in the Campbell Auditorium, located in the Andy Holt Humanities Building. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Sherry is the Howard Nemerov Professor in the Humanities and professor of English at Washington University in St. Louis. He teaches and writes about modernist literatures in English.

The Academic Speakers Series annually brings top speakers to UT Martin to meet with the university’s Honors Programs students and offer presentations that are free to the public. Honors Programs and other university organizations sponsor the series.
Homecoming Activities at UT-Martin

It's Blue and Orange Day on the campus of UT-Martin as part of the week-long Homecoming celebration.

At 3:30 this afternoon, the Rope Pull Championships will be held at Pacer Pond.

At 6:00, Skyhawk volleyball will take place with a match against Belmont at the Fieldhouse.

At 7:00, the Pyramid and Pep Rally will be held at the Elam Center with a $5 admission, along with the University Choirs Dessert Evening at the Fine Arts Building.

Many activities and events will continue throughout the weekend for the celebration.

http://www.thunderboltradio.com

Homecoming Weekend at UT-Martin

A big day of events and activities will take place today on the campus of UT-Martin as part of the Homecoming celebration.

At 7:30 this morning, the Letterwinner’s Breakfast and Athletics Hall of Fame Inductions will take place at the Student Life Center.

At 10:30, Quad City will open, with the football team Skyhawk Walk taking place at the Quad by the Paul Meek Library.

At 2:00, the Skyhawks will face Austin Peay in OVC football at Hardy Graham Stadium.

At 5:30, a Black Alumni Reception will be held at the Duncan Ballroom of the Boling University Center.

7:00 tonight, a Young Alumni Reception will be held in downtown Martin, with the Step Show taking place at the Elam Center.

And also at 7:00 tonight will be the University Choirs Dessert Evening at the Fine Arts Building.
Bratcher: High achievers shine spotlight on others

"If better is possible, good is not enough!"

Those of you who know me know I appreciate a good quote. This was shared with an audience this past Saturday by retired WNBA coach Lin Dunn. She was one of two outstanding alumni recognized during UT Martin's homecoming festivities, with the other being Jennifer Horbelt, who received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award. Also recognized was Dr. Bob Smith, who received the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Service.

As the president of the UT Martin Alumni Council, I had an opportunity to participate in this recognition, and it was truly an honor to share the podium with such a distinguished group.

Up first was Horbelt, who was a communications major from Houston, Texas. While at UT Martin, she began working in the television profession. She talked about her amazing experience while in college, and then she talked about one special professor.

She shared, "Three years ago, my father passed away. Dr. Richard Robinson, communications professor at UT Martin, has been like a father to me and even walked me down the aisle the day I got married."

I did not learn much about Horbelt because she continued to talk about those who helped her achieve her dreams.

Coach Dunn came to the podium to accept her award and without any notes began to share a list of names of those who impacted her life. During a time when women's sports were merely an afterthought, she led the way for all of the young women who followed.

This is someone who has personally succeeded at the highest level of her sport, winning a WNBA national championship, yet she talked very little about herself. She talked about the amazing people who encouraged her throughout her life.

Smith was the final recipient recognized, and yes, you guessed it, he began thanking a long list of people. This is someone who started an unbelievable leadership development program called WestStar and served as president of Slippery Rock University. He has done so much to add value to those around him, but when you give him an award, the focus is on everyone else.

After reflecting on the morning, it became clear to me what the secret was to each of their successes. They focused on making those around them better and never forgot the people who helped them get there.

We often think of award winners as those who were always looking out for themselves. These individuals are always the ones who thought they should be receiving awards, although they rarely do. Those who receive the recognition are the ones who understand they could not have achieved anything without the help of so many along the way.

Want to get noticed and recognized? Want to win an award? Spend time reflecting on whose shoulders you now stand and look for opportunities to make those around you better. Help them win awards. Help shine the spotlight on others.

David Bratcher is the founder of www.davebratcher.com, speaker, teacher and trainer in the area of leadership and organizational development. He serves as vice president of Financial Services for the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation and can be contacted at dave@davebratcher.com.
Advanced digital photography extended campus class offered

UT Martin is now offering an advanced digital photography course from 6:30 – 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, Nov. 11 – 25, on campus.

