UTM preview days set

The first of two preview days is set for Oct. 18 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Preview days are opportunities for high school seniors and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life. A second day is planned Nov. 15.

Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answers to students' questions on a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid; college and housing costs; and the various university academic programs.

Registration for the preview day, Oct. 18, will be from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Boling University Center, and Nov. 15, from 9-9:30 a.m. in the Elam Center.

On each occasion, registration will be followed by a welcome and general information session, the university’s academic fair, which will take place in the Duncan Ballroom in the university center Oct. 18 and in the Elam Center Nov. 15, academic department visits and campus tours.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at 1-800-829-UTM1 or 731-881-7020.

Campus wireless network receives upgrade

'Campus Technology' magazine's July issue featured UTC in an article which announced the campus' upgrade to Aruba wireless network.

The article quoted Robbie Reel, information technology administrator on campus: 'Aruba's architecture is designed to scale, and that provides peace of mind since we are currently planning a [three times] increase in the size of our network. That comes as great news for students, especially for those who live in campus housing, which is often the last place to be equipped with wireless access.

We hope the university's plan to expand wireless access will eventually result in a completely wireless campus. That would allow students to surf the Web, check e-mail and UTC Online or acquire online research materials from any location on campus.

From the student park by Cardiac Hill to the kitchen table in a Johnson Obear apartment, students could connect to a wireless network without dealing with the hassle of Ethernet cords.

Other universities in the UT system are working toward full wireless coverage across campus, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville has come the closest to meeting that goal.

According to UTK's Web site, the university began installing wireless in 2000 and has since extended coverage to most academic and administrative buildings. They upgraded wireless access in 2004 and began installing wireless in residence halls in 2007.

The University of Tennessee at Martin is working to keep up with the wireless trend, although, like UTC, it currently offers wireless only in select locations on campus, with the strongest signals concentrated in academic buildings. According to UTM's Web site, one residence hall is currently equipped with wireless internet.

Other colleges in the United States are far ahead of the game in providing full wireless coverage to students. Intel Corp. announced Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., as the nation's top wireless campus in 2005.


According to a 2006 article by Sharon Jayson in USA Today: 'Ball State's Wi-Fi goes from buildings to green spaces to the football stadium and other athletic facilities. Even doing laundry is Web-based: Five of the seven residence halls have an Internet-linked laundry system to reserve washers and dryers, monitor the wash online and get an e-mail alert when it's done. The article states that full-time students at Ball State paid a $156 technology fee per semester at the time of the publication. The current technology fee for full-time UTC students is $100 per semester.

That said, we can do without Web-based laundry rooms in campus housing if it saves our tuition dollars. But we do believe basic wireless access on all parts of campus is a reasonable goal.
First preview day set at UTM

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President Petersen’s annual campus tour

David Murphy, left, of Martin, and Joe Brasher, right, of Sharon, were among elected officials, business leaders, educators and UT trustees who talked to University of Tennessee President John Petersen during a campus tour stop at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Monday.

Vaughn slated to perform at UT Martin

Chris Vaughn, a senior music education major from Trenton, will perform his senior trombone recital at 7:30 p.m., October 6, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This event is free and open to the public.

Vaughn will perform with UT Martin’s collaborative artist and lecturer of music, Delana Easley, on works by Stepan Sulek, Arthur Pryor, Malcolm Arnold and Tommy Dorsey. He will also perform a duet with fellow UT Martin student trombonist, Robert Rawdon.

For more information, contact Dr. Bradley Coker, assistant professor of music, at 731-881-7401.

Saunders to discuss Kroll at Southern Festival of Books

One of northwest Tennessee’s great personalities will be featured at the 20th annual Southern Festival of Books. University of Tennessee at Martin librarian, Richard Saunders, will discuss Harry Harrison Kroll and his stature as Tennessee’s most published author of the 20th century at 9 a.m., October 11, at the State Capitol in Nashville.

Kroll’s 1946 novel, “Their Ancient Grudge,” has been reprinted by the University of Tennessee Press in its Appalachian Echos series of classic fiction. A new introduction by Saunders explains the importance of this novel, which was written while Kroll taught at UT Martin.

The novel is important to literature as the last major treatment of the Hatfield and McCoy feud written before scholars began to reinterpret the feud's history.

Saunders will discuss Kroll’s novel and provide an illustrated overview of his writing career. There is no charge to attend the presentation, nor the Southern Festival of Books. The festival, sponsored by Humanities Tennessee, is the focal event of the year for books and reading, bringing together a three-day carnival of food, publishers and exhibitors. Books of all kinds are available for sale, and Tennessee’s authors and illustrators will be on hand to meet readers and sign copies of their works.

Demonstrations, performance and other opportunities can be found on the event Web site at www.humanitiestennessee.org.

For more information, contact Saunders at 731-881-7094.
Octubafest planned at UT Martin, October 2

An Octubafest recital will be held at 7:30 p.m., October 2, in Harriet Fulton Theatre at the University of Tennessee at Martin. It will feature the members of the UT Martin Low Brass Studio, Dr. Bradley Coker assistant professor of music; Delana Easley, lecturer of music; and Dr. Dwight Gatwood, recently retired UT Martin music professor. The performance will consist of a variety of works by several composers. Musical selections will include pieces for low brass, tuba, euphonium, and piano.

Similar in function to the Tuba Christmas performances that take place in cities all over the United States, Octubafest concerts seek to inform audiences about the family of low brass instruments, while providing enjoyable music for listeners of all ages. This event will be free and open to the public.

For additional information, contact Coker at 731-881-7401.

J. Houston Gordon Museum dedication slated for October 3

The University Museum in the Corbitt Special Collections area of the Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin will be named the "J. Houston Gordon Museum" in honor of J. Houston Gordon, alumnus, benefactor and volunteer leader of the university.

The dedication ceremony will be at 4:45 p.m., October 3, at the museum during UT Martin homecoming week. Gordon also is one of three alumni receiving awards, during the UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet later that evening. He will receive the Chancellor's Award for University Service, given in recognition of outstanding service to UT Martin.

J. Houston Gordon Jr., Covington attorney, graduated from UT Martin with honors in 1968. Houston and Debbie Gordon have supported UT Martin through the J. Houston Gordon Family Scholarship Endowment, the Paul Meek Library and the American Democracy Project with gifts and pledges and are members of the UT Charles Dabney Society. Debbie currently serves on the UT National Alumni Association Women's Council and on the Alliance of Women Philanthropists board. Houston has served on the Dean's Alumni Advisory Council, UT College of Law; UT National Alumni Association Board of Governors; the UT Board of Trustees, the UT Martin Development Committee and the UT Development Council.

Four generations of the Gordon family are alumni of UT Martin: Ava Darnall Gordon, his grandmother; H.D. Gordon, his father; Houston and his siblings, John, Chester, Sarah and David; and Chip and John Gordon, his nephews. Jane Gordon, his niece, is a current student.

"The University of Tennessee at Martin believes the naming of University Museum, which is housed in the Special Collections area featuring Gov. Ned P. McWherter's office and the papers of Congressman Ed Jones, is an appropriate recognition of Gordon's distinguished service advancing the educational opportunities in perpetuity for Tennesseans," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.
**UT Martin’s ‘Guide to Speakers and Sources’ updated**

Do you need a speaker for a club or service organization meeting? The University of Tennessee at Martin “Guide to Speakers and Sources” is an online guide to speakers and topics. This guide is designed to acquaint the public with the wide range of human resources available at UT Martin. A variety of groups may find this guide useful in the selection of speakers or experts for various projects and/or meetings.

The guide, at http://www.utm.edu/departments/univrel/resources/php, is prepared in alphabetical order by general topic and divided into subtopics. For assistance in making contacts with the speakers and sources, or for assistance in finding campus experts for topics not listed, call the Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.

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**Homecoming book signings scheduled**

On October 2, there will be two book signings at the Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin as part of the week’s homecoming celebration. At 10 a.m., John Peters, co-author of “On The Ground, the secret war in Vietnam,” will be signing copies of his book. Later, at noon, Richard Saunders, UT Martin special collections librarian and archivist, will be signing copies of “Their Ancient Grudge.”

Peters graduated with a degree in philosophy from Saint Mary’s College of California in 1966. He spent a year of study at the University of Paris before volunteering for the army in 1967. His book chronicles highly classified reconnaissance missions conducted by Peters, John Meyer, his former Special Forces comrade in arms and other members of the military assistance command’s studies and observations group into Laos, Cambodia and North Vietnam. Peters will give a talk about Vietnamese and MACV-SOG history, answer questions and bring books to sign and sell.

First published in 1946, Kroll’s portrayal of the legendary Hatfield-McCoy feud (1878-1890) is seen through the eyes of women from both families. “Their Ancient Grudge” stands as the last major treatment of this iconic sliver of American culture before it was reinterpreted by historians. For this edition, Saunders has written an introduction discussing Kroll’s background, his influence on Appalachian literature and his colorful ability to convey the nature of mountain culture through his works. Saunders will bring books to sign and sell.

For more information, contact Julie Cooper, Paul Meek Library associate, at 731-881-7076.

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**Art showcased at library**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library and Department of Visual and Theatre Arts are collaborating to bring contemporary art exhibitions and events to the library. The effort began in April with the hanging of a work, “Of Vibrations and Time,” by Lane Last, associate professor of art, in the library. It will continue as more exhibition infrastructure can be secured and installed. Future exhibitions will include other faculty members, student art, traveling exhibitions, and possibly regional artists. The most recent unveiling, September 29, showcases a painting, “Woodland Series No. 2,” by Diane Shaw, assistant professor of art. With Shaw are Sam Richardson, center, circulation/instruction librarian, and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes.
‘Discovery’ architect to speak at UT Martin

Internationally-known Canadian architect Douglas Cardinal will speak at 4 p.m. Oct. 9 in Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Honors Programs is co-sponsoring the event with the Center for Global Studies and the Canadian Consulate General in Atlanta as part of their “Great North in the Deep South” Speaker Series, as well as the UT Martin Academic Speaker Series.

Cardinal’s lecture title is “Discovery Park of America: Reflections of an Architect’s Life and Vision.”

“Douglas Cardinal is one of the outstanding architects of the contemporary period,” said Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin Honors Programs director. “He has a long list of amazing buildings to his credit. The people of West Tennessee are fortunate to have such an accomplished architect leading the design of the Discovery Park of America (planned in Union City).”

The son of a game warden, Cardinal was born in Alberta. He studied architecture at the University of British Columbia and received his bachelor’s degree in architecture from the University of Texas. He located his architectural practice in Edmonton and practiced from 1967-1985, before moving to Ottawa, where he is currently based.

Cardinal has established an international reputation for excellence in natural design and is “credited with having created an indigenous Canadian style of architecture with his curvilinear, organic buildings.” Among his most prominent designs are St. Mary’s Church in Red Deer, Alberta (which first established his reputation), the Edmonton Space and Science Center, the Government Services Center in Ponoka, Alberta, and the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec.

His designs in the United States include the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and he is currently the principal architect for Discovery Park of America in Union City, a multi-million dollar project originated by the Robert E. and Jenny D. Kirkland Foundation.

Cardinal is a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and a member of the Royal Society of Canada. He was presented with the Governor General’s Award in Visual and Architectural Arts in 1984.

‘Discovery’...

(Continued from Page One)

Media Arts and with Canada’s most coveted honor, the Order of Canada. He is the recipient of a large number of honorary degrees and doctorates in both Canada and the United States. In addition to Canada, his work has been exhibited in France, Belgium, Poland and the United States, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

Besides receiving accolades for his major contributions to architecture, Cardinal has also earned praise for his lifelong advocacy of the rights of native peoples in Canada.

For more information, contact McDonough at (731) 881-7436.

DOUGLAS CARDINAL

Book signings slated during homecoming

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Demonstrations, performance and other opportunities can be found on the event Web site at www.humanitiesinstitute. For more information, contact Saunders at (731) 881-7094.

Local university earns listing among the Best College Buys

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed among America's 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc.

This marks the third consecutive year the university has earned the IRE designation.

"Once again, the results of our annual national college survey prove that the University of Tennessee at Martin continues to provide students the highest quality educational environment at the very lowest possible cost," said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

Lindsey said that colleges and universities across the country are challenged by rising costs. But he noted that the efforts of UT Martin administration, faculty and staff "assure that students cannot find a better educational opportunity at a lower cost within or outside of Tennessee."

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, said that the university is committed to containing costs while providing a high-quality education.

"We're pleased with this designation, especially knowing that many families struggle with paying for college," he said. "In these tough budget times, we're looking hard for ways to maintain quality at a reasonable cost."

The listing among America's 100 Best College Buys is UT Martin's third major recognition for the current academic year. Earlier, UT Martin continued its top-tier ranking for southern master's institutions in the 2009 edition of America's Best Colleges, compiled by U.S. News & World Report.


UTM speakers guide updated

Do you need a speaker for a club or service organization meeting? The University of Tennessee at Martin "Guide to Speakers and Sources" is an online guide to speakers and topics.

The guide is designed to acquaint the public with the wide range of human resources available at UT Martin. A variety of groups may find this guide useful in the selection of speakers or experts for various projects and/or meetings.

The guide, available online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/univrel/resources.php, is prepared in alphabetical order by general topic and divided into subtopics.

For assistance in making contacts with the speakers and sources or for assistance in finding campus experts for topics not listed, call the Office of University Relations at (731) 881-7615.

Art exhibit to open Tuesday

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will open the third in a series of senior art exhibition offerings for the 2008-09 school year on Tuesday in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus.

Amanda Morrow, an art studio emphasis student from Troy, and Darius Moore, a graphic design emphasis student from Bartlett, will be featured. The exhibition will begin with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at (731) 881-7400.
UT Martin among schools to participate in presidential ‘DebateWatch’ event

The University of Tennessee at Martin is inviting the campus and the community to watch Tuesday's presidential debate and join in a live videoconference discussion with viewers from five other Tennessee universities.

The event is free of charge.

Beginning at 8 p.m., live audiences will assemble at UT Martin (Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center), UT Chattanooga, the University of Memphis; Tennessee State University and East Tennessee State University to watch the Belmont University Town Hall presidential debate and participate in the hour-long videoconference discussion.

At UT Martin, there will be musical entertainment and food at 6:30 p.m. in the Watkins Lobby to kick off the event.

"DebateWatch" events are sponsored by the Commission on Presidential Debates throughout election season and provide an opportunity for people to share their thoughts, questions and impressions about the debate without any influence from the political spin on commentary-based shows that traditionally follow the debate.

For this DebateWatch, the moderators for UT Martin will be Dr. Mike McCullough, professor of management and American Democracy Project chair, and Tim Smith, adjunct instructor of history and philosophy at the UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer.

For more information, contact McCullough at (731) 881-7325 or mccullou@utm.edu.

Aspiring young writers sought for conference

A conference designed for high school students who want hands-on experience in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, songwriting and online writing is planned for Oct. 31 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The conference workshops will be taught by UT Martin faculty and visiting writer Beth Lordan.

Other events will include a luncheon, a reading by Lordan and an open mic reading 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, connect with other young writers from the region and learn from outstanding writers and teachers of writing.

The conference registration fee is $5 for students and $10 for teachers and includes all workshops, readings and a luncheon. The conference is open to students recommended by their teachers on the basis of academic achievement and artistic promise. Teachers are encouraged, but are not required, to attend along with their students. Teachers are asked to follow their school policies in arranging for parent/guardian permissions for students who will be attending the conference.

Registration is limited to 100 participants on a first-come, first-serve basis. A registration form and check for the conference fee made payable to UT Martin must be received by Oct. 27. For a copy of the brochure or to register online, go to www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/courses_nondegree.php.

The conference is sponsored by the Department of English.

For more information, contact Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English, at lachange@utm.edu or call (731) 881-7296.

Consultant will be at REED Center

The University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center assists an average of 100 small business owners or aspiring entrepreneurs each year with one-on-one consulting.

The next opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues from Ron Acree, Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC) consultant, will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Oct. 9.

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

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

The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin. For additional services offered by the REED Center, go to www.utm.edu/reed.
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For more information, contact Dr. Bradley Coker, assistant professor of music, at 881-7401.

WESTVIEW BAND TAKES SECOND - The UTM music department recently held its Skyhawk Marching Band Invitational on the UTM campus. 29 bands from across Tennessee and Northern Mississippi participated, including many regional bands. The Westview marching Band gave an outstanding performance in its first competition of the year, receiving second place band in its class. Accepting the award are: Stanton Watson, Jarad Towe, Elizabeth Bukeavich, Julie Redick, Jennifer Anderson, Danielle Emerson, and Matt Borden.
FOOD FOR THOUGHT — Obion County natives Wes Jackson (left) and Ches Jackson were inseparable from childhood through college at the University of Tennessee at Martin but then spent the early part of their careers advancing separately in the corporate end of the food industry. In 2004, Wes co-founded and became president and chief executive officer of Monogram Food Solutions in Memphis. Ches joined him in 2006 as president of Monogram Meat Snacks division. The twins agree that Monogram Food Solutions is “where we want to be.”

Appetite for growth

Twins relish the food business

By RITA MITCHELL
Special to The Messenger

When you ask them about their careers, twins Wes and Ches Jackson are quick to point out that no one really graduates from college and aspires to sell hot dogs.

But in 1982, with business degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin in hand, that’s exactly what they sold — along with other Reelfoot Packing Co. products.

Their father, Billy Joe, had worked for the former Reelfoot Packing plant in Union City most of his career, and his sons naturally gravitated there for jobs during high school and college to help finance their college educations.

That early experience in the food industry made indelible marks on the Obion County natives, who spent the first 25 years of their careers apart, both advancing in the corporate end of the food industry.

Early on, their interest in sales earned them top management positions with such companies as Sara Lee Corporation and Con Agra Foods. (Wes was president of Sara Lee Dinner Group in Cincinnati and Ches was vice-president/customer development for Con Agra Foods in Tampa, Fla.)

More recently, it was their entrepreneurial bent that in 2004 led Wes to co-found and become president and chief executive officer of Monogram Food Solutions in Memphis and Ches to join him two years later as president of Monogram Meat Snacks division.

“Once we got into the business, I think both of us would tell you we figured out that sales, and sales in the meat business, was a pretty good gig,” Ches said. “I don’t think either one of us has ever considered leaving the food business.”

And they value not only their years of experience in the corporate world but also their business degrees from UT Martin that got them started. Speaking of UT Martin’s business department, Ches said, “I believed then that it had a very fine academic curriculum, and I believe

(See Page 12, Col. 1)
small company where resources are always at a premium, there’s not a lot of room for redundancy, so you figure out who’s going to be in charge of what, and you run with it,” said Ches. He calls himself the day-to-day operations chief, focusing more of his energy on execution and continuous improvement, while Wes heads up the King Cotton and Circle B brands and spearheads business development “trying to land the next deal.”

“It’s certainly not split between Wes and me,” said Ches. “There’s a lot of intellectual horsepower here that adds value.”

Wes adds, “We are so fortunate to have such a great group of hard-working, talented people,” many of whom worked with the brothers earlier in their careers. The management team is made up of people who are exercising their entrepreneurial instincts. “The reality is if you don’t have it (entrepreneurial spirit), you wouldn’t be here,” said Wes. “It’s just a different satisfaction when you’re working for a private organization … and the decisions you make as a team clearly impact a lot of people’s lives.”

Wes and Ches, who were inseparable from childhood through college, are glad to be working together again. They also like living close to their father, Billy Joe, and mother, Evelyn. And they enjoy each other’s families. Ches and his wife, Susan, are the parents of two sons, 18-year-old Palmer and 7-year-old Hamilton, and a 16-year-old daughter, Kelsey. Wes and his wife, Suzanne, have a 9-year-old son, Cole, and 3-year-old twins daughter Sydney and son Tate.

Looking to the future, Wes and Ches agree that Monogram Food Solutions is “where we want to be.” In the early stages, Wes recalls, “We were talking with NASCAR (officials), with Emeril Lagasse, and with Jeff Foxworthy simultaneously. I would say the goal at the time was if we could get any one of these licensing deals, then that would be validity; it would be a good start to our business. As it turned out, not only did we get one of them, we got all three. Those moments for me were very exciting, kind of defining moments, because I knew that the risk we had taken would pay off.”

“If you look at the brands and what we’ve got in manufacturing ready to go to market … we think we’re ahead of where we need to be,” Ches said. “We’ve got two to three years of really good, hard work to make sure these brands deliver what we think they should.

“Today, we have a plateful. We’re just making sure we execute very well against what we’ve already put in place,” Ches said. “We want to take what we’ve got and build it into a really solid long-term national business, and then we will plug in and bolt on where it’s a strategic fit. We have an appetite for growth.”

Editor’s note: Rita Mitchell is university editor in the Office of University Relations at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The photo of the Jacksons was provided by Trevor Ruszkowski, university photographer in the Office of University Relations.
Foreign film to be shown at UT Martin

“The Mad Adventures of Rabbi Jacob” will be shown at 7 p.m. Oct. 10 as part of the foreign film series sponsored by the Department of Modern Foreign Languages on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus in the Watkins Auditorium.

Originally called “one of the funniest movies from any country” upon its initial theatrical release, the movie has gone on to become a comedic cult classic.

Victor Pivert, the main character, is a very tolerant man — provided you are white, Catholic and French. To everyone else, he is a shameless racist who believes foreigners should go back where they came from. On his way to his daughter’s wedding, Victor uncovers a group of scheming Arab revolutionaries. After Victor is discovered, he hides himself by dressing up as a rabbi, leading to one madcap scene after another. “The Mad Adventures of Rabbi Jacob” provides some surprising observations on human social interactions.

The film is directed by Gérard Oury and stars Louis de Funès, Claude Girard and Marcel Dalio as Rabbi Jacob.

The film will be in its original foreign language with English subtitles. It will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Daniel Nappo, Department of Modern Foreign Languages chair and associate professor of Spanish, at (731) 881-7420 or (731) 881-7428.
Haunted tour of UT Martin made of local legends

Sara Brunstad
Press Intern

The Shadows of Spirits
By day, The University of Tennessee at Martin appears innocent enough. No lingering voices whisper threats in isolated halls; no ghastly apparitions float inches above unsuspecting heads. At night, however, UT Martin comes alive with the shadows of the dead.

On Oct. 1, to celebrate the beginning of the haunted month of Halloween, a small group of UT Martin students organized a Haunted Tour of the campus, telling of the mysterious history of spirit sightings surrounding the University.

The tour began in the University Center's Watkins Auditorium. The brick overhang in the main lobby area of the auditorium originally did not exist, according to the guides.

In the 1960's, an unnamed African American student was supposedly pushed from the second floor; he died three days later.

Now, legend states that on the first and third night of the Civil Rights Conference every year, the ghost of the student wanders the lobby of the University Center.

Custodians and students have reported a presence inside the locked building, particularly around 3am, a traditional haunting hour.

As if this spooky tale needed more, the tour guides led the way to Pacer Pond, a place surrounded by numerous student legends.

According to the tour guides, in the 1980's, a mad scientist attempted to transplant a dog's head onto the body of a human; legend has it that the transplantation was successful and the man-dog roams the Pond, living in an area of uncut grass near the edge of the water.

Citizens and students alike have claimed sightings of the creature; one of the tour guides, in fact, claims to have been grabbed by a mysterious entity. He claims he is "not sure what grabbed [him]."

Students on the tour were warned to avoid the edges of the tall grass, where the creature often lurks to surprise its victims.

Next, the frightening journey continued to the University quad, the circle of academic buildings that is the center of the University. The history behind the alleged mysterious occurrences in the quad lies in Martin's own "witch trials." The tour guides claim that before the existence of the University, a satanic cult was discovered in Martin.

The group allegedly held séances and spell conjuring bonfires in a deserted field.

When the citizens discovered the cult, they promptly hung the villains; however, just before dying, the cult members uttered these words: "Our altar shall never be desecrated. He who desecrates our altar will be burned by fire."

The exact spot of the supposed altar is Centennial Court, in the very center of the quad.

Since then, the guides say, almost every building in the quad has burned down at least once, often burning people alive inside.

Finally, the most well known haunted spot on campus is in the fourth floor of Clement Hall.

The tour guides described Clement Hall as "one of the most haunted places in West Tennessee;" even tours of UT Martin for aspiring freshman often include tales of Clement Hall.

According to the story, in the 1970's on a stormy night, a young girl elatedly sat in her dorm room thinking about her boyfriend's marriage proposal that day. Hearing the severity of the storm, the girl decided to walk to her fiancé's room, also in Clement Hall.

She found him kissing another girl. Torn with anguish, the distraught girl ran out of the room, stole into the men's bathroom,

See UT Martin, Page 4
CROP Hunger Walk set

The Interfaith Student Center and the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice at The University of Tennessee Martin are organizing a CROP Hunger Walk, which will be held from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18. Local churches, civic groups and campus organizations are invited to participate in the walk by encouraging individuals to obtain sponsors and join the walk around the UT Martin campus.

Donations from the CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walk will go to Church World Service and to Hunters for the Hungry. Church World Service is a cooperative ministry of 35 Protestant, Orthodox and Anglican denominations. It provides sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief and refugee assistance in 80 countries.

Seventy-five percent of the money raised at the UT Martin Crop Hunger Walk will go to CWS. The remaining 25 percent will be given to Tennessee’s Hunters for the Hungry, which provides fresh game meat for local food pantries such as We Care Ministries. Donors may also designate their gifts to other approved international hunger-fighting agencies.

The first CROP Hunger Walk was held in Bismarck, N.D., in 1969, and since then the movement has spread to more than 2,000 communities across the United States. However, this will be the first year that a CROP Hunger Walk will be held in West Tennessee.

Registration for the UT Martin CROP Hunger Walk will be held Oct. 18 at the Interfaith Student Center. Donations can be turned in at registration.

The Interfaith Center is located on the east side of the UTM campus at 312 Lovelace Ave. For more information, contact the Rev. Jolinde Balentine-Downey at 587-2603 or Dr. Nancy Sonleitner at 881-7523.

Preview days set at UTM

The first of two preview days is set for Oct. 18 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Preview days are opportunities for high school seniors and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life. A second day is planned Nov. 15.

Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answers to students’ questions on a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid; college and housing costs; and the various university academic programs.

Registration for the preview day, Oct. 18, will be from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Boling University Center, and Nov. 15, from 9-9:30 a.m. in the Elam Center.

On each occasion, registration will be followed by a welcome and general information session, the university’s academic fair, which will take place in the Duncan Ballroom in the university center Oct. 18 and in the Elam Center Nov. 15, academic department visits and campus tours.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at (800) 829-UTM1 or 881-7020.

'Guide to Speakers and Sources' updated

Do you need a speaker for a club or service organization meeting? The University of Tennessee at Martin “Guide to Speakers and Sources” is an online guide to speakers and topics. This guide is designed to acquaint the public with the wide range of human resources available at UT Martin. A variety of groups may find this guide useful in the selection of speakers or experts for various projects and meetings.

The guide, at http://www.utm.edu/departments/univrel/resources.php is prepared in alphabetical order by general topic and divided into subtopics. For assistance in making contacts with the speakers and sources, or for assistance in finding campus experts for topics not listed, call the Office of University Relations at 881-7615.
Architect to be part of Academic Speaker Series

Internationally known Canadian architect Douglas Cardinal will speak at 4 p.m., Oct. 9, in Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Honors Programs is co-sponsoring the event with the Center for Global Studies and the Canadian Consulate General in Atlanta as part of their “Great North in the Deep South” Speaker Series, as well as UT Martin Academic Speaker Series. His lecture title is “Discovery Park of America: Reflections of an Architect’s Life and Vision.”

“Douglas Cardinal is one of the outstanding architects of the contemporary period,” said Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin Honors Programs director. “He has a long list of amazing buildings to his credit. The people of West Tennessee are fortunate to have such an accomplished architect leading the design of the Discovery Park of America (planned in Union City).”

Douglas Cardinal

The son of a game warden of Blackfoot heritage, Cardinal was born in Alberta. He studied architecture at the University of British Columbia and received his bachelor’s degree in architecture from the University of Texas. He located his architectural practice in Edmonton and practiced from 1967-85, before moving to Ottawa, where he is currently based.

Cardinal has established an international reputation for excellence in natural design and is “credited with having created an indigenous Canadian style of architecture with his curvilinear, organic buildings.” Among his most prominent designs are St. Mary’s Church in Red Deer, Alberta (which first established his reputation), the Edmonton Space and Science Center, the Government Services Center in Ponoka, Alberta, and the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Gatineau, Quebec. Among his designs in the United States, he worked on the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., and is currently the principal architect for the Discovery Park in Union City, a $100 million project under the leadership of the Robert E. and Jenny D. Kirkland Foundation.

Cardinal is a Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and a member of the Royal Society of Canada. He was presented with the Governor General’s Award in Visual and Media Arts and with Canada’s most coveted honor, the Order of Canada. He is the recipient of a large number of honorary degrees and doctorates in both Canada and the United States.

In addition to Canada, his work has been exhibited in France, Belgium, Poland and the United States, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. Besides receiving accolades for his major contributions to architecture, Cardinal has also earned praise for his lifelong advocacy of the rights of native peoples in Canada.

For more information, contact McDonough at 881-7436.

UTM among schools to participate in presidential 'DebateWatch'

The University of Tennessee at Martin invites the campus and community to watch the Oct. 7 presidential debate and join in a live videoconference discussion with viewers from five other Tennessee universities. The event is free.

Beginning at 8 p.m. Central, live audiences will assemble at UT Martin (Watkins Auditorium, Boiling University Center), UT Chattanooga, the University of Memphis, Tennessee State University and East Tennessee State University to watch the Belmont University Town Hall presidential debate and participate in the hour-long videoconference discussion. At UT Martin, there will be musical entertainment and food at 6:30 p.m., in Watkins lobby, to kick off the event.

“DebateWatch” events are sponsored by the Commission on Presidential Debates throughout election season and provide an opportunity for people to share their thoughts, questions and impressions about the debate without any influence from the political spin on commentary-based shows that traditionally follow the debate.

For this DebateWatch, the moderators for UT Martin will be Dr. Mike McCullough, professor of management and American Democracy Project chair, and Tim Smith, adjunct instructor of history and philosophy at the UT Martin McNairy County Center/ Selmer. For more information, contact McCullough at 881-7325 or mccullou@utm.edu.
Pelren, Fieser awarded Reagan Leaves for work

Two University of Tennessee at Martin professors have been awarded Reagan Leaves for the 2008-09 year. Dr. Eric Pelren, professor of wildlife biology, and Dr. James Fieser, professor of philosophy, will take their leaves during the spring semester. The UT Martin Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave Program is designed to enable participants to become more effective teachers and scholars by engaging in a variety of academic/renewal experiences.

Pelren will travel to several wildlife facilities in Tennessee to study the diversity and richness of biota in the state, visiting with the managers of these facilities and photographing the habitats of those sites. He will also write several nature-related essays toward completion of a book for publication. He intends to use the CD from his observations of the area and interviews with the wildlife managers in his Wildlife Biology 350 and 450 classes the following academic year. Pelren noted that his interest in writing the nature-related essays started with his involvement in UT Martin’s Voice Lessons workshop in 2002.

“Wildlife biology curricula are primarily science based,” he said. “Opportunities for personal reflection and philosophy are limited, and students seem to find value in the opportunity to explore their own wildlife- and nature-related values and philosophies.” He added, “Students are a secondary motivation for me completing my essays because I believe that the work involved in writing these essays is formative to my own evolving values and philosophies with regard to wildlife and nature. I expect this process to improve me as a teacher.”

Dr. Fieser will work during his leave time to complete a philosophy book about the “great issues in philosophy” with chapters covering the topics of metaphysics, aesthetics, critical thinking, philosophy of science and non-western philosophies. Some of his time will be spent at Vanderbilt University’s library.

Fieser said the project will provide him new perspectives and increase his understanding of the “most recent philosophical discussions” surrounding multiculturalism. The completed manuscript will be available to his students free of charge, through a Web page dedicated to the course. “The Reagan Leave will provide time for me to regenerate my acquaintance with and appreciation of many topics in contemporary philosophy that I may have formed perspectives on some time ago,” said Fieser.

Tenured faculty members with six or more years of full-time service at UT Martin are encouraged to apply for a one-year Reagan Faculty Leave at one-half salary or a half-year Reagan Faculty Leave at full salary. The Faculty Research and Development Committee reviews the applications and determines awardees.

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British organist Munns to perform at UTM

Robert Munns, a former scholarship holder at the Royal Academy of Music, will be presenting an organ concert assisted by his wife, Sally Johnson, at 7:30 p.m., October 8, in Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin. The program will be preceded by an interview with the artist at 7 p.m. Munns has had an extensive career as a concert organist, conductor and church musician. His many overseas tours have included performances, master classes and broadcasts on five continents.