Advanced digital photography is designed to follow up the basic digital photography course but is open to anyone familiar with digital camera operations and basic photography skills. This is a new class offering and students will take a deeper look at impressive photographic techniques, such as light painting, high dynamic range (HDR) photography, panoramic photography and aacro (close-up) photography. Students will take all of these shots during class, but a special camera is not required. Students are encouraged to bring their own camera and tripod, as students start shooting the very first class period.

Advanced digital photography is offered for $99 per person.

For more information about advanced digital photography visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php or call Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 881-7082.

CHEMISTRY WEEK — The University of Tennessee at Martin chapter of the Student Members of the American Chemical Society hosted the annual National Chemistry Week program of the Kentucky Lake Section on Thursday in the Boling University Center. SMACS from Union University, Bethel University, UT Martin and Murray State University presented a special program of chemistry demonstrations. Proclamations for the celebration of National Chemistry Week were issued by Martin Mayor Randy Brundige and Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum. Pictured are (seated from left) KLS chair Dr. Bomana Loganathan of Murray; Brundige; Bynum; UTM SMACS president Krysten A. Harris of Union City; (standing) KLS past chair Dr. Phillip Shelton and SERMACS program co-chair Dr. Abigail Shelton, both UT Martin chemistry faculty members; SMACS officers Stephanie Gourley of Martin, Dwight Johnson of Brownsville; Kristan McCrillis of Bradford, Layla Gargus of Martin; and faculty advisor Dr. S. K. Airee.
BANKERS VISIT — Commissioner Greg Gonzales (center), Tennessee Department of Financial Institutions, and Colin Barrett (right), Tennessee Bankers Association president, were among the attendees for the Tennessee Bankers Luncheon and Community Leadership Town Hall Meeting recently held at UT Martin. Dr. Tom Payne, chair of UT Martin’s Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking, which hosted all activities, joined them. The day’s first session, “Career Opportunities in Financial Services,” was attended by banking, finance, marketing, management, accounting, information systems, economics and agricultural business students and faculty. Career opportunities with regulatory agencies, community banks and financial services in general were discussed. Gonzales and Barrett responded to audience questions as they discussed the importance of obtaining a relevant degree and encouraged students to engage in internships and other experiential learning opportunities. They also discussed the importance of communication, critical thinking and teamwork skills.
UT Martin math professor to serve on K-12 standards review committee

Three University of Tennessee faculty members have been appointed by the State Board of Education to serve Gov. Bill Haslam’s initiative to review Tennessee’s K-12 academic standards in English language arts and math.

Stephanie Kolitsch, professor of mathematics and director of the West Tennessee STEM Center for Learning at UT Martin, has been appointed to serve on the Mathematics Standards Review and Development Committee and to the role of advisory team leader for the Mathematics Advisory Team for grades 9-12.

Susan Groenke, associate professor of English education and director of the Center for Children’s and Young Adult Literature at UT Knoxville, has been appointed to serve on the English Language Arts Standards Review and Development Committee and to the role of advisory team leader for the English Language Arts Advisory Team for grades 9-12.

Jo Ann Cady, UT Knoxville associate professor of math education, has been appointed to serve on the Math Advisory Team for grades K-5.

Haslam asked the State Board of Education to appoint two committees, the English Language Arts Standards Review and Development Committee and the Mathematics Standards Review and Development Committee, and three advisory teams for each of those committees.

The advisory teams will review Tennessee’s current standards and gather input to make recommendations to the two committees, which will then propose possible changes to the State Board of Education.

UT President Joe DiPietro commended the UT faculty selected for their willingness to contribute their time and expertise.

“I’m proud that we have distinguished faculty selected to serve in these significant roles, and that through them, UT has an opportunity to contribute to ensuring quality public education in Tennessee,” DiPietro said. “Also, from the higher education perspective, it’s important to support implementation of rigorous standards for K-12 programs because they will better equip more high school graduates with needed skills and knowledge to be more successful in college and to complete their degrees more quickly.”