Munns has been honored by the Royal Academy for his services to British music. He was organist to the RoyalPhilharmonic for many years and has also appeared as a guest soloist with the London Philharmonic and BBC Scottish orchestras. The performance is part of his American tour, which includes concerts in Baltimore, Cincinnati, Louisville, Omaha and Washington, D.C.

The program will include works by Purcell, Gibbons, Bach, Mozart, Messiaen, anguish, and Vaughan-Williams. It will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Elaine Harriss, Department of Music interim chair and professor of music, at 731-881-7411 or go to www.utm.edu/~elaineh.
UT Martin Earns Third Listing Among America’s 100 Best College Buys

MARTIN - The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed among America’s 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. This marks the third consecutive year that the university has earned the IRE designation.

"Once again, the results of our annual national college survey prove that the University of Tennessee at Martin continues to provide students the highest quality educational environment at the very lowest possible cost," said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

Lindsey said that colleges and universities across the country are challenged by rising costs. But he noted that the efforts of UT Martin administration, faculty and staff "assure that students cannot find a better educational opportunity at a lower cost within or outside of Tennessee."

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, said that the university is committed to containing costs while providing a high-quality education. "We're pleased with this designation, especially knowing that many families struggle with paying for college," he said. "In these tough budget times, we're looking hard for ways to maintain quality at a reasonable cost."


Aspiring Young Writers Sought for Conference

MARTIN - A conference designed for high school students who want hands-on experience in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, as well as songwriting and writing online is planned, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., October 31, in Watkins Auditorium, University of Tennessee at Martin.

The conference workshops will be taught by UT Martin faculty and visiting writer, Beth Lordan. Other events include a luncheon, a reading by Lordan and an open mic reading 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, connect with other young writers from the region and learn from outstanding writers and teachers of writing.

The conference registration fee is $5 for students and $10 for teachers and includes all workshops, readings and a luncheon. The conference is open to students recommended by their teachers on the basis of academic achievement and artistic promise. Teachers are encouraged, but are not required, to attend along with their students. Teachers are asked to follow their school policies in arranging for parent/guardian permissions for students who will be attending the conference.

Registration is limited to 100 participants on a first-come, first-serve basis. A registration form and check for the conference fee made payable to UT Martin must be received by October 27. For a copy of the brochure or to register online, go to www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/courses_nondegree.php. The conference is sponsored by the Department of English. For more information, contact Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English, at luchance@utm.edu or call 731-881-7296.

DRESDEN ENTERPRISE, Dresden, Tennessee, October 8, 2008

UT Martin SAACS Chapter to help Scouts earn Chemistry Merit Badge

The Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SAACS) chapter at the University of Tennessee at Martin will sponsor a clinic, October 18, to help area Boy Scouts earn the chemistry merit badge. The activity is part of the National Chemistry Week celebration. Registration deadline is October 13.

SAACS members will have all the materials ready for the Boy Scouts to perform the experiments needed to meet the merit badge requirements. The clinic gets under way at 8:30 a.m. in the Joseph E. Johnson Engineering and Physical Sciences Building on the UT Martin campus. The clinic will conclude about 12:30 p.m.

Scoutmasters and/or parents may register their Boy Scouts by calling 731-881-7454. Registration also is available by fax at 731-881-7443; e-mail at saacs@utm.edu; or by mail at UT Martin SAACS, Department of Chemistry, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238. Scouts will be charged $5 for light refreshments, the merit badge manual and materials on their arrival.

To register include the name of each Boy Scout, his scoutmaster’s name and his troop number.

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

For more information, contact the UT Martin SAACS adviser, Dr. S.K. Airee, at 731-881-7454, or the Department of Chemistry office, at 731-881-7450.
Pictured here is a concept model of the new 96,000 square foot campus recreational center to be built at UT Martin.

Ceremony marks construction of $16.5 million recreation center

The University of Tennessee at Martin broke ground today for a 96,000 square foot campus recreational center. Target completion date for the $16.5 million project is spring 2010.

University of Tennessee President John Petersen and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes participated in the ceremony that took place at the site of Mt. Pelia Road during UT Martin homecoming week activities. The UT board of trustees approved construction of the facility in November 2006.

"Campus recreation is a vital component for student life at UT Martin," said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. "I know opening a modern recreational facility will be a welcome addition to multiple playing fields, swimming and many other recreational sites our students enjoy on a daily basis." He added, "Our recreation staff is among the busiest on campus, and we are anxious to complete this new facility."

The new Student Recreation Center will allow the Office of Campus Recreation to expand hours and offerings. For the fiscal year 2008, more than 3,000 students participated in intramural activities, and leisure recreation recorded participation counts of 46,000.

Dr. Margaret Toston, UT Martin vice chancellor for student affairs, noted that in 2005, the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association estimated that by 2010 new construction and renovations for indoor campus recreational sports facilities would cost colleges and universities at least $3.17 billion, at an average cost of $14.2 million. "UT Martin is among a growing list of educational institutions across the nation that are responding to students' desire to enhance their physical and mental health, as well as to have a respite from rigorous academic work," she said.

The Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (2006) further outlined indirect benefits to students who participate in campus recreation. Students tend to develop a positive self-image and increased self-control and gain social interaction skills and maturity, Toston added. "We at UT Martin are tuned into the needs of our students, and we have responded by funding a facility that will have a positive impact on the mind, body and spirit of our students. I know that our students value and appreciate the way in which we have responded to their need for a healthy lifestyle."

The facility will include four basketball courts/indoor soccer arena, a walking/jogging/running area, weight room, cardio-fitness areas, an aerobic room, a multipurpose room, locker rooms and racquetball courts. Also, there will be space for a lounge area, equipment checkout stations, offices, classrooms, storage and janitorial rooms.

"I'm excited about this facility and what it means for students here at UT Martin. Students will now have a place that can service their recreational and wellness needs and a place to call their own," said Gina McClure, director of campus recreation.

The new recreational center will be built primarily for students, as student fees will be the main funding source. Other potential users may include faculty, staff, retirees, alumni and families of UT Martin students and employees, who will pay a fee for use of the facility.

Lyle, Cook, Martin, of Clarksville, and Fleming Associates of Memphis, are serving as project architects in a joint venture, and A&K Construction Co., of Paducah, Ky., is building the center.

UT Martin's current primary recreational facility, the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, houses campus recreation, athletics and academic departments, which also divide operational time. The Elam Center also serves as a regular location for campus-wide and community events, limiting its hours available for recreation.

For more information, contact McClure at 731-881-7745.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SAACS) chapter has been recognized by the American Chemical Society and the Green Chemistry Institute with the highest outstanding rating and as Green Chapter for its activities in 2007-08 year. This year, 40 chapters received an outstanding rating and 25 were designated as green chapters. The chapter has won more of each of these awards than any other chapter in the nation. Pictured are, front row, Kiran G. Vaswani, of Franklin; vice president Christy R. Lowe, of McKenzie; secretary Kayla A. Pointdexter, of Murfreesboro; Punam Patel of Martin; back row, Chad R. Waters, of Camden; faculty adviser Dr. S.K. Airee; UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes; president Robert H. Mitchell, of Ripley; and Ashish J. Patel, of Columbia. Waters, Vaswani, Punam Patel and Ashish Patel are members of the executive committee.

UT Martin SAACS Claims Record Number of Honors

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The award-winning chapters will be listed in “Chemical and Engineering News” and in the November/December edition of “in Chemistry,” the SAACS national magazine.

UT Martin Chapter projects last year included: the 28th Annual High School Science Bowl, the 29th Annual Area Collegiate Chemistry Meeting, a chemistry Merit Badge Clinic for Boy Scouts, participation by 12 SAACS chapter members at the 236th ACS national meeting in New Orleans, speakers and demonstration programs for schools and civic clubs, Chemistry Olympiad and National Chemistry Week (NCW) projects and participation in the monthly meetings of the ACS local Kentucky Lake Section. The chapter also executed an Innovative Activities Grant project “Green Chemistry 101 for Civic Clubs.”

Upcoming activities include: the NCW programs during October 19-26, Boy Scouts Merit Badge Clinic on October 18 and the High School Science Bowl on November 15.

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Outstanding employees honored at UTM

Tim Nipp, University of Tennessee at Martin director of physical plant, received the exempt UT Martin Fall 2008 Outstanding Employee Award recently presented by Chancellor Tom Rakes. With them is Al Hooten left, vice chancellor of finance and administration.

Sandy King, University of Tennessee at Martin program resource specialist at UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer received the non-exempt UT Martin Fall 2008 Outstanding Employee Award recently presented by Chancellor Tom Rakes. With them is Deidra Beene, left McNairy County Center/Selmer director.

The award, which recognizes outstanding service to the university, is presented each fall and spring semester to two employees.
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Organist’s performance set for tonight

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Munns has been honored by the Royal Academy for his services to British music. He was organist to the Royal Philharmonic for many years and has also appeared as a guest soloist with the London Philharmonic and BBC Scottish orchestras. The performance is part of his American tour, which includes concerts in Baltimore, Cincinnati, Louisville, Omaha and Washington, D.C.

The program will include works by Purcell, Gibbons, Bach, Mozart, Messiaen, Langlais and Vaughan-Williams.

The event is free of charge and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Elaine Harris, Department of Music interim chair and professor of music, at (731) 881-7411 or visit the Web site at www.utm.edu/∼elaineh.

TODAY

DOUGLAS CARDINAL SPEAKS

A part of Martin Academic Speaker Series, Cardinal will speak about Discovery Park in Union City, 4 p.m. today in Watkins Auditorium, University of Tennessee Martin.
CROP Hunger Walk set at UTM

Every five seconds, a child dies of hunger, and the number of people who are chronically hungry is growing by 4 million each year. But you can make a difference, a spokesman for an upcoming hunger-fighting event says.

The Interfaith Student Center and the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice at the University of Tennessee at Martin are organizing a CROP Hunger Walk, which will be held Oct. 18 from 2-4 p.m. Local churches, civic groups and campus organizations are invited to participate in the walk by encouraging individuals to obtain sponsors and join us for a walk around the UTM campus.

Donations from the CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walk will go to Church World Service and to Hunters for the Hungry. Church World Service is a cooperative ministry of 35 Protestant, Orthodox and Anglican denominations. It provides sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief and refugee assistance in 80 countries. Seventy-five percent of the money raised at the UTM Crop Hunger Walk will go to CWS.

The remaining 25 percent will be given to Tennessee's Hunters for the Hungry, which provides fresh game meat for local food pantries such as WE Care. Donors may also designate their gifts to other approved international hunger-fighting agencies.

The first CROP Hunger Walk was held in Bismarck, N.D., in 1969, and since then the movement has spread to over 2,000 communities across the United States. However, this will be the first year that a CROP Hunger Walk will be held in West Tennessee.

Registration for the UTM CROP Hunger Walk will be held Oct. 18 at the Interfaith Student Center. Donations can be turned in at registration. The Interfaith Center is located on the east side of the UTM campus at 312 Lovelace Ave. For more information, contact the Rev. Joline Balentine-Downey at (731) 587-2603 or Dr. Nancy Sonleitner at (731) 881-7523.

UT Martin student group honored

The University of Tennessee Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society chapter has been recognized by the American Chemical Society and the Green Chemistry Institute with the highest outstanding rating and as Green Chapter for its activities in 2007-08 year. This year, 40 chapters received an outstanding rating and 25 were designated as green chapters. The chapter has won more of each of these awards than any other chapter in the nation. Front row, Kiran G. Vaswani, of Franklin; vice president Christy R. Lowe, of McKenzie; secretary Kayla A. Poindexter, of Murfreesboro; Punam Patel of Martin; back row, Chad R. Waters, of Camden; faculty adviser S.K., Airee; UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes; president Robert H. Mitchell, of Ripley; and Ashish J. Patel, of Columbia. Waters, Vaswani, Punam Patel and Ashish Patel are members of the executive committee.
This is the story of Henry Emerson Etheridge from his birth in Camtuck County, North Carolina on September 22, 1819 until his death in Dresden, Tennessee on October 21, 1902.

When he was a teenager his father sold his North Carolina possessions and moved his large family to Weakley County, Tennessee in 1833, an area that was in many ways still a frontier area.

The migration of the Etheridge family was part of the great western movement of pioneers that was taking place, a movement that would continue west of the Mississippi River in the years following 1833.

The Thomas Etheridge family settled on a large tract of land that Thomas had purchased near Sharon, Tennessee. It was on this farm and later in Dresden that Emerson Etheridge would live out a long, useful and eventful life.

Emerson received his education in the common schools of Carrick County, North Carolina and Weakley County, Tennessee.

He was an excellent student. After finishing his schooling, Emerson taught school for a while at Hickory Grove, located west of Sharon. However, he was not satisfied teaching school and doing farm work.

He began the study of law under a practicing attorney and passed his bar examination in 1840 and received his licence to practice law just before his twenty-first birthday. He began his practice in Dresden, the county seat, a practice that would span most of the nineteenth century.

Like many lawyers then and now, Emerson entered politics, beginning his career as a Whig even though he was raised as a Democrat. He supported Henry Clay, the great compromiser, for President in 1844. Clay lost the election, but Emerson was elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives and would serve one term (1845-1847). He continued to practice law in Dresden and oversaw his farming enterprise in the Dresden area. He continued to gain influence and prestige as time passed.

Emerson was nominated for the United States Congress from the Ninth Congressional District as a Whig in 1852. He was elected to the Thirty Third Congress (1853-1855) and reelected to the Thirty Fourth Congress (1855-1857), again as a Whig. He was defeated in 1856, but he won election to the Thirty Sixth Congress (1859-1861), again as a Whig.

Etheridge's service in Congress came at a time when the nation was involved in a great deal of controversy over the slavery question. The 1850's witnessed the destruction of the Whig party, the emergence of the Republican party (a 100 percent Northern party during the 1850's), and the division of the Democratic party, all of which, among other things, led to the War for Southern Independence.

Emerson Etheridge would play a small role in this unfolding drama, a role that was designed to keep the peace between the North and the South.

This can be seen in the controversy that led to the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill in 1854. This law repealed the Missouri Compromise which divided the Louisiana Territory into slave and free areas and opened up the possibility of slavery expansion north of the thirty six degree thirty minute line.

The overwhelming majority of Southern members of Congress supported this legislation but not Emerson Etheridge. He argued that from a practical point of view slavery would never flourish north of this line because of the law of nature. What he meant was that the crops most slaves were used in could not grow north of this line. So why agitate for something that would not result in any more slave states. The only result, Etheridge maintained, would be increased tension between North and South.

The Dresden politician, though a small slave owner and a supporter of slavery, opposed the movement in Congress to reopen the African slave trade that had been banned since 1808. He argued that reopening this trade would increase the bitterness between North and South and would endanger the Union. He wanted it stopped because he considered the Union as the greatest safeguard for both the South and the North.

In 1860 Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States by the North and by a minority of the voters. Civil war was the result. Etheridge remained loyal to the Union. After his term in the House of Representatives ended in 1861 the House elected Etheridge as its Clerk, a position he held until December 1863. He lost it because of his opposition to Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

Etheridge, a Conservative Unionist, led the opposition to Military Governor Andrew Johnson in Tennessee because of his radical policies. He was also opposed to the way William G. Brownlow became the radical Republican governor of Tennessee in early 1865. He opposed the policy of denying civil rights to the majority of Tennessee citizens-the ex-Confederates.

Etheridge supported a policy of reconciliation.

In 1867 the Conservative Unionists nominated Etheridge for governor to oppose Brownlow. The main thrust of his campaign was the question of civil rights for ex-Confederates-the right to vote and hold office. By giving adult males blacks the right to vote Brownlow was easily reelected governor.

However, the issue of universal manhood suffrage did not go away. Two years later, in the gubernatorial election of...
1869, the ex-Confederates were allowed to vote, and radical Republican rule in Tennessee came to an end. Etheridge helped bring majority rule back to Tennessee.

Except for a two year stint in the Tennessee Senate (1869-1871) and three years as Collector of Customs in Memphis (1891-1894), Etheridge resided in Dresden and practiced law until his death in 1902.

Etheridge was a fighter during his entire political life, a man that spoke his mind freely on what he believed to be right. He voted the same way in the Tennessee General Assembly and the United States Congress.

Sometimes the way he spoke and voted put him at odds with his own political party. He voted his convictions even when he knew that it went against the wishes of his constituents. No one had to guess where Etheridge stood on any issue.

That's probably why he never won any of his congressional elections by large margins. One can wish that more politicians today were in the Etheridge mold.

Congressman Henry Emerson Etheridge, Aspects Of His Life And Times is a well written and documented account of the life of Henry Emerson Etheridge, particularly his Congressional career and his opposition to radical Republican rule in Tennessee. This hardback book has 201 pages, is well illustrated and may be purchased from the author for $22.00 plus $2.50 postage and handling.