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes is pleased with Kolitsch’s selection and recognized her previous work in representing the university and mathematics education.

“We’re proud to have Dr. Kolitsch involved in this important statewide work,” Rakes said. “She has represented the university well in other review efforts and will be a valuable resource person for Governor Haslam and Tennessee education.”

The two standards review committees will each be made up of six Tennessee K-12 educators and two representatives from Tennessee higher education institutions for a total of 16 Tennessee professional educators.

Haslam announced the process for public review of the state’s K-12 academic standards in English language arts and mathematics on Wednesday. The process will partner with the State Board of Education and will include input from educators and citizens from across the state.
Desiree Emison, originally from Memphis, now calls Humboldt home. She teaches band for grade six through eight at Humboldt Middle School.
She is a 2007 graduate of Overton High in Memphis, Tenn. She received her B.S. in music education in 2012 from the University of Tennessee at Martin. Her goal as a teacher in Humboldt is to make an impact on the band program.
Her inspiration to teach comes from her love for children.
Emison said that her biggest challenge is learning who the students are and developing them into better people.

UT Martin continues
Top-Tier Ranking

Submitted - The University of Tennessee at Martin continued in the top tier for southern master's level universities in the 2015 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings released this week. UT Martin was also ranked for the first time among southern regional institutions in the Best Colleges for Veterans category.

"The U.S. News rankings show that UT Martin maintains a strong reputation in this region and beyond," said Dr. Tom Rakes, university chancellor.

Colleges are ranked against their peers using information submitted in a survey completed by the institutions and other sources. In August, The Princeton Review named the university among the "Best in the Southeast" for 2015.
Hampton speaks to nursing class

Jeff Hampton, a Family Nurse Practitioner from Med-South Clinic in Halls and Assistant Professor of Nursing at Union University in Jackson, was guest speaker of the RN to BSN Community Health Class at the University of Tennessee at Martin Ripley Center on Oct. 20. He presented information to some of the junior and senior nursing students on the graduate nursing programs offered by Union University. Many UT Martin Ripley Center BSN graduates further their education to earn a Master of Science in Nursing or even a Doctor or Nursing Practice. Ms. Ethel Spivey, a Nursing Professor for UT Martin Ripley Center, regularly invites guest speakers from a variety of nursing backgrounds to speak to nursing students who are considering their futures in nursing.
Four former student-athletes joined the University of Tennessee at Martin Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday at part of Homecoming.

Former rifle shooter Jaymi Collar Ray (2003-07), retired head rifle coach Bob Beard (1982-2014), former men's basketball player Jared Newson (2003-06) and current administrator Col. Bill Kailer (1980-present) were inducted on Saturday.

Ray is one of just two shooters in UTM Martin rifle history to earn All-Ohio Valley Conference accolades four consecutive years.

Under Beard, the UTM rifle team was a model of excellence and consistency — ranking in the national top-20 polls 31 times in the span of 32 years.

Newson was a two-time All-Ohio Valley Conference performer.

A native of Bardwell, Ky., and a former military officer, Kailer is currently the assistant athletics director for compliance.
UT Martin faculty member to serve on Governor's K-12 standards review

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UT Martin, Union among 'best college buys' again

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed for the ninth consecutive year among America’s 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc.

Union University in Jackson has been named to the list for the 10th straight year.

The annual America’s 100 Best College Buys report evaluates academic quality and cost, and the newest findings are based on a survey of 1,459 accredited U.S. colleges and universities.

To be considered for the designation America’s 100 Best College Buys, an institution must be an accredited, four-year institution offering bachelor’s degrees. The institution must also offer full residential facilities, including residence halls and dining services.

Additionally, the institution must have had an entering freshman class in fall 2013 with a high school grade point average and/or SAT/ACT score equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen. Also, the out-of-state cost of attendance in 2014-15 for three quarters or two semesters must be below the national average cost of attendance or not exceed the national average cost by more than 10 percent.

UT Martin is one of three public Tennessee higher education institutions listed.