For further information call 901-587-3630. Send orders to Dr. Lonnie E. Maness, 100 Burchard Street, Martin, TN 38237.

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**Recycling event is Oct. 18 at UTM**

UTMRecycles will sponsor the next Community Recycling Event from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Oct. 18, in Hardy Graham Stadium parking lot at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event is free and open to the public.

The following materials will be accepted for recycling: paper and cardboard, aluminum cans, glass bottles, plastics of any kind, steel cans and other scrap metal, eye glasses, used clothing in good shape, cell phones, rechargeable batteries and ink cartridges.

Please rinse food and beverage containers. It is helpful if all material is sorted beforehand.

Partners and sponsors of UTMRecycles include the American Democracy Project, the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts, the UT Martin Physical Plant, Sodexo, and UT Martin student organizations including the Agronomy Club, Tri-Beta and Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. For more information on recycling at UT Martin contact Dennis Kosta, supervisor of custodial services, at 881-7640 or dkosta@utm.edu.

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**Doctor joins Medical Speciality Clinic**

Dr. Ami Naik, a specialist in treating the gastrointestinal tract and the liver, has joined the Medical Speciality Clinic. A graduate of Henry County High School, Naik earned her bachelor's degree at UT Martin and her medical degree at the University of Tennessee's Memphis Health Science Center. Her internship and residency in internal medicine were at St. Louis University Hospital, and her fellowship in gastroenterology and hepatology were at UT Memphis. Naik is board-certified in internal medicine and board-eligible in gastroenterology and hepatology.

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**Deadline to Enter Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant November 7**

MARTIN - Plans are underway for the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant to be staged at 7 p.m., November 15, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building at UT Martin. Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson next summer.

The combined pageant is co-sponsored by the City of Martin and UT Martin and is open to single women, ages 17-24, who are residents of or students in Tennessee. The Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant is open statewide, while the Miss UT Martin event is open only to UT Martin students.

The pageant application form is available online at www.utm.edu/misstn. Deadline to register is November 7, and applications from all UT Martin students should be returned to David Belote, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, Office of Student Life, Student Life Center, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238. All others should be sent to Kimberly Craddock, 101 University St., Martin, TN 38237.

General admission tickets for the Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Pageant will be available at the door for $15. UT Martin student tickets will be sold for $10 at the door with proper ID.

For more information, contact pageant executive directors, Hollie Holt, 731-514-3556 or Kimberly Craddock, 731-588-2807 or by email at misstmartin@utm.edu.
Deadline to Apply for 2008 Governor’s Schools Nears

MARTIN - The deadline to apply for two Governor’s Schools hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin is November 21. Governor’s School for the Humanities will be May 31-July 2 and Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences is slated for May 24-June 26. Successful applicants will be notified January 27.

Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences focuses on the importance of agriculture and natural resources to the state and national economy. Emphasis on experiential learning and laboratory exercises related to the agricultural sciences will include production agriculture, agricultural business enterprises and natural resources management. For an application or for more information, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/caas/tgsas/. Brochures are available and may be requested by telephone at 731-881-7260 or by mail at TGSAS, University of Tennessee at Martin, 358 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238.

Governor’s School for the Humanities examines the role of language, history, philosophy, politics and the arts in defining the relevance of humanities in the modern age. Visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/govschool/ for an application or for more information.

Applications also are available in high school guidance offices.

NEESE RECEIVES UT MARTIN HOMECOMING AWARD - Dr. John Petersen, left, University of Tennessee president, and Dr. Thomas Rakes, right, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, are pictured with Charlie Neese, of Williamson County, during the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet, hosted Oct. 3. Neese received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

GORDON RECEIVES UT MARTIN HOMECOMING AWARD - Dr. John Petersen, left, University of Tennessee president, and Dr. Thomas Rakes, right, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, are pictured with J. Houston Gordon, of Covington, during the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet, hosted Oct. 3. Gordon received the Chancellor’s Award for University Service.
UT Martin foundation of alums’ successes

It seems no matter how long it has been since an alum left the University of Tennessee at Martin, when something piques his or her memory it’s evident that professors, classmates and the overall experience made an indelible mark.

J. Houston Gordon, Dr. Jane Kao and Charlie Neese, who returned for homecoming weekend, had no trouble recounting their UT Martin experiences at the annual alumni awards banquet, Oct. 3.

For Gordon, a Covington attorney who received the Chancellor’s Award for University Service, his association with the institution began when his grandmother, Ava Darnell Gordon, traveled on horseback from Yuma to Hall-Moody College (which became UT Martin) to earn a teacher’s certificate. That legacy now includes four generations of Gordons as alumni.

“Obviously, UT Martin has impacted our family for good,” said Gordon. He added, “I spent four years as an Army JAG (Judge Advocate General) officer, but my military training began here. My interest in history and politics and my love of writing poetry and the English language were nurtured here. My passionate belief in equal rights was fostered here. I met and befriended some of the brightest, most interesting people on earth here who continue to be, throughout this country, influences for good.”

Citing a need for an educated, informed and committed citizenry, Gordon said that is why he and his wife, Deb, are passionate about sponsoring UT Martin’s participation in the American Democracy Project, in supporting efforts to teach service, in supporting young scholars and “in giving of our time to assist this great university to fulfill its mission. I am honored and humbled. Thank you for the award and the opportunity to serve,” he said.

Kao, Dallas pediatric cardiologist who received the Outstanding Alumni Award, said, “I have so many fond and vivid memories of being here. I am so very grateful and honored to be able to come here tonight ... to accept this award.”

She said that following a previous visit to UT Martin to serve as a banquet speaker, she reflected, “What a talented group of faculty we have here at UT Martin... and how lucky I was to study under them.” She added that in noting the successes of alumni featured in a recent UT Martin annual report, “It just made me so proud that I was once a part of this campus. I truly believe that UT Martin laid the foundation for the success of all of these alumni.”

Kao said she is sometimes asked what it is like taking care of critically ill children. “Watching them suffer is a very heart-rending experience ... However, just as I have seen suffering, ... in my 13 years of practice, I have seen so many tremendous advances” in the medical treatment of children with heart disease. “I feel that I am so lucky and fortunate to be able to enter the lives of these patients and their families.”

Kao thanked her parents, who “have provided me with unconditional support ... and instilled in me an impeccable work ethic” and several faculty members for their guidance, counsel and opportunities. Looking around the room and seeing a number of faculty members, who continue to teach and serve as mentors, she added, “It takes a very special kind of person with a very special kind of talent to be able to do this.”

Neese, on-air meteorologist at WTVC-News Channel 5, Nashville, who was named the Outstanding Young Alumni, also noted the success of UT Martin graduates. “The quality of alumni from UT Martin is truly astounding. People go from this school to change the world to change peoples’ lives.”

Developing a love of the weather at an early age, he kept hearing about UT Martin as he prepared for college. “From the moment I stepped on campus and in the department (of communications), I knew UT Martin was going to be my college home.”

Neese also thanked numerous professors for their passion for teaching.
Giles wins community service award from TNCO

Heather Scarano
Special to The Press

Some might wonder what pecans, pull tabs and Pat Head Summit-signed basketballs have in common, but for those who know Bettye Giles, and one of her greatest passions, it makes perfect sense.

Whether selling pecans, collecting aluminum cans tabs or auctioning off the famous basketball, Giles has spent much of her free time over the last four decades working to broaden opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities.

Giles' steadfast commitment to expanding horizons for people with disabilities was formally recognized last month by Tennessee Community Organizations (TNCO), a 65-member network of agencies that work with developmentally disabled adults in Tennessee.

Giles attended TNCO's annual awards luncheon in Nashville to accept her Community Leader of the Year award. Cathy Cate, executive director of Community Developmental Services (CDS) in Martin, a member of TNCO, nominated Giles for the award.

"We are so proud that Bettye was chosen to receive this award," says Cate.

"She definitely deserved it." The countless ways in which Bettye has helped CDS throughout the years has made a tremendous impact on many lives." Giles is perhaps more well-known for her years of service at the University of Tennessee at Martin than she is for her involvement with CDS, a nonprofit, community-based organization caring for adults with developmental disabilities in Weakley, Obion, Henry, Carroll and Lake counties. Nevertheless, Giles has donated inestimable amounts of time, energy, even money, on behalf of the approximately 150 individuals served by CDS.

A native of Clarksville, Giles first came to Martin in 1952 to work as a physical education teacher.

By the late-1960's, Giles had become an instrumental leader in establishing women's collegiate athletics at UT Martin and other universities across the state.

In 1971, she was named the university's first, and only women's athletic director.

What is less widely-known about Giles has been her commitment, since the early 1970's, to helping individuals with developmental disabilities.

At the same time that she was working with young UT Martin student-athletes like Pat Head, Giles was also helping an entirely different category of athletes, coordinating the Special Olympics for the area, including Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley counties.

"What epitomizes Bettye is her genuine excitement over seeing our individuals experience new opportunities in the community," says Cate.

Giles went on to coordinate Special Olympics activities in the area for the next 20-plus years.

More recently, she has helped to found the Aktion Club, a Kiwanis International sponsored-program that provides community service opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities.

The Aktion Club of Martin has

See Giles, Page 4

Giles

From Page 1

14 members, all CDS clients.

One of the Aktion Club's current projects is collecting aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Memphis.

Over the last two years, the Aktion Club, in partnership with the Montgomery County public schools, has collected more than 1.5 million tabs, which the Ronald McDonald House converts to cash to help operate its facility.

Collecting tabs is an all-year-round project for Giles. On any given day, she's sure to have at least a few tabs jingling around in her pockets.

The Henry County Helping Hand fundraiser however, happens just once a year, but Giles' involvement in it is just as pivotal.

Each February during the Helping Hand auction, which benefits CDS, members of the community look forward to bidding on the Pat Head Summit-signed basketball that Giles donates.

Not only that, but also a football, signed by New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning, that Giles has contributed to the auction the last two years.

The Giants' General Manager, Jerry Reese, played football for UT Martin and is another former student of Giles.

Giles also contributes less glamorous, but just as well-loved, items to the auction, like fresh pecans that she picks, shells and bags herself, and tomato juice made from her home-grown tomatoes.

From small things like selling pecans or coming into the CDS office once a week to sign checks (Giles has been a member of the CDS board of directors for 13 years), to bigger things like coordinating the Special Olympics and founding the Aktion Club, Giles has been one of CDS's most ardent volunteers and supporters.

Still, Giles says she was not expecting the award she received last month.

"Cathy really surprised me," Giles said.

"I really didn't know what I was going to Nashville for. I expected it might be something just for here in Martin. I didn't realize it was a statewide thing."

Giles was selected from a pool of 12 nominees, from 65 agencies across the state, to receive the Community Leader of the Year award.

"Bettye may have been surprised at her selection," Cate said.

"But we certainly were not. As a volunteer and as a board member, she has helped to involve our individuals in community programs and activities for nearly four decades. That is definitely something worthy of recognition."
Application deadline for Governor's Schools is Nov. 21

The deadline to apply for two Governor's Schools hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin is Nov. 21. Governor’s School for the Humanities will be May 31-July 2 and Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences is slated for May 24-June 26. Successful applicants will be notified Jan. 25.

Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences focuses on the importance of agriculture and natural resources to the state and national economy. Emphasis on experiential learning and laboratory exercises related to the agricultural sciences will include production agriculture, agricultural business enterprises and natural resources management. For an application or for more information, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/cas/tgsas/. Brochures are available and may be requested by telephone at 881-7260 or by mail at TGSAS, University of Tennessee at Martin, 256 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238.

Governor's School for the Humanities examines the role of language, history, philosophy, politics and the arts in defining the relevance of humanities in the modern age. Visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/govschool/ for an application or for more information.

Applications also are available in high school guidance offices.

WestStar now accepting applications

Applications to participate in the premier leadership development program in Tennessee are now available from WestStar.

For application and additional information contact WestStar at (731) 881-7298. The deadline for application is Nov. 14. Anyone can apply to participate in the program. Nominations are accepted but not required.

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 the future of West Tennessee.

WestStar alumni from Gibson County include the following: Jim Blankenship, Kelly Bryant, Cheri Childress, Mary Ellen Cochran, Vance Coleman, Virginia Davidson, Terry Drumwright, Bob Duncan, Kay Gibson, Ruth Graves, Charles Guy, Allyson Horner, Brenda Horner, Dotty Jones, Greer Lashe, Tommy Litton, Jennifer Nunley, Pat Riley, Kathy Ross, Sherry Scruggs, Alex Smith, Barry Smith, Kathleen Smith, Norm Spencer, Emily Sullivan, Glenda Temple, Sharyn Thompson, Ken Thorne, Joy Wallsmith and Marilyn Williamson.
Deadline nears to apply for Governor’s Schools

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Applications also are available in high school guidance offices.

UT Martin listed among 100 ‘Best College Buys’

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed among America’s 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. This marks the third consecutive year that the university has earned the IRE designation.

“Once again, the results of our annual national college survey prove that the University of Tennessee at Martin continues to provide students the highest quality educational environment at the very lowest possible cost,” said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

Lindsey said that colleges and universities across the country are challenged by rising costs. But, he noted that the efforts of UT Martin administration, faculty and staff “assure that students cannot find a better educational opportunity at a lower cost within or outside of Tennessee.”

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, said that the university is committed to containing costs while providing a high-quality education. “We’re pleased with this designation, especially knowing that many families struggle with paying for college,” he said. “In these tough budget times, we’re looking hard for ways to maintain quality at a reasonable cost.”

WestStar accepts applications for Leadership Development Program

Applications to participate in the premier leadership development program in Tennessee are now available from WestStar, said members of the WestStar's Board of Trustees.

For application and additional information contact WestStar at (731) 881-7298 or write WestStar, Room 321, Hall Moody Administration Building, University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238-5011. The deadline for application is November 14. Anyone can apply to participate in the program. Nominations are accepted but not required.

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, share the future of West Tennessee.

WestStar's vision is that it will be the premier leadership program in the U.S. that establishes an elite group of people bonded by their commitment to realizing the educational, economic and social development of West Tennessee.

A group of citizens will be competitively selected to participate in the 2009 program. The WestStar program consists of seven specially designed seminar programs addressing contemporary major issues important to the development of West Tennessee. Each seminar takes place over a one-and-a-half day period, with a graduation program in June. The program begins January 8.

WestStar enters its 20th year under the leadership of Mr. David Belote, assistant vice chancellor of student affairs, UT Martin. Last year's graduating class brought the total number of alumni to 524.

WestStar alumni from Weakley County include the following: David Belote, Tommy Boroughs, Joe Brasher, Jerry Brignage, Andrew Brown, Randy Brundige, John Bucci, Tommy Cates, John Clark, Phil Dane, Charley Deal, Marvin Flatt, Bobby Gerdes, Suzie German, Bobby Goode, Bud Grimes, Jack Gullett, Brian Harris, Leslie Haywood-Moore, Dave Hinman, Hollie Holt, Steve Holt, Loretta Innes, George Jennings, Sam Lewallen Jr., Stacey Lockhart, David Moore, Andy Page, Tom Payne, Dick Phebus, Jim Pritchett, Madelyn Pritchett, Audrey Roberts, John Salmon, Suezane Speight, Larry Stansbridge, Ray Stevenson, Dennis Suiter, Jeanna Swafford, Steve Vantrease, Walter Ward and Steve Westenhofer.

Poet, author next in series later this month at UT Martin

Acclaimed poet and author Richard Tillinghast will speak at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 27 in Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His visit will be co-sponsored by Honors Programs and the Department of English.

"Richard Tillinghast is among the most interesting poets working today," said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. "He has published widely and on a wide variety of topics. I encourage everyone to attend this session to hear the poetry and reflections of a master artist."

Born and raised in Memphis, Tillinghast has always enjoyed a deep interest in the arts. He played the drums in several groups in nightclubs around Memphis and, later, in Marin County, Calif. He took painting and drawing classes at the Memphis Academy of Art and currently writes about art and architecture for the Hudson Review and the New Criterion.

But poetry was always his first love and he studied under the famed poet Robert Lowell while a graduate student at Harvard University. He later published a biography of his mentor, "Robert Lowell's Life and Work: Damaged Grandeur" (1995). Having served on the faculties of Harvard University, the University of the South at Sewanee and the University of California at Berkeley, Tillinghast joined the faculty of the University of Michigan in 1983, where he taught until his retirement in 2005. While at Michigan, he founded the Bear River Writer's Conference in Petoskey, Mich., in 2000, and served as director until 2005.