"Throughout the economic difficulties that America has experienced in the last decade, the University of Tennessee at Martin has continued to provide the high-quality educational opportunities and low costs that drive opportunity for students and fuel prosperity for the communities of Tennessee," said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

"UT Martin continues to earn and receive recognition for educational value," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. "High-quality academic programs offered at a reasonable cost make UT Martin stand out in a competitive higher education marketplace."

The recognition follows two listings announced in recent months. In August, The Princeton Review named the university among the “Best in the Southeast” for 2015. The list is part of the company’s website feature “2015 Best Colleges: Region by Region” posted at PrincetonReview.com.

UT Martin has been included in this listing for 12 consecutive years.

Then in September, UT Martin continued in the top tier for southern master’s level universities in the 2015 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings. The university was also ranked for the first time among southern regional institutions in the “Best Colleges for Veterans” category.

Union’s average grade point average for entering freshman at the time of the survey was 3.67 on a 4.0 scale. Its average ACT was 26.

“We appreciate this recognition as a Best College Buy that reflects the stewardship of our faculty and staff who are committed to doing everything possible to maintain the highest levels of excellence while keeping costs as low as possible,” said Samuel W. "Dub" Oliver, president of Union University.
Aspiring young writers can improve their writing skills at the annual Young Writers Conference Nov. 14 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The conference will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Boling University Center and is sponsored by the UT Martin Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

The one-day conference is designed for students in grades 9-12 who wish to improve their creative and professional writing abilities. The conference is open to students recommended by their teachers on the basis of academic merit and artistic promise. UT Martin faculty and visiting poet and writer Leslie LaChance will teach a series of writing workshops.

Ms. LaChance, one of the Young Writers Conference founders when she taught at UT Martin, now teaches literature and writing at Volunteer State Community College in Gallatin. Her poems have appeared in a number of periodicals and her collection “How She Got That Way” was published in 2013 by Toadlily Press in the chapbook quartet “Mend & Hone.”

“We’re delighted to have this year’s visiting author in the program. She’s an incredible writer and teacher, and it’s great that she can come back to UT Martin to headline a conference that she has worked to make such in years past,” said Dr. John Glass, assistant professor of English. “Also, we are collaborating again this year with the West Tennessee Writing Project to provide a professional development workshop for teachers.”

The workshop for teachers will focus on creating and maintaining a successful student writing organization in public schools. Other events include a luncheon, a reading and keynote address by Ms. LaChance and an open mic for students.

Students will have the opportunity to read works created during the conference or other original writing created at home or in school. Throughout the day, students will create pieces of writing, interact with other young writers from the region and learn from accomplished writers and teachers of writing.

The conference registration fee is $10 for students and $20 for teachers and includes all workshops, readings and a luncheon. Teachers are encouraged, but are not required, to attend along with their students. Teachers should follow their school policies in arranging for parent/guardian permissions for students who will attend the conference.

Registration is limited to 150 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms must be received by Nov. 7, along with payment to UT Martin for the conference registration fee.

Participants can register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/conference.php or by regular mail.

For more information about the conference or to register, contact Glass in the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages at (731) 881-7288 or by email at jglass@utm.edu.
Coming home to UTM

I didn't graduate from the University of Tennessee at Martin. I've never been enrolled in one UTM class. I was almost 40 years old the first time I set foot on campus. But I love UTM homecoming every year. Why? Because this university represents home to me. Over the last 11 years, it's become a big wonderful extended family for me and my family. My husband and I like to call it an undiscovered treasure on a crowded map.

I was almost 40 when we moved here from College Station, Texas. Our whole family loved College Station. We had so many wonderful friends there. Still do. We loved Texas A&M University, too. Honestly, the idea of moving to a rural West Tennessee town didn't sound that inviting to me. But my husband was deliriously happy about working at a university that was all about teaching and mentoring college students. His enthusiasm was infectious.

He jumped in with both feet at UTM and so did we. We decided this was home and chose to love it. Funny how that works. When you make a decision to be content, real contentment soon follows the decision. Phil found his true calling in teaching and mentoring UTM students. We bought our first house and chose to put down roots in the fertile West Tennessee soil.

So, every year, when homecoming comes around, I walk through quad city proudly wearing orange. I enthusiastically yell, "Go Skyhawks!" I visit each tent, decorated with such care and enthusiasm by students and staff who care about this university and its mission. This year, I even attended rope pull. I yelled and screamed and celebrated with each victorious team. I groaned with those who put all their sweat and toil on the line and came up short. I stood in awe of each team's tenacity and discipline.

Recently, we talked to our boys about plans for the future. When we asked where they might want to go to college, they said in almost unison, "UTM." Phil and I smiled. They've heard us talk about what we believe is both a superior academic education and a safe environment for social/spiritual development. We were fine with them considering other places. But we were glad they looked at what we have in our own backyard and saw the treasure we see every day.

Tomorrow I'll be traveling to Knoxville to speak at two events. Make no mistake. East Tennessee is strikingly beautiful. The city of Knoxville is bigger and it has a lot of amenities we don't have now and may never have. UT Knoxville is more than twice as big as UTM, too. But when Thursday afternoon comes, I'll be overjoyed to push my favorite button on the GPS unit. The button that says, "Go home."

This column is really just a thank you note. A public thank you note to my UTM and West Tennessee family. I travel all over the United States. But I'm always happy when homecoming rolls around. You make me proud to call this area home. Go Skyhawks!

For more information about Lisa Smartt, visit her website, lisasmartt.com. She may be contacted at lisa@lisasmartt.com.
UTM to host Igniting Innovation lecture

EMILY MORTON  
enorton@stategazette.com

On Saturday, Nov 1, at 7 p.m., Daniel Burke, Bryan Huddleston, and Robbie Goldsmith will be speaking about 'Igniting Innovation'. The lecture will take place at 199 Moody St. in the Student Life Center on UT Martin's campus. This event will spark the creative and innovative minds, which lay dormant in everyone. Huddleston serves as president and CEO of the Nashville Technology Council. The mission of the Nashville Technology Council is simple: to develop, connect and promote the Middle Tennessee technology community. The Technology Council serves to provide relationships, resources, and advocacy and visibility for individual, corporate and institutional members. Its vision is to have growing and vibrant regional economy because of technology companies and individuals.

Huddleston has lived in Tennessee the majority of his life and as a Nashville resident since 1995. Prior to the Nashville Technology Council, Huddleston worked at Microsoft for eight years. Bryan has held previous positions as a mentor, product manager, and developer and business development. Huddleston has been active in the startup community by being a mentor in the JumpStart Foundry and Entrepreneur Center and investor in three startups. He sits on multiple community boards including the Lipscomb University SCI advisory board, Nashville State Foundation, Women in Technology, Nashville Entrepreneur Center and Bethany Christian Services.

FOCUS ON FAYETTE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Pictured, left to right, Austin Brunette, Kelsey Morrison, ACT Prep Instructor Alex Beene, Ana Noguez Garcia and Erika Luna.

Four Fayette-Ware juniors will be participating in WestStar's 2014 RisingStar Leadership Summit next month at the University of Tennessee at Martin. All four were chosen based on their strong academic track records and the desire they have shown for future collegiate leadership. ACT Prep Instructor, Alex Beene is a WestStar graduate and recommended the students to partake in the program. The program will encourage them to use their skills to improve their school and community.

The program will take place on November 21 and 22 and will include leadership team building, motivational speakers and university tours designed for specific academic interests. Some of the motivational speakers will include: Chancellor, UT Martin Dr. Tom Rakes; Executive Director, WestStar Leadership Mr. Charley Deal; Coordinator of Public Occasions Ms. Dorothy Gillon; Office of Student Engagement, Coordinator II, UT Martin Ms. Gina McClure; and Author, West Tennessee Columnist, and Motivational Speaker Ms. Lisa Smartt. They will also take part in a customized individual campus tour and have the opportunity to visit Nursing, Art/Theater, Agriculture, Computer Science, Radio, TV/Broadcasting, Education and Criminal Justice Departments.