After leaving Michigan, he moved to County Tipperary in Ireland, where he continues to write and participate in writing projects such as the Poet's House.

Tillinghast has received numerous grants and fellowships, including a Woodrow Wilson Foundation Fellowship, a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and a Creative Artist Grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts. He has published eight books of poetry and two books of essays. His poems have appeared in many magazines, including Paris Review, The Atlantic Monthly, the New Republic, the New Yorker, Poetry, Poetry London, Poetry Ireland Review and online on Slate and Poetry Daily. His poems have also been featured on Garrison Keillor's National Public Radio show, "The Writer's Almanac."

Widely traveled, Tillinghast often writes about the places and cultures he has visited and observed. He has a special interest in the Middle East, particularly Turkey, and is currently at work on a book of prose about Istanbul. His essay, "Istanbul in Winter," was recently awarded the Cleant Brooks Prize by the Southern Review.

In 2008, he published three books: the first, "Finding Ireland," a poet's explorations of Irish literature and culture; the second, a collaboration with his daughter, Julia Clare Tillinghast, "Dirty August," translations from the Turkish of selected poems of Edip Cansever; and the third, from which he will read at UT Martin, "The New Life."

"It's always exciting to have a writer on campus and to be able to discuss their approach to the creative process," said Dr. Lynn Alexander, Department of English chair. "Mr. Tillinghast's work is very interesting and accessible — we should have some very interesting things to talk about. Adding to the interest is the fact that Mr. Tillinghast is from Memphis."

For more information, contact McDonough, at (731) 881-7436 or damcon@utm.edu.
Some might wonder what pecans, pull tabs and Pat Head Summitt-signed basketballs have in common, but for those who know Bettye Giles of Martin, it makes perfect sense.

Whether shelling pecans, collecting aluminum cans tabs or auctioning off the famous basketball, Giles has spent much of her free time during the last four decades working to broaden opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities.

Giles' commitment to expanding horizons for people with disabilities was formally recognized last month by Tennessee Community Organizations (TNCO), a 65-member network of agencies that work with developmentally disabled adults in Tennessee. Giles attended TNCO's annual awards luncheon in Nashville to accept her Community Leader of the Year award. Cathy Cate, executive director of Community Development Services (CDS) in Martin, a member of TNCO, nominated Giles for the award.

Giles has been active in coordinating Special Olympics events for Henry County and has been involved in the local Helping Hand auction.

"We are so proud that Bettye was chosen to receive this award," said Cate. "She definitely deserved it. The countless ways in which Bettye has helped CDS throughout the years has made a tremendous impact on many lives."

Giles is perhaps more well-known for her years of service at the University of Tennessee at Martin than she is for her involvement with CDS, a nonprofit, community-based organization caring for adults with developmental disabilities in Henry, Weakley, Obion, Carroll and Lake Counties. Nevertheless, Giles has donated time, energy, and funds on behalf of the approximately 150 individuals served by CDS.

A native of Clarksville, Giles first came to Martin in 1952 to work as a physical education teacher. By the late-1960's, Giles had become an instrumental leader in establishing women's collegiate athletics at University of Tennessee at Martin and other universities across the state. In 1971, she was named the university's first (and only) women's athletic director.

At the same time that she was working with young UT Martin student-athletes like Pat Head, Giles also was helping an entirely different category of athletes, coordinating the Special Olympics for the area, including Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley counties.

"What epitomizes Bettye is her genuine excitement over seeing our individuals experience new opportunities in the community," said Cate.

Giles went on to coordinate Special Olympics activities in the area for the next 20-plus years. More recently she has helped to found the Aktion Club, a Kiwanis International sponsored-program that provides community service opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. The Aktion Club of Martin has 14 members, all CDS clients.

One of the Aktion Club's current projects is collecting aluminum can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Memphis. Over the last two years, the Aktion Club, in partnership with the Montgomery County public schools, has collected more than 1.5 million tabs, which the Ronald McDonald House converts to cash to help operate its facility.

Collecting tabs is an all-year-round project for Giles. On any given day, she's sure to have at least a few tabs jingling around in her pockets.

The Henry County Helping Hand fundraiser however, happens just once a year.

Each February during the Helping Hand auction, which benefits CDS, members of the community look forward to bidding on the Pat Summitt-signed basketball and a football, signed by New York Giants' quarterback Eli Manning, that Giles has donated to the auction.

Giles also contributes less glamorous, but just as well-loved, items to the auction, like fresh pecans that she picks, shells and bags herself, and tomato juice made from her homegrown tomatoes.

From small things like shelling pecans or coming into the CDS office once a week to sign checks (Giles has been a member of the CDS board of directors for 13 years), to bigger things like coordinating the Special Olympics and founding the Aktion Club — Giles has been one of CDS's most ardent volunteers and supporters.

Still, Giles said she was not expecting the award she received last month.

"Cathy really surprised me," said Giles. "I really didn't know what I was going to Nashville for. I expected it might be something just for here in Martin. I didn't realize it was a statewide thing."

Giles was selected from a pool of 12 nominees, from 65 agencies across the state, to receive the Community Leader of the Year award.

"Bettye may have been surprised at her selection," said Cate. "But we certainly were not. As a volunteer and as a board member, she has helped to involve our individuals in community programs and activities for nearly four decades. That is definitely something worthy of recognition."
Cook and Davidson named DSCC outstanding alumni

ABOVE: DSCC Alumni Association President Maleia Lee, center, congratulates Outstanding Alumni Dyersburg Credit Union manager Sharon Davidson and Belew and Ray pharmacist Kevin Cook at the DSCC annual Fall Conference last week.

Special to the State Gazette

Dyersburg State Community College recently honored two outstanding alumni at its annual Fall Conference for faculty and staff. The presentation was held in the auditorium of the Student Activities Center.

At the event, Belew and Ray pharmacist Kevin Cook and Dyersburg Credit Union manager Sharon Davidson were each honored by the Alumni Association as distinguished graduates of the college.

The awards were presented by Dyersburg Regional Medical Center's Director of Physician Services and DSCC Alumni Association President Maleia Lee.

Cook is a graduate of Dyersburg High School. Graduating from Dyersburg State in 1999, he went on to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and received his Doctor of Pharmacy in 2004 from the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Since then, he has worked at Belew and Ray Drugs.

A member of the Tennessee Pharmacists Association, the West Tennessee Pharmacists Association, and the DSCC Chapter of Credit Unions, a Family Literacy Team Member and a Dyersburg Noon Rotary member, she is also a member and treasurer of Finley Baptist Church.

“The awards were presented to the credit union, my education was valuable to what has become my career.”

Dyersburg Kiwanis Club, he also serves as a board member of the YMCA, the Dyer County United Way and the Dyersburg State Alumni Association. Cook has a family connection to DSCC. His grandfather is DSCC’s founding president Dr. E.B. Eller. Cook said he found the college’s smaller class sizes promote a better working relationship between teachers and students. He liked having the freedom to coordinate classes to adjust to other challenges in his life and in his work.

Cook currently lives in Dyersburg with his wife, Dr. Damaris Cook.

The second recipient, Sharon Davidson graduated from Dyersburg High School in 1976 and received her Associate of Science from Dyersburg State in 1978. Working as a legal secretary from 1978 to 1987, she relocated to the Dyersburg Credit Union in 1987, where she now serves as manager.

Davidson holds her Professional Legal Secretary certification and is a charter member of the Dyersburg Legal Secretaries Association, and the Family and Consumer Sciences Advisory Council. She is past president and current secretary of the Jackson County Association of Credit Unions, a Family Literacy Team Member and a Dyersburg Noon Rotary member.

“Of course, at the time, I was 20 years old, living at home, and my career option was answered,” said Sharon on her data sheet. “At that point, it was the perfect choice. Over the years I took additional classes when other desires or needs arose. My advisor and teachers were great. My classes prepared me to be a legal secretary and as I transitioned to the credit union, my education was valuable to what has become my career.”

David is married to Derriell Davidson. They have a daughter, Kaitlyn Davidson.

Dyersburg State recognizes outstanding alumni four times each year. Nominations for the award are submitted by DSCC faculty, staff and alumni. Selections are based on contributions and achievements in their chosen profession and the community.
Choral and dessert evenings offered

A Dessert Evening will be hosted at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 24 and 25 in the galler of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of the University of Tennessee Martin. While the audience is treated to three separate dessert courses, including fruit, cheese selections and sweet treats, students and choral ensembles will perform a variety of music.

Tickets are $25 per person. All proceeds go to support the UT Martin choral program. Persons who want diabetic selections may inform the box office when tickets are reserved. For tickets or more information, call Sherry Adams at 881-7402 or e-mail sadams@utm.edu.

Seismic Safety Commission to meet

The West Tennessee Seismic Safety Commission will meet Oct. 31 at the University of Tennessee Martin. Slated for 12:15 to 2 p.m., the meeting will be in Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center, Wayne Fisher Drive, in Martin.

The West Tennessee Seismic Safety Commission is a 12-member board, appointed as follows: two members chosen by the speaker of the house of representatives, two members chosen by the speaker of the senate and eight members appointed by the governor. The members include the following professional areas: architecture, fire protection, public utilities, engineering, geology or seismology, local government, insurance, business, emergency health services, nonprofit emergency assistance, local education and emergency management. The commission mission, with the assistance and participation of other state, federal and local governments, is to initiate a comprehensive program to prepare the state for responding to a major earthquake.

For directions, special accommodations or additional information, call Gary Patterson at (901) 678-5264 or Bev Cook at (901) 678-5561.

Piano workshop to be presented

Dennis Alexander, composer of educational piano music, will present a workshop from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Oct. 18, in the Recital Hall of the Fine Arts Building on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin. The fee is $20 for adults. Students of all levels may attend for free.

Alexander taught piano and piano pedagogy for 24 years at the University of Montana. Recently, he performed recitals and workshops in Australia and has also performed in Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Indonesia. In addition to many solo and ensemble pieces, Alexander is co-author of the new piano method, "Alfred's Premier Piano Course."

For more information, contact Linda Williams, Martin Area Music Teachers Association president, at 885-5439 or normal@bellsouth.net or Dr. Elaine Harris, Department of Music interim chair and professor of music, at 881-7411 or elaineh@utm.edu.

Makes donations — The Faculty Women's Club at the University of Tennessee at Martin recently made donations to seven local agencies and organizations. Club members Annie Schommer (left) and Trish Hardy (right) made the presentations. Accepting the donations for their respective organizations are (from left) Jim Clark, Brian Brown Greenway Foundation Inc.; Debbie Abel, Exchange Club Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse; Roberta Peacock, C.E. Weldon Public Library; Ashley Strader, UT Martin chapter of Habitat for Humanity; Betty Baker, We Care Ministries; Vinessa Huery, Community Mentoring Program; Judie Minga, Outback Victims Assistance Program; and John Schommer, Habitat for Humanity.
Author Van Jones powers up solutions

If you haven’t bought a book in a while, it’s time to shop. The book I hope you’ll consider is “The Green Collar Economy” by Van Jones. It’s just out and making its way onto the New York Times bestsellers list.

At Books-A-Million Thursday in Jackson, they were sold out and waiting for more on Friday.

I met Van Jones, a Jackson native and Yale University law graduate, when we ran a story in 2007 in our Neighbors section. He stopped by The Jackson Sun, and I gave him a building tour. He met everyone from the newsroom to the warehouse.

President and co-founder of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, Jones has now reaped many awards, including being chosen as a World Economic Forum “Young Global Leader” and being chosen a TIME Magazine 2008 Environmental Hero.

He’s also the founder and president of Green For All, a national advocacy organization based in Oakland, Calif.

In the Neighbors story, Jones said he had been blessed in Jackson with a “world-class education,” including JCM (Jackson Central-Merry High School) and the University of Tennessee Martin, where he began as a journalism major.

And now he is an amazing leader on the global stage.

So when his longtime friend, Linda Higgins, e-mailed me that the book was out, I persuaded her to stop by with a copy.


Higgins said Jones and her daughter KaCarol, now 40, were in Youth and Government together at the Jackson Family YMCA. KaCarol now works with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in D.C.

“They used to stay on the telephone talking about the meaning of infinity,” Higgins said.

She was “very impressed with the book being so up-to-date — discussing the two main problems that we are facing today, and that is the economy and energy. ... His

Young Writer’s Clubhouse offers more area locations

DMS teacher to participate as faculty

The UT Martin/West Tennessee Writing Project’s Young Writer’s Clubhouse will expand to Lauderdale County this year, with two sessions offered at Ripley’s UT Martin Center.

“We are very excited about the opportunity for more children to be able to experience the clubhouse who may have not been able to attend due to the distance to Martin,” said DMS gifted teacher Rocky Hassel, who joins Jenny Brandon to facilitate sessions at the UT Martin Ripley Center. “If you live near the Ripley Center this is a fantastic opportunity to let your child see what a fun learning experience this can be.”

The first session was held in Martin on Sept. 27, with additional workshops scheduled for November, February and April.

Upcoming sessions include:
- Monstrous Mysteries - UT Martin Ripley Center on Nov 1
- Writing With Food - UT Martin campus on Feb. 7
- April Adventures - UT Martin Ripley Center on April 18

Young writers participating in the Young Writer’s Clubhouse will be led in fun writing activities with other writers their age by teacher consultants in the West Tennessee Writing Project during the morning session and take their turn in the Author’s Chair in the afternoon.

Students will also have the opportunity to participate in writing workshops, mini-lessons on content and editing strategies, writing response groups and one-to-one conferences with West Tennessee Writing Project Teachers.

Registration fees are $30 per session or two sessions for $50.

To register online or receive more information on the Young Writer’s Clubhouse or the West Tennessee Writing Project, visit www.utm.edu/organizations/wtwp or e-mail Brittan Sutherland, Clubhouse program director at sutherlando@k12tn.net.
Mehlhorn to direct pilot program at UTM

The Office of International Science and Education Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced that the University of Tennessee at Martin has been awarded $99,999 for a Global Agriculture Leadership Incubator Project (GALIP). With additional funds provided by UT Martin, the total project amount is $134,999.

Dr. Joseph Mehlhorn, professor of agricultural economics, will serve as project director of this pilot model for internationalizing the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources curriculum. Mehlhorn worked with Andrew Brown, assistant director for international initiatives, UT Martin Center for Global Studies and International Education, and Dr. Bonnie Daniel, senior research associate, UT Martin Office of Research, Grants and Contracts, to develop the proposal. Brown will serve as evaluator of the project.

"The GALIP grant program will allow UT Martin students and faculty to gain valuable experience in international agriculture trade issues," said Mehlhorn. "In today's global agriculture marketplace, it is essential to have an understanding of social, economic and technological factors facing consumers and producers in other countries. "This is a chance of a lifetime for our students to experience another culture and learn another language," he added. "This will enable UT Martin students to be more marketable for international jobs in agriculture. The program will also allow faculty members to better incorporate international issues into the curriculum."

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2008

Candidate...
(Continued from Page One)
Obion County United Way and as a past member of the Obion County Foster Care Review Board.

Miler is the son of Mike Miller of Obion and Sidney and Deanna Chappell of Troy and is married to Emily (Stokes) Miller.

"As a citizen and businessman, I have a strong commitment to the continued progress and growth of Obion," he said. "Obion has moved forward during the current administration. If elected mayor, I pledge to work with the Obion city council and all employees for the continued progress of Obion in a peaceful and professional manner. I would like to take this opportunity to ask all citizens of Obion for their vote and support."

Phi Kappa Phi recognizes top 3 percent students

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society chapter will meet to recognize the top 3 percent of the university’s first- and second-year students. The meeting will be at 7 p.m., Oct. 28, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center. This year’s Phi Kappa Phi lecturer, Dr. Mary A. Lemons, professor of management, will speak to the group on "Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Lessons from a Management Pioneer." Anna Clark, Phi Kappa Phi president, will preside at the meeting. Phi Kappa Phi is a national honor society founded more than 100 years ago to cultivate a deep appreciation and respect for learning. It is dedicated to recognizing and promoting excellence in higher education and draws its membership from all fields of study. Outstanding juniors and seniors are invited for membership in Phi Kappa Phi during the spring semester.

For more information, contact Jenan Wright, 881-7300 or jwright@utm.edu.

UT Martin faculty to exhibit art

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will host the annual Visual Art Faculty Art Exhibition beginning with an opening reception, 5-7 p.m., Oct. 28, in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus. This year's exhibition is titled "The Greatest Show on Earth!" The exhibition will feature Dr. Carol Eckert, associate professor of art; Pam Fiedler, assistant professor of graphic design; Lane Last, associate professor of art; David McBeth, professor of art; Diane Shaw, assistant professor of art; and Jason Stout, adjunct instructor of art. The exhibition will continue until Nov. 9, and will be free and open to the public. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 881-7400.

THE MESSANGER, UNION CITY, TENNESSEE, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2008

WES MILLER

Wes Miller seeks Obion mayor's post in Nov. 4 election

Wes Miller of Obion is announcing his candidacy for mayor of the Town of Obion in the Nov. 4 election.

Miller graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1993 with a bachelor of science degree in business administration, working in retail sales and management positions. He joined Obion Grain Co. Inc. in 1998 as office manager and controller.

"In this position, I am very familiar with accounting, payroll, departmental budgeting, financial statements, negotiating with banks and lenders and communicating with governmental agencies at both the state and national level," he said.

Miller is a member of Troy's First United Methodist Church, where he serves as church treasurer, assistant choir director and a member of the church council. He currently serves as vice president of the Town of Obion Industrial Board and department superintendent at the Obion County Fair and is a graduate of the 2000 Leadership Obion County class.

He has also served as a mentor in the Obion County School System and a board member of..."
WestStar accepts applications for leadership program

Applications to participate in the premier leadership development program in Tennessee are now available from WestStar, said members of the WestStar’s Board of Trustees. For application and additional information contact WestStar at 881-7298 or write WestStar, Room 321, Hall Moody Administration Building, University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, TN 38238-5011. The deadline for application is Nov. 14. Anyone can apply to participate in the program. Nominations are accepted but not required. 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 the future of West Tennessee. WestStar’s vision is that it will be the premier leadership program in the U.S. that establishes an elite group of people bonded by their commitment to realizing the educational, economic and social development of West Tennessee. A group of citizens will be competitively selected to participate in the 2009 program.

The WestStar program consists of seven specially designed seminar programs addressing contemporary major issues important to the development of West Tennessee. Each seminar takes place over a one-and-a-half day period, with a graduation program in June. The program begins Jan. 8. WestStar enters its 20th year under the leadership of Mr. David Belote, assistant vice chancellor of student affairs, UT Martin. Last year’s graduating class brought the total number of alumni to 524. WestStar alumni from Weakley County include the following: David Belote, Tommy Boorughs, Joe Brasher, Jerry Briance, Andrew Brown, Randy Brundige, John Bucy, Tommy Cates, John Clark, Phil Dane, Charley Deal, Marvin Flatt, Bobby German, Suzie German, Bobby Goode, Bud Grimes, Jacky Gullett, Brian Harris, Leslie Haywood-Moore, Dave Hinnan, Hollie Holt, Steve Holt, Loretta Inso, George Jennings, Sam Lewallen Jr., Stacey Lockhart, David Moore, Andy Page, Tom Payne, Dick Phebus, Jim Pritchett, Madelyn Pritchett, Audrey Roberts, John Salmon, Suezane Speight, Larry Standridge, Ray Stevenson, Dennis Suiter, Jeanna Swanford, Steve Venticicse, Walter Ward and Steve Westenhafer.

Poet, author to speak at UTM Oct. 27

Acclaimed poet and author Richard Tillinghast will speak at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 27, in Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His visit will be co-sponsored by Honors Programs and the Department of English.

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

ART SHOWCASED AT LIBRARY — The University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library and Department of Visual and Theatre Arts are collaborating to bring contemporary art exhibitions and events to the library. The effort began in April with the hanging of a work, “Of Vibrations and Time,” by Lane Last, associate professor of art, in the library. It will continue as more exhibition infrastructure can be secured and installed. Future exhibitions will include other faculty members, student art, traveling exhibitions and possibly regional artists. The most recent unveiling, Sept. 29, showcases a painting, “Woodland Series No. 2,” by Diane Shaw, assistant professor of art. With Shaw are Sam Richardson, center, circulation/instruction librarian, and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes.
SAACS claims record number of honors

The University of Tennessee at Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society (SAACS) chapter has been recognized by the American Chemical Society and Green Chemistry Institute with the highest outstanding rating and as a Green Chemistry award winner for its activities in the 2007-08 year.

This year 40 chapters received an outstanding rating and 25 were designated as green chapters in a field of more than 330 entries nationwide. The UT Martin chapter has won more of each of these awards than any other chapter in the nation – 29 annual outstanding ratings, and the green chemistry designation every year since the inception of this award in 2001.

The award-winning chapters will be listed in “Chemical and Engineering News” and in the November/December edition of “in Chemistry,” the SAACS national magazine.

UT Martin Chapter projects last year included: the 28th Annual High School Science Bowl, the 29th Annual Area Collegiate Chemistry Meeting, a chemistry Merit Badge Clinic for Boy Scouts, participation by 12 SAACS chapter members at the 236th ACS national meeting in New Orleans, speakers and demonstration programs for schools and civic clubs, Chemistry Olympiad and National Chemistry Week (NCW) projects and participation in the monthly meetings of the ACS local Kentucky Lake Section. The chapter also executed an Innovative Activities Grant project “Green Chemistry 101 for Civic Clubs.”

Upcoming activities include: the NCW programs during Oct 19-26, Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic on Oct. 18 and the High School Science Bowl on Nov. 15.

For more information, contact SAACS@utm.edu or call 881-7454.
UTM earns third listing among America's 100 best college buys

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed among America’s 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc. This marks the third consecutive year that the university has earned the IRE designation.

"Once again, the results of our annual national college survey prove that the University of Tennessee at Martin continues to provide students the highest quality educational environment at the very lowest possible cost," said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

Lindsey said that colleges and universities across the country are challenged by rising costs. But, he noted that the efforts of UT Martin administration, faculty and staff "assure that students cannot find a better educational opportunity at a lower cost within or outside of Tennessee."

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, said that the university is committed to containing costs while providing a high-quality education. "We’re pleased with this designation, especially knowing that many families struggle with paying for college," he said. "In these tough budget times, we’re looking hard for ways to maintain quality at a reasonable cost."


Seismic Safety Commission to meet

The West Tennessee Seismic Safety Commission will meet, Oct. 31, at the University of Tennessee at Martin, and the public is invited. Slated for 12:15-2 p.m., the meeting will be in Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center, Wayne Fisher Drive, Martin.

The West Tennessee Seismic Safety Commission is a 12-member board, appointed as follows: two members chosen by the speaker of the house of representatives, two members chosen by the speaker of the senate and eight members appointed by the governor. The members include persons who represent the following professional areas: architecture, fire protection, public utilities, engineering, geology or seismology, local government, insurance, business, emergency health services, nonprofit emergency assistance, local education and emergency management. The commission mission, with the assistance and participation of other state, federal and local government agencies, is to initiate a comprehensive program to prepare the state for responding to a major earthquake.

For directions, special accommodations, or additional information, contact Gary Patterson at (901) 678-5264 or Bev Cook at (901) 678-5561.

ENJOYING HOMECOMING – Marilucie and Elmer Counce, professor emeritus of agronomy, Martin, and D.L. Robertson, Paris, enjoyed Homecoming 2008 Quad City at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Quad City featured a variety of activities for children and adults, including musical entertainment, games, concessions and reunions.
Leadership class learns about lifting up Henry County

By HEATHER BRYANT
P-I Asst. News Editor

I admit I was a little bit nervous.

As a member of the 2008-09 Leadership Henry County class, I had been informed by Leadership Henry County coordinator Galia Greer to be sure and wear comfortable shoes and clothes for the class’ first meeting Friday. We were going to be participating in team building exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

This could only mean one thing — we were going to have to get physical. I enjoy walks and the occasional friendly game, but I’ve never been much of an athletic type.

When the class met at the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce’s office that morning, Greer told us to help ourselves to some juice and a sausage and biscuit because we were going to need it.

Carlton Gerrell, chairman of the Leadership Henry County board, said when he participated in the class it was a “turning point” for him and he realized how much Henry County offers.

“It carried me to a new level in what all is offered in the community,” he said. “What you learn is pretty invaluable.”

He said some of the class participants who had lived in Henry County their entire lives learned new things about the county.

The 13 class members and Greer loaded up in two vans and made their way to UT Martin where Dave Belote, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, and Gina McClure, director of campus recreation, led several team building activities.

The first was learning the value of a name. Each class member had to come up with an adjective to say along with his/her name as a ball of yarn was thrown from person to person.

There was: Terrific Tory, Tory Daughtry with Henry County Medical Center; Rambunctious Rena, Rena Barker with Commercial Bank; Silly Sam, Sam Mahan with First Bank; Mysterious Monte, Henry County Sheriff Monte Belew; Gregarious Gary, Gary McEntire with Paris Landing State Park; Jovial Jack, Paris City Manager Jack Tarkington; Lovable Lance, Lance Pierce with WMUF radio station; Peppy Patricia, Patricia Byars with Henry County Sheriff’s Department; Joyful Joni, Joni Hofmeyer with Foundation Bank; Naughty Norma, Paris-Henry County Heritage Center director Norma Steele; Sassy Cindy, Eiffel Gardens Assisted Living director Cindy Bruton; Jumping Jennifer, Jennifer Hayden with Hamilton Ryker; and me, Happy Heather.

We had to remember the names as the yarn was passed and Belote reminded us to focus on people’s names when we meet new people and business contacts.
Next we had to learn to trust each other and lift one another up. One class member stood in the middle while everyone else circled around that person. The person had to "fall" and everyone had to "catch" the person before the entire group worked together to pick the person up, spin them around in the air and gently put the person on the floor.

It took everyone working together to be successful in the exercise. Belote and McClure asked the group questions about who or what needs to be lifted up in Henry County.

I will admit, I was a chicken and didn’t let the group lift me up. I have a little bit of a phobia of heights and, well, falling.

There were several other activities— all with themes of leadership, direction and how to overcome obstacles. We all had different weaknesses, but we made a pretty strong team.

At the end of the day, we were tired but happy and we definitely got to know each other better. On the ride back to Paris, some of us discussed what we could have done differently to finish the activities faster and more efficiently.

By the end of the program in May, (probably much sooner) I’m sure our conversations will center around what we can do to lift up Henry County.

Leadership Henry County is a program of the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce. Class members are chosen from all walks of community life. The class meets once each month until May to learn about topics in Henry County such as economic development, education, health care, government, agriculture and the arts.

Concealed weapons permit class planned

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is offering a concealed weapons permit class from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., November 8. The goal of this course is to provide education in the fundamentals of handgun safety. Students will be taught how to use, clean and store handguns. State certified handgun instructors, John Ayers and Larry Coffman, will also cover legal liabilities, firing range participation, course review and testing.

The handgun safety course will consist of two separate but related areas of classroom and firing range instruction. This is a one-day, eight-hour course. Upon course completion, each student will take a written examination and handgun firing qualification test. A minimum of 70 percent must be achieved on both sections to successfully pass the concealed weapons course. After successful completion, students my apply for a concealed weapons permit from the State of Tennessee.

The registration fee is $95. Each student should take a pen, pencil and paper to class, as well as a handgun, 50 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses and hearing protection for firing range instruction. Students should also provide a pistol-cleaning kit in class. No one under the age of 21 is allowed to enroll in this course.

To register, contact ECCE at 731-881-7082 or go online to www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

Paitsel graduates from basic training

Army National Guard Spec. James K. Paitsel has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, traditions and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

He is the son of Jim Paitsel of Fulton and Brenda Greer of Union City, Tenn.

Paitsel graduated in 1988 from St. Andrew’s-Sewanee School, Sewanee, Tenn., and received a master’s degree in 2007 from the University of Tennessee, Martin.
It seems no matter how long it has been since an alum left the University of Tennessee at Martin, when something piques his or her memory it's evident that professors, classmates and the overall experience made an indelible mark.

J. Houston Gordon, Dr. Jane Kao and Charlie Neese, who returned for homecoming weekend, had no trouble recounting their UT Martin experiences at the annual alumni awards banquet, October 3.

For Gordon, a Covington attorney who received the Chancellor’s Award for University Service, his association with the institution began when his grandmother, Ava Darnell Gordon, traveled on horseback from Yuma to Hall-Moody College (which became UT Martin) to earn a teacher's certificate. That legacy now includes four generations of Gordinos as alumni.

"Obviously, UT Martin has impacted our family for good," said Gordon. He added, "I spent four years as an Army JAG (Judge Advocate General) officer, but my military training began here. My interest in history and politics and my love of writing poetry and the English language were nurtured here. My passionate belief in Equal rights was fostered here. I met and befriended some of the brightest, most interesting people on earth here who continue to be, throughout this country, influences for good."

Citing a need for an educated, informed and committed citizenry, Gordon said that is why he and his wife, Deb, are passionate about sponsoring UT Martin's participation in the American Democracy Project, in supporting efforts to teach service, in supporting young scholars and "in giving of our time to assist this great university to fulfill its mission, I am honored and humbled. Thank you for the award and the opportunity to serve," he said.

Kao, Dallas pediatric cardiologist who received the Outstanding Alumni Award, said, "I have so many fond and vivid memories of being here. I am so very grateful and honored to be able to come here tonight... to accept this award."

She said that following a previous visit to UT Martin to serve as a banquet speaker, she reflected, "What a talented group of faculty we have here at UT Martin... and how lucky I was to study under them." She added that in noting the successes of alumni featured in a recent UT Martin annual report, "It just made me so proud that I was once a part of this campus. I truly believe that UT Martin laid the foundation for the success of all of these alumni."

Kao said she is sometimes asked what it is like taking care of critically ill children. "Watching them suffer is a very heart-rending experience... However, just as I have seen suffering... in my 13 years of practice, I have seen so many... tremendous advances" in the medical treatment of children with heart disease. "I feel that I am so lucky and fortunate to be able to enter the lives of these patients and their families." Kao thanked her parents, who "have provided me with unconditional support... and instilled in me an impeccable work ethic" and several faculty members for their guidance, counsel and opportunities. Looking around the room and seeing a number of faculty members, who continue to teach and serve as mentors, she added, "It takes a very special kind of person with a very special kind of talent to be able to do this."

Neese, on-air meteorologist at WTVF-Channel 5, Nashville, who was named the Outstanding Young Alumni, also noted the success of UT Martin graduates. "The quality of alumni from UT Martin is truly astounding. People go from this school to change the world and to change peoples' lives."

Developing a love of the weather at an early age, he kept hearing about UT Martin as he prepared for college. "From the moment I stepped on campus and knew UT Martin was going to be my college home."

Neese also thanked numerous professors for their passion for teaching. "There are at least two big things that allow dreams to come true when you have a goal. No. 1 is to be passionate. I was passionate about weather. No. 2, I needed tools to help me achieve that goal. And that's exactly what UT Martin gave me. It gave me the tools to do well."

He added, "What heart the professor at this school have. UT Martin took a kid from Williamson County, Tennes... see... and gave me the tools to achieve my dream, to achieve my passion, and for that I am forever grateful. I am very honored and very humbled."
Dr. John Petersen, left, University of Tennessee president, and Dr. Thomas Rakes, right, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, are pictured with J. Houston Gordon, of Covington, during the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet, hosted October 3. Gordon received the Chancellor’s Award for University Service.

Dr. John Petersen, right, University of Tennessee president, and Dr. Thomas Rakes, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, are pictured with Dr. Jane Kao, of Dallas, Texas, during the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet, hosted October 3. Kao received the Outstanding Alumni Award.

Dr. John Petersen, left, University of Tennessee president, and Dr. Thomas Rakes, right, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, are pictured with Charlie Neese, of Williamson County, during the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet, hosted October 3. Neese received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

**ENJOYING HOMECOMING:** Nancy and Robert Hurt, Trimble, enjoyed Homecoming 2008 Quad City at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Quad City featured a variety of activities for children and adults, including musical entertainment, games, concessions and reunions.
Science Olympiad at UT Martin

Plans are underway to offer a Science Olympiad, for grades 6-9, February 28, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Science Olympiad is a science-based team competition.

The goal of Science Olympiad is to improve science education, encourage teamwork and participation from all students and promote inquiry-based learning. Science Olympiad Tournament events are correlated with the state as well as the National Science Education Standards. Interested students should contact their teachers, who will organize olympiad teams.

For the first year, olympiad organizers plan to offer 12 events during the competition. Each event is usually a hands-on activity in which each team is graded and competes against other teams. It may also include a laboratory activity in which students complete a given task and report results. Teams should be formed in the beginning of the semester to allow for preparation time. Visit the Web page, http://soinc.org/start_a_team, for hints about how to start a team.