After completing the program, the students who decide to attend UT Martin as freshman will have the chance to apply for the RisingStar Leadership Scholarship.

For more information on Fayette County Schools please visit www.tsck12tn.net or call 901-465-5260.
Peabody alumni raising support for Nepal trip

Editor's Note: The following is courtesy of The Pacer, the UT Martin student newspaper, with additional information provided by Cal Crenshaw and Zach Bruketta.

Two Peabody High School graduates are raising support for a humanitarian trip to Nepal through Letters in Motion program.

Zach Bruketta, 19, and Cal Crenshaw, 21, are students at the University of Tennessee at Martin where junior psychology major John Sellers has launched Letters in Motion. The program sends letters of hope to orphans in Nepal and builds orphanages there with the help of three missionary families. The program will then help rescue at-risk children between the ages of three and eight before they are thrust into poverty or subject to human trafficking.

The program is scheduled to begin in June 2015. Funding the trip will require raising $3,000 per student along with $15,000 for technical equipment. Sellers has already raised $10,000, and five of his missionaries have also raised a significant amount thus far on an individual basis.

"When I heard of the opportunity to help with Letters in Motion, I felt called to help serve the people of Nepal and the various ministries located there," Bruketta said. "I believe that we all play a part in spreading the love and grace of Christ."

Sellers and his team will release two promotional videos to raise awareness for the foreign aid. One video will be of the students who write the letters and will showcase the entire sequence of mailing a single letter, then handing it to a child in Nepal. The second video is still in the concept stage, although it will also promote the project.

Multiple student organizations have agreed to support the project. For example, both the UTM Baptist Christian Ministry and the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity will be helping to raise awareness.

Letters in Motion will also (continued on page 3)
PAL At Health Fair

XAVIER LAWRENCE ANDREWS, right, in rear, PAL Coordinator, along with, in front, from left, Mary Ann Jarrett, LPN Marketing Nurse Convenient Care; Linda Halliburton, Health Department staff; Lisa Strickland, nutritionist, Health Department; Teresa Macklin, American Cancer Society representative; Ethel Spivey, RN to BSN Coordinator, UTM Ripley Center; Steven Isbell, RN, facility administrator, DaVita Healthcare Inc.; and in rear, Amy Mux, LPN, DaVita Healthcare Inc., and Angel Lee, Health Fair assistant, participated in a health fair, sponsored by Elam Baptist Church October 25th. The Anti-Drug Coalition of Lauderdale County gave a presentation and also set-up a table with information about the effect of Tobacco, Alcohol and prescription drugs. They discussed how important it is to store prescription drugs away from children and how important it is take time out to talk to the youth about not taking something from someone that they don’t know. The next coalition meeting will be held at 6 p.m., Thursday, October 30th at the UTM Ripley Center. The public is invited. For more information, call 731-612-6337 or email xandrews@utm.edu.
HOMECOMING HONOREES — Retired WNBA coach Lin Dunn, WPSD Local 6’s Jennifer Horbelt and Dr. Robert M. Smith, president emeritus of Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania, received awards Saturday during a program in the Paul Meek Library as part of UT Martin’s Homecoming 2014 celebration. Dunn of Dresden received the Outstanding Alumni Award; Horbelt of Paducah, Ky., received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award and Smith of Franklin received the Chancellor's Award for University Service. The three recipients were recognized during halftime of Saturday’s game.

RECOGNITION — Julie Cooper (left) of Gleason and Debbie Walden of Union City are joined by Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, after receiving the UT Martin Fall 2014 Outstanding Employee Awards. Cooper received the non-exempt award and Walden the exempt honor. Most of Cooper’s 30 years of university service have been spent in various positions in the Paul Meek Library. She works with acquisitions, cataloguing, reference and systems personnel, assuring that access is provided to print and electronic journals. She also makes sure that materials are ordered and received in a timely manner.

Coming home to UTM

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Go Skyhawks!

For more information about Lisa Smartt, visit her website, lisasmartt.com. She may be contacted at lisa@lisasmartt.com.
Sidewalk Survey

What's your fondest memory of being a student at UT Martin?