Some examples of 2009 events include: amphibians and reptiles, anatomy, bio-process lab, computer science, cradle the wave, disease detectives, dynamic planet, ecology, elevated bridge, environmental chemistry and fossils. Others are robo-cross, science crime busters, scrambler, trajectory, “wright” stuff and write it do it. Most events are aligned with the state curriculum. Unlike other science competitions, olympiad is intended for all students.

For more information, coaches/teachers should contact Dr. Cahit Erkal, professor of physics, UT Martin, at ceralal@utm.edu or 731-881-7432. Registration for the olympiad can be completed at the Tennessee Science Olympiad Web site (www.chattanoogastate.edu/science_olympiad/soamain.asp). Those interested also may check the national Web site for event descriptions and hints for preparation (www.soinc.org).

Deadline to apply for 2008 Governor’s Schools nears

The deadline to apply for two Governor’s Schools hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin is November 21. Governor’s School for the Humanities will be May 31-July 2 and Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences is slated for May 24-June 26. Successful applicants will be notified January 25.

Governor’s School for the Humanities examines the role of language, history, philosophy, politics and the arts in defining the relevance of humanities in the modern age. Visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/caes/gsas/. Brochures are available and may be requested by telephone at 731-881-7260 or by mail at TG-SAS, University of Tennessee at Martin, 256 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238.

Governor’s School for the Humanities examines the role of language, history, philosophy, politics and the arts in defining the relevance of humanities in the modern age. Visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/caes/gsas/. Brochures are available and may be requested by telephone at 731-881-7260 or by mail at TG-SAS, University of Tennessee at Martin, 256 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238.

For an application or for more information, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/caes/gsas/. Brochures are available and may be requested by telephone at 731-881-7260 or by mail at TG-SAS, University of Tennessee at Martin, 256 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238.

Deadline to enter Soybean Festival Pageant, November 7

Plans are underway for the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant to be staged at 7 p.m., November 15, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building at UT Martin. Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson next summer.

The combined pageant is co-sponsored by the City of Martin and UT Martin and is open to single women, ages 17-24, who are residents of or students in Tennessee. The Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant is open statewide, while the Miss UT Martin event is open only to UT Martin students.

The pageant application form is available online at www.utm.edu/missutm. Deadline to register is November 7, and applications from all UT Martin students should be returned to David Bebete, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, Office of Student Life, Student Life Center, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238. All others should be sent to Kimberly Craddock, 101 University St., Martin, TN 38237.

General admission tickets for the Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Pageant will be available at the door for $15. UT Martin student tickets will be sold for $10 at the door with proper ID.

For more information, contact pageant executive directors, Hollie Holt, 731-514-3536 or Kimberly Craddock, 731-588-2507 or by email at missutmartin@utm.edu.
London-Paris travel-study program planned in spring

The University of Tennessee at Martin will conduct a spring travel-study program to London and Paris, March 4-16.

Among the highlights of the travel study in London will be the Tower of London, St. Paul’s Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, the British Museum and the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace. While in Paris, the group will see the Arc de Triomphe, Sacre Coeur, Notre Dame, the Louvre, Napoleon's Tomb and the Eiffel Tower.

In addition to the tours of London and Paris, day trips have been planned to Stonehenge, Bath and Windsor Castle and a day trip to the Palace of Versailles. Also, the group will take the Eurostar train from London to Paris.

The cost is $3,175 per person. This includes roundtrip transportation from Martin to the airport, roundtrip airfare from Memphis to London and back from Paris, 11 nights of hotel accommodations, daily breakfast, admission to all scheduled events, day trips to Stonehenge and Versailles and the Eurostar train from London to Paris.

For a complete schedule of activities, contact Dr. Jeff Hoyer, associate professor of communications, at 731-881-7547 or jhoyer@utm.edu, or Stan Sieber, professor of history, at 731-881-7467 or ssieber@utm.edu.

UT Martin science bowl set for Nov. 15

Area high schools are invited to send teams to the 29th Annual Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin and can register for the Nov. 15 event by email or phone. The registration is free, and the deadline is Oct. 31.

The science bowl is sponsored by the UT Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. For the written test covering biology, chemistry and general science, there is no limit on the number of students each school may enter. Each test will have 25 questions from each of the three categories.

From the written test, eight schools will be chosen for the afternoon bowl competition based on comparing the average total score of two of each school’s highest scoring students. The rules are similar to the former television show, "The G.E. College Bowl." The prizes will include trophies for champion and runner-up schools and gold, silver and bronze medallions for all team members. All schools will be provided Chem Time Clocks on which the element symbols replace the usual 24 numbers for military time. Each student also will receive a wallet card and a beverage cup featuring the periodic table.

The rules for science bowl can be accessed on the Web at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairre/scibowlrules.html. The program of the last bowl can be seen at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairre/scibowl15.

For registration or information, email skairre@utm.edu or call 731-881-7450/7454.

WHS junior class parents to meet

There will be a meeting for all Westview junior class parents at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5, in Room 229 of the Boling University Center at UT Martin. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and make preparations for fund raisers for Prom 2009.

REED Center offers seminar

The Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a lunch-and-learn seminar for small businesses in November. “Expanding Your Small Business” will be offered from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Nov. 6, at Snappy Tomato Pizza in Martin. There is no fee for the seminar, and lunch may be purchased. Ron Acree, Tennessee Small Business Development Center representative, will help small business owners learn how to prepare for expansion by reviewing cash flow status and re-evaluating initial goals and objectives. To register for a workshop, visit the Web at http://www.utm.edu/reeed or call 587-7333.
OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE – Tim Nipp, University of Tennessee at Martin director of physical plant, received the exempt UT Martin Fall 2008 Outstanding Employee Award recently presented by Chancellor Tom Rakes. The award, which recognizes outstanding service to the university, is presented each fall and spring semester to two employees. With them is Al Hooten, left, vice chancellor of finance and administration.

OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE – Sandy King, University of Tennessee at Martin program resource specialist at UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer, received the non-exempt UT Martin Fall 2008 Outstanding Employee Award recently presented by Chancellor Tom Rakes. The award, which recognizes outstanding service to the university, is presented each fall and spring semester to two employees. With them is Deidra Beene, left, McNairy County Center/Selmer director.

UT Martin Science Bowl is November 15

MARTIN - Area high schools are invited to send teams to the 29th Annual Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin and can register for the November 15 event by email or phone. The registration is free, and the deadline is October 31.

The science bowl is sponsored by the UT Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. For the written test covering biology, chemistry and general science, there is no limit on the number of students each school may enter. Each test will have 25 questions from each of the three categories.

From the written test, eight schools will be chosen for the afternoon bowl competition based on comparing the average total score of two of each school's highest scoring students. The rules are similar to the former television show, “The G.E. College Bowl.” The prizes will include trophies for champion and runner-up schools and gold, silver and bronze medallions for all team members. All schools will be provided Chem Time Clocks on which the element symbols replace the usual 24 numbers for military time. Each student also will receive a wallet card and a beverage cup featuring the periodic table.

The rules for science bowl can be accessed on the Web at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairree/saacs/scibowlrules.html. The program of the last bowl can be seen at http://www.utm.edu/ staff/skairree/scibowl/.

For registration or information, email skairree@utm.edu or call 731-881-7450/7454.

YOUNG WRITERS CONFERENCE

For high school students. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 31 in Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center, UTM.
Science Olympiad is February at UTM

Plans are to offer a Science Olympiad for grades 6 through 9 Feb. 28 at the University of Tennessee Martin. Science Olympiad is a science-based team competition.

The goal is to improve science education, encourage teamwork and participation from all students and promote inquiry-based learning. Science Olympiad Tournament events are correlated with the state as well as the National Science Education Standards. Interested students should contact their teachers, who will organize Olympiad teams.

Organizers plan to offer 12 events during the competition. Each event is usually a hands-on activity in which each team is graded and competes against other teams. It may also include a laboratory activity in which students complete a given task and report results.

Teams should be formed in the beginning of the semester to allow for preparation time. Visit the Web site http://soinc.org/start_a_team for hints about how to start a team.

Some examples of 2009 events include amphibians and reptiles, anatomy, bioprocess lab, compute this, crave the wave, disease detectives, dynamic planet, ecology, elevated bridge, environmental chemistry and fossils. Others are robo-cross, science crime busters, scrambler, trajectory, "wright" stuff and write it, do it. Most events are aligned with the state curriculum. Olympiad is intended for all students.

Coaches/teachers should e-mail or call Cahit Erkal, professor of physics, UT Martin, at cerkal@utm.edu or (731) 881-7432.

A research horticulturist's fertile mind generates a beautiful harvest

By Christine Arpe Gang

Friday, October 24, 2008

When Jason Reeves considers the display gardens at the University of Tennessee Education and Research Center in Jackson, he always thinks big.

It's almost a necessity at the 600-acre facility with its extensive display gardens. But it's also natural to Reeves, whose title is research horticulturist, but whose role goes beyond research and horticulture.

"If you have enough of anything, it becomes interesting," Reeves said.

And 5,000 pumpkins, gourds and squash are certainly enough to be eye-catching, even if they were just piled into mounds. But Reeves does so much more with the annual fall display that draws hundreds to the center each year.

He turns them into a visual fantasy of orange, yellow, green and gold so striking you almost forget that his medium is produce, not clay, glass or stone.

"It's all about making a statement, putting things together in mass to make an impact," Reeves said. "Instead of five pumpkins here and five squash there, I put 25 here and 25 there."

By grouping like colors and shapes, he creates a mosaic of pumpkins and gourds along both sides of a walkway. At the head of the walk is a pumpkin "house" and nearby, a cornstalk horse.

He visualized the pumpkin house in his mind, and then collected materials to make it. The top is a discarded satellite dish thatched with cornstalks outside and lined with burlap inside.

"You'd never know it's a satellite dish," Reeves said. "We built it (the house) for about $150, and it's sound. You could stand on top of it."

The horse, made a couple of years ago, got to come back to the party this year.

Reeves never sketches out his ideas. With the help of seasonal workers at the center, he arranges and rearranges the produce until he likes what he sees when he steps back to look.

It's the same way he designs the display beds of annuals and perennials. He takes trays of plants from the greenhouse to the garden, and plays around with their
placement until he is satisfied with the design.

This fall it took Reeves, the artist, three days to get the pumpkin display right.

Reeves, the horticulturist, spent countless hours researching varieties of the fall bounty, ordering seeds, preparing growing beds, planting seeds, weeding, fertilizing and harvesting a crop abundant and varied enough to create the display.

Reeves, the researcher, has been collecting data on the crop, carefully measuring yields, disease and pest problems and determining the best varieties for a long shelf life. He recently gathered commercial growers and interested hobbyists in the region to share the information.

"Jason's creativity and his unique ideas are unsurpassed," said Dr. Bob Hayes, research center director. "I've never seen anyone quite like him."

Hayes marvels at the way Reeves collects discarded bicycles, bedsprings and other found objects to create trellises and plant supports at the center's annual Summer Celebration in July.

"He always springs surprises, even to me, at Summer Celebration," Hayes said. "People who come here are going to see things they won't see in magazines."

But creative endeavors like the pumpkin display also achieve the mission of the Extension Service to disseminate research to help farmers.

"Growers can use his ideas to make their own displays better," Hayes said.

His colleague, ornamental specialist Carol Reese, admires Reeves' talents.

"Martha Stewart only wishes she had someone like Jason," Reese said. "He can take anything from an old farm implement to a bicycle and whip out something gorgeous."

Plus, he's organized, disciplined, has a great work ethic and is good on the computer, she said.

Reeves learned a lot about seasonal displays of produce and plants while working at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania, the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis and the Opryland Conservatories in Nashville.

He spent four months working at Paloma Gardens in New Zealand, and regularly attends conferences in diverse American cities to learn about new plants and design ideas.

"It's refreshing to see what other gardeners are doing," Reeves said. "At the conferences, I share ideas and get ideas. I'm a visual person, so seeing other gardens expands my plant palette."

Despite offers of jobs elsewhere, Reeves seems firmly planted in West Tennessee, not far from rural Carroll County near Huntingdon where he grew up.

"I grew up on a small cattle farm and always loved being on the farm," said Reeves,
who is 34 and single. "We always grew a few pumpkins."

By the time he was 12, Reeves knew he wanted to do "something with plants."

A computerized career questionnaire filled out in his senior year of high school confirmed his path in horticulture.

At the University of Tennessee-Martin he majored in grounds management and then moved eastward to UT-Knoxville where he earned a master's in ornamental horticulture and landscape design in 1999.

Next, he did a six-month work-study program in outdoor displays at Longwood Gardens, the famous 1,000-acre estate of Pierre S. Du Pont near Philadelphia.

But prestigious gardens, such as Longwood and the Missouri Botanical Garden, didn't capture his heart. And although he loved his brief stint in New Zealand, he always wanted to come back home.

"I'm a family person," he said. "I don't want to be too far from home."

He's also a collector with large numbers of old watering cans, McCoy pottery pieces, frogs for flower arranging and, lately, license plates.

"I have no idea what I'll do with the license plates, but I'm sure I'll come up with something," Reeves said.

A few years ago, he decorated the gardens at the center for Summer Celebration with neckties -- 853 of them.

"I think I'm artistic and I look at things differently," said Reeves, who has tried his hand at pottery, weaving and stained glass. "I cannot paint or draw."

Rick Pudwell, director of horticulture at the Memphis Botanic Garden, is impressed with Reeves' energy, innovation and ability to create displays on a large scale.

"I think he's a big asset to West Tennessee gardeners and the horticulture industry," said Rick Pudwell, "He has good plant knowledge and a great mind."

Despite the accolades, Reeves remains the nice farm boy from West Tennessee.

"He's humble and approachable," Pudwell said.

Freelancer Christine Arpe Gang can be reached at chrisagang@hotmail.com

The Display

The fall display created by Jason Reeves can be viewed at the University of Tennessee Education and Research Center in Jackson, Tenn., through Thanksgiving Day.

The center is open daily from dawn until dusk. Admission is free.

It is located at 605 Airways Blvd.
Ceremony marks construction of $16.5 million recreation center

The University of Tennessee at Martin broke ground during Homecoming Week for a 96,000 square foot campus recreational center. Target completion date for the $16.5 million project is spring 2010.

University of Tennessee President John Petersen and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes participated in the ceremony that took place at the site on Mt. Pelia Road during UT Martin homecoming week activities. The UT board of trustees approved construction of the facility in November 2006.

"Campus recreation is a vital component for student life at UT Martin," said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. "I know opening a modern recreational facility will be a welcome addition to multiple playing fields, swimming and many other recreational sites our students enjoy on a daily basis." He added, "Our recreation staff is among the busiest on campus, and we are anxious to complete this new facility."

The new Student Recreation Center will allow the Office of Campus Recreation to expand hours and offerings. For the fiscal year 2008, more than 3,000 students participated in intramural activities, and leisure recreation recorded participation counts of 46,000.

Dr. Margaret Toston, UT Martin vice chancellor for student affairs, noted that in 2005, the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association estimated that by 2010 new construction and renovations for indoor campus recreational sports facilities would cost colleges and universities at least $3.17 billion, at an average cost of $14.2 million. "UT Martin is among a growing list of educational institutions across the nation that are responding to students' desire to enhance their physical and mental health, as well as to have a respite from rigorous academic work," she said.

The Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (2006) further outlined indirect benefits to students who participate in campus recreation. Students tend to develop a positive self-image and increased self-control and gain social interaction skills and maturity, Toston added.

"We at UT Martin are tuned into the needs of our students, and we have responded by funding a facility that will have a positive impact on the mind, body and spirit of our students. I know that our students value and appreciate the way in which we have responded to their need for a healthy lifestyle."

The facility will include four basketball courts/indoor soccer arena, a walking/jogging/running area, weight room, cardio-fitness areas, an aerobic room, a multipurpose room, locker rooms and racquetball courts. Also, there will be space for a lounge area, equipment checkout stations, offices, classrooms, storage and janitorial rooms.

"I'm excited about this facility and what it means for students here at UT Martin. Students will now have a place that can service their recreational and wellness needs and a place to call their own," said Gina McClure, director of campus recreation.

The new recreational center will be built primarily for students, as student fees will be the main funding source. Other potential users may include faculty, staff, retirees, alumni and families of UT Martin students and employees, who will pay a fee for use of the facility.

Lyle, Cook, Martin, of Clarksville, and Fleming Associates of Memphis, are serving as project architects in a joint venture, and A&K Construction Co., of Paducah, Ky., is building the center.

UT Martin's current primary recreational facility, the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, houses campus recreation, athletics and academic departments, which also divide operational time. The Elam Center also serves as a regular location for campus-wide and community events, limiting its hours available for recreation.