"There's so many. I greatly enjoyed having a say in what occurred on campus through initiatives set by Student Government Association and Greek life."
- Mary Wiggins was a communications/public relations major from 2007-11 and is now UTM's coordinator of career services.

"I liked campus involvement with events such as athletics, Greek life, and my academic department."
- Garrett Cote was a political science/English major from 2010-14 and is now an admissions counselor at UT Martin.

"The events of rodeo week was probably my favorite part."
- Kerry Smith was a business management major from 2002-04 and now works as a student service specialist.

"A friend and I wore chicken suits to a British Lit class."
- Trevor Smith was a communications/English major from 2007-11 and now works as an admissions counselor.

"My interaction with the faculty and staff. As an adult student they understood where I was in life."
- Debbie Mount was a business major from 2001-05 and is now director of non-degree programs.
Big Cypress Tree State Natural Area

to host 25th annual Fall Festival on Saturday

The 25th annual Big Cypress Tree Fall Festival is set for Saturday.

The festival, a family event and free to all, will be held at the Big Cypress Tree State Natural Area, located five miles west of Greenfield on Hwy. 445. Big Cypress Tree is one of Tennessee’s 54 state parks.

The festival will open at 9 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. There are several programs that the entire family will find interesting and will enjoy, including:

- "The story of Davy Crockett, as told by himself."
- Reelfoot Birds of Prey
- "Physics of Flight" by the Natural History Educational Company of the MidSouth
- Snakes of Tennessee by UT Martin’s Dr. Tom Blanchard
- A hike – led by UTM’s Dr. Dawn Wilkins – to locate and identify birds in the park.

In addition, arts and crafts vendors will be set up, the AirEvac Lifeteam helicopter is scheduled to land and UTM’s Ecology Club will have a collection of birds, plants, pelts and more to see. Also present this year will be UTM’s chapter of the National Association of Interpretation, which will have a collection of snakes, pressed leaves, turtle shells and more. UTM’s Eleanor Gardner will be present with a paleontology dig and a fossil collection.

The music for the event will be provided by “The House Band” from UTM. Shelton’s Restaurant from Sharon will be selling a delicious lunch.

It’s not too late for arts and crafts folks to secure a booth. Call (731) 235-9216 to reserve a free booth, or send an email to the park at Bill.McCall@tn.gov.

Here are the approximate times for the day’s programs:

- 9 a.m. – Dr. Wilkin’s Bird Hike.
- 9:30 a.m. – Davy Crockett.
- 10:15 a.m. – Snakes of Tennessee.
- 10:55 a.m. – Physics of Flight.
- 11:40 a.m. – The House Band.
- 12:40 p.m. – Announcements.
- 1 p.m. – The House Band.
- 1:40 p.m. – Physics of Flight.
- 2:20 p.m. – Reelfoot Lake Birds of Prey.

If you enjoy wildlife photography, there will be many opportunities to take some great close ups of the beautiful wildlife that will be at this festival.

Park Manager Bill McCall said invites everybody to come and spend an enjoyable day in the great outdoors on Saturday at Weakley County’s state park.
UTM McWherter Innovators host “Igniting Innovation” speakers Saturday night

Posted on October 31, 2014 by Steve James in Local News

The inaugural class of the Ned McWherter Institute for Collaboration and Innovation are hosting a UT-Martin sponsored event tomorrow night called “Igniting Innovation”.

Junior fashion merchandising major Zoe Stringer from Martin is one of the inaugural class members and tells Thunderbolt Radio News that the purpose of the institute and this weekend’s event to inspire innovative thinking.

Miss Stringer says tomorrow night’s event will feature three speakers discussing their backgrounds in business and entrepreneurship.

The speakers tomorrow night are: Nashville Technology Council’s Bryan Huddleston, Nashville Entrepreneur Center’s Robbie Goldsmith, and Daniel Burke with Burke Financial Group. “Igniting Innovation” is tomorrow night at 7.00 at the UTM Student Life Center on Moody Street.