For more information, contact McClure at 881-7745.
STUDENT RECREATION CENTER GROUNDBREAKING – Among those participating in the University of Tennessee at Martin Student Recreation Center groundbreaking are, from left, Gina McClure, director of Campus Recreation; Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs; Dr. John Schrommer, faculty member of the UT Board of Trustees; Brittany McGerder, student member of the UT Board of Trustees; Chancellor Tom Rakes; UT President John Peterson; Lane Lyle, Lyle Cook Martin Architects; Crawford Gallimore, UT Board of Trustees member; Scott Fleming, Fleming Associates president; Mark White, A&D Construction project manager; Erin Chambers, former Student Government Association president; Tim Nipp, Physical Plant director; Jim Fassiotto, A&D Construction site superintendent; and Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration.

SERVICE LEARNING FAIR – The University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice recently sponsored a Service Learning Fair that included organizations from surrounding counties in West Tennessee that recruited volunteers. Agencies and organizations represented included Asera Care Hospice, Boys & Girls Clubs of North America, Carl Perkins Center, Family Resource Center, Martin Housing Authority and others. The fair gave students the opportunity to make contact with organizations needing volunteers. Some UT Martin classes require service learning or volunteering as a component. Pictured are Bonnie Carr, left, a freshman, from Martin, and the Rev. Joline Balentine-Downey, UT Martin Interfaith Student Center director.
Gibson to share enthusiasm for science, learning during speaker series

Dr. Michael Gibson, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of geology, will deliver an address, "The Central America-Tennessee Connection: Microbes and Asteroids Lead to Global Life and Global Death," at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 2, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

Gibson received a B.S. degree in geology from the College of William and Mary, a master's in geology from Auburn University and a doctorate in geology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He has been a UT Martin faculty member since 1988.

Among the busiest and most widely respected scientists in the state, Gibson has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the UT Martin Cunningham Award, which he received twice (1996 and 2008), the Neil Miner Award from the National Association of Geoscience Teachers (2008), the Higher Education Science Teacher of the Year Award (2003) and the Distinguished Educator of the Year Award (2006) from the Tennessee Science Teachers Association.

Gibson is associate curator for the Pink Palace and Cool Springs Science Center. He is a member of the National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) and served as southeastern president of the NAGT (2000-2003) and counselor-at-large on the executive committee (2003-06), during which he helped to construct the NAGT position statement on the teaching of evolution. He served as secretary (1989-94) and president (1994-96) of the Southeastern Section of the Paleontological Society and is currently in his second term.

Chancellor (Tom) Rakes in continuing the tradition of including a member of the faculty on the Academic Speakers Program," said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. "There is no finer individual to continue this tradition than Michael Gibson, whose research, teaching and dedicated service have built a reputation for excellence that extends throughout the state of Tennessee and even to national levels. His enthusiasm for science and for learning is infectious, as will be demonstrated in his presentation.

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

'The Orphanage' to be shown

"The Orphanage" will be shown at 7 p.m., Oct. 31, in Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The film is part of the foreign film series sponsored by the Department of Modern Foreign Languages.

In the film, an old, seaside mansion — which at one time had served as an orphanage — is bought by Laura (Belén Rueda) and her husband Carlos (Fernando Cayo). Their plan is to make it into an orphanage again, providing a home for disabled children, as well as for their own young son. Simón (Roger Príncipe), who does not know that he is adopted. The orphanage is a creepy place with all of the standard creacks, moans and inexplicable door slams. When Simón mysteriously disappears, the parents go through great lengths to find him.

"The Orphanage" is directed by Juan Antonio Bayona and produced by Guillermo del Toro. The film will be in its original Spanish language with English subtitles. Dr. Daniel Nappo, Department of Modern Foreign Languages chair and associate professor of Spanish, will give an introduction before the film is shown. This event will be free and open to the public. For more information, contact Nappo at 881-7420 or 881-7428.

Create one-stroke reverse painted Christmas tray

Be ready for holiday entertaining. From 9:30-11:30 a.m., Nov. 1, the University of Tennessee at Martin's Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is sponsoring a personal development class. For a $25 registration fee and a $10 supply fee to be paid the day of class, anyone can learn how to use the reverse painting technique to paint a spray of holly leaves with bright red berries on the back of a clear acrylic 11-inch by 18-inch tray. Beginners are welcome.

To register, contact ECCE at 881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.
High schools invited to compete in UT Martin's Science Bowl

Area high schools are invited to send teams to the 29th Annual Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin and can register for the Nov. 15 event by e-mail or phone.

The registration is free and the deadline is Friday.

The science bowl is sponsored by the UT Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. For the written test covering biology, chemistry and general science, there is no limit on the number of students each school may enter. Each test will have 25 questions from each of the three categories.

From the written test, eight schools will be chosen for the afternoon bowl competition based on comparing the average total score of two of each school's highest scoring students. The rules are similar to the former television show "The G.E. College Bowl."

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The rules for science bowl can be accessed on the Web at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairlee/scibowlrules.html. The program of the last bowl can be seen at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skairlee/scibowl/.

SERVICE LEARNING FAIR — The University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice recently sponsored a Service Learning Fair that included organizations from surrounding counties in West Tennessee that recruited volunteers. Among the participants who registered were Bryan Tatum (left), a senior criminal justice major from McMinnville, and Laurel Childs, a junior criminal justice major from Kenton. Agencies and organizations represented at the fair included Asera Care Hospice, Boys & Girls Clubs of North America, Carl Perkins Center, Family Resource Center, Martin Housing Authority and others. The fair gave students the opportunity to make contact with organizations needing volunteers. Some UT Martin classes require service learning or volunteering as a component.
Deadline nearing for Governor’s Schools

The deadline to apply for two Governor’s Schools hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin is Nov. 21.

The Governor’s School for the Humanities will be May 31-July 2 and the Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences is slated for May 24-June 26. Successful applicants will be notified Jan. 25.

The Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences focuses on the importance of agriculture and natural resources to the state and national economy. Emphasis on experiential learning and laboratory exercises related to the agricultural sciences will include production agriculture, agricultural business enterprises and natural resources management.

For an application or for more information, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/caas/tgsas-. Brochures are available and may be requested by telephone at (731) 881-7260 or by mail at TGSAS, University of Tennessee at Martin, 256 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238.

Visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/govschool/ for an application or more information.

Applications also are available in high school guidance offices.

Mosch to talk about recent trip

The Friends of Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin will host Dr. Ted Mosch, UT-Martin professor emeritus of political science and retired U.S. Army Colonel, for a presentation on his recent trip to North Korea. Mosch had the opportunity to tour North Korea, photograph many of its landmarks, speak with many of its citizens and experience the country and its culture.

The presentation will be at 4 p.m., November 6, in Campbell Auditorium of the Holt Humanities Building. Parking is available at Boling University Center. A reception with light refreshments will follow the presentation. This presentation is free of charge and open to the public. The event will be co-sponsored by the following UT Martin groups: College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, Department of Military Science, International Programs, Center for Global Studies and International Education and the Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science.

‘The Orphanage’ third in foreign film series

“The Orphanage” will be shown at 7:00 p.m., October 31, in Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The film is part of the foreign film series sponsored by the Department of Modern Foreign Languages.

In the film, an old, seashore mansion - which at one time had served as an orphanage - is bought by Laura (Belen Rueda) and her husband Carlos (Fernando Cayo). Their plan is to make it into an orphanage again, providing a home for disabled children, as well as for their own young son, Simon (Roger Princeps), who does not know that he is adopted. The orphanage is a creepy place with all of the standard creaks, moans and inexplicable door slams. When Simon mysteriously disappears, the parents go through great lengths to find him.

“The Orphanage” is directed by Juan Antonio Bayona and produced by Guillermo del Toro. The film will be in its original Spanish language with English subtitles. Dr. Daniel Nappo, Department of Modern Foreign Languages chair and associate professor of Spanish, will give an introduction before the film is shown. This event will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Nappo at 731-881-7420 or 731-881-7428.

Excel is professional development opportunity

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is offering an Intermediate Excel class from 9 a.m. noon, Nov. 18 and 20. The class is designed to expand students’ knowledge of spreadsheets by working through complex functions and formulas, using statements and conditional formatting, teaching relative and absolute referencing, creating detailed examples and executive summaries, importing data into a spreadsheet from an external source, customizing graphs, integrating spreadsheets into word processing documents, using pivot tables, practicing planning and design skills and familiarizing students with Excel 2007 and Vista.

Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin analyst and programmer, will be the instructor for this class. The fee is $85.

To register, contact ECCE at 731-881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.
Seismic Safety Commission to meet at UT Martin; public invited

The West Tennessee Seismic Safety Commission will meet October 31, at the University of Tennessee at Martin, and the public is invited. Stated for 12:15-2:00 p.m., the meeting will be in Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center, Wayne Fisher Drive, Martin.

The West Tennessee Seismic Safety Commission is a 12-member board, appointed as follows: two members chosen by the speaker of the house of representatives, two members chosen by the speaker of the senate and eight members appointed by the governor. The members include persons who represent the following professional areas: architecture, health services, nonprofit emergency assistance, local education and emergency management. The commission mission, with the assistance and participation of other state, federal and local government agencies, is to initiate a comprehensive program to prepare the state for responding to a major earthquake.

For directions, special accommodations, or additional information, contact Gary Pattison at 901-678-5264 or Bev Cook at 901-678-5561.

SAACS Chapter helps celebrate National Chemistry Week

Martin Mayor Randy Brunidge has proclaimed the week of October 19-25 as National Chemistry Week in Martin in recognition of the commitment and contribution of the chemists and chemical engineers of this community to the well-being of its citizens and to the service to humanity. The theme of National Chemistry Week this year is “Have a Ball with Chemistry.”

The University of Tennessee at Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society chapter members will present special demonstrations, programs and information about careers in chemistry and science-related fields at Westview High School and Martin Primary School and will conduct a Chemistry Merit Badge Clinic for Boy Scouts. SAACS also will sponsor a speaker in conjunction with the chapter’s involvement in green chemistry. Vaughn Cassidy, of the Tennessee Department of Environmental Conservation, will talk about biofuels at 7:00 p.m., October 21, in Room 318 of Johnson EPS Building. The Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society will host a meeting at 7:00 p.m., October 23, at UT Martin where Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society of Union University, Bethel College, Lambuth University, UT Martin and Murray State University will present a special program of chemistry demonstrations in Boling University Center. Kentucky Lake Section of ACS was chartered 50 years ago and two of its members from the UT Martin chemistry department are celebrating the 50th year of their membership in the society. Pictured left to right are, seated, Dr. James E. Gagen, UT Martin professor emeritus, Mayor Brunidge, and Dr. S.K. Airee, SAACS adviser and Kentucky Lake Section’s NCW coordinator. Gagen and Airee both joined ACS 50 years ago. Also Kentucky Lake Section of ACS was chartered 50 years ago.

Standing are Dr. Nancy Hinds, UT Martin’s NCW coordinator, SAACS members, Christy Lowe, Casey Ellington, Casey Unger, Punam Patel and Westview High School chemistry teacher, Jessica Hightower.
Gibson to share enthusiasm for science, learning during speaker series

Dr. Michael Gibson

Dr. Michael Gibson, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of geology, will deliver an address, "The Central America-Tennessee Connection: Microbes and Asteroids Lead to Global Life and Global Death," at 7:30 p.m., November 3, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

Gibson received a B.S. degree in geology from the College of William and Mary, a master's in geology from Auburn University and a doctorate in geology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He has been a UT Martin faculty member since 1988.

Among the busiest and most widely respected scientists in the state, Gibson has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the UT Martin Cunningham Award, which he received twice (1996 and 2008), the Neil Miner Award from the National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) and served as southeastern president of the NAGT (2000-03) and counselor-at-large on the executive committee (2003-06), during which he helped to construct the NAGT position statement on the teaching of evolution. He served as secretary (1989-94) and president (1994-96) of the Southeastern Section of the Paleontological Society and, is currently in his second term on the Paleontological Society Executive Council as national chair of education. He is geology editor for the Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science and was one of the founders of the Tennessee Earth Science Teachers (TETS), which he continues to serve as a higher education adviser. Finally, Gibson was instrumental in the establishment of the Cretaceous bivalve Pterotrigonia (Scabrotrigonia) thoricica as the official state fossil of Tennessee in 1998.

He has published more than 75 articles and is currently working on a book about Tennessee's state fossil. He is the recipient of a series of state and federal grants worth millions of dollars, many of which promote science education. He is often involved in development programs and field trips for Tennessee educators and serves on several State of Tennessee Department of Education committees, including the committee to write the state science standards.

"Honors Programs applauds and appreciates the support of Chancellor (Tom) Rakes in continuing the tradition of including a member of the faculty on the Academic Speakers Program," said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. "There is no finer individual to continue this tradition than Michael Gibson, whose research, teaching and dedicated service have built a reputation for excellence that extends throughout the state of Tennessee an even to national levels. His enthusiasm for science and for learning is infectious, as will be demonstrated in his presentation."

For more information, contact McDonough at 731-881-7436 or dammec@utm.edu.

Weapons permit class to be held at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is offering a concealed weapons permit class from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Nov. 8.

The goal of this course is to provide education in the fundamentals of handgun safety. Students will be taught how to use, clean and store handguns.

State-certified handgun instructors John Ayers and Larry Coffman will also cover legal liabilities, firing range participation, course review and testing.

The handgun safety course will consist of two separate but related areas of classroom and firing range instruction. This is a one-day, eight-hour course.

Upon completion, each student will take a written examination and handgun firing qualification test. A minimum of 70 percent must be achieved on both sections to successfully pass the concealed weapons course. After successful completion, students may apply for a concealed weapons permit from the State of Tennessee.

The registration fee is $95. Each student should bring a pen, pencil and paper to class, as well as a handgun, 50 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses and hearing protection for firing range instruction. Students should also provide a pistol-cleaning kit in class.

No one younger than age 21 is allowed to enroll in this course.

To register, contact ECCE at (731) 881-7082 or go online to www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.
The Learned Ladies is Vanguard production

Jade Johnson, left, of Paris, Joshua Jones, of Kingston Springs, and Kara Salyers, of Huntingdon, rehearse for “The Learned Ladies” to be staged by Vanguard Theatre at the University of Tennessee at Martin, November 6–9.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Vanguard Theatre will present its opening performance of “The Learned Ladies” at 8:00 p.m., November 6, on the main stage in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. Additional performances will be at 8:00 p.m., November 7–8 and 3:00 p.m., November 9.

It’s an age-old story, a father wants his daughter to marry one man; a mother wants her to marry another. Molière’s fallen under the spell of a would-be poet named Trissotin who aspires to marry the youngest daughter, Henriette, and thereby acquire a lovely and rich wife. Henriette, however, has her own plans for marriage with the poor but handsome Clitandre. A crew of unforgettable characters inhabits this fast-paced satire on intellectual pretensions where mishaps and mayhem abound.

UT Martin cast members include: Kassi Abney, of Martin; Davida Ambrose, of Memphis; Anne Albrect, of Memphis; Jay Campbell, of Martin; Natalie Horbelt, of Memphis; Jade Johnson, of Paris; Justin Hunt, of Martin; Jonathan Johnson, of Union City; Joshua Jones, of Kingston Springs; Patrick Nugent, of Memphis; Kara Salyers, of Huntingdon; Benjamin Soder, of Gainesville, Florida; and Lizzie Wouters, of Knoxville.

The box office will open at noon on November 3. Operations hours are from noon to 5:00 p.m. and two hours before performances. Tickets are $5 for students and children and $10 for adults. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7090.

Professional accounting skills workshop slated for November 10 at UT Martin

The West Tennessee Accounting Conference is planned November 10, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Offered by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education and the UT Martin Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and International Business, the workshop will be in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

Five professionals will staff the workshop that will provide participants with eight continuing professional education credits. The day will begin with registration and a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. The first session begins at 8 a.m. The fee for the conference is $195.

“Understanding and Implementing the New Risk Assessment Standards” will be taught by Dennis Dycus, director of the Division of Municipal Audit for the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennesse. This session provides expert insight into the interpretation and application of the standards and the specific information on how to apply the audit risk model in the planning of a financial audit.

“XBRL, Financial Reporting, and Analysis” - “Your World is About to Change!” will be taught by Dr. Richard Griffin, professor of accounting, and Dr. Tom Payne, chairholder of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and Interim chair of the Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and International Business. This session provides a summary of XBRL, what it is, how it works and how it will change the way accounting and finance professionals do business. The session will include an overview of taxonomies, structured data and instance documents.

“Individual Tax Update” will be taught by Paula Hearn Moore, assistant professor of accounting and business law. Attendees will hear about recent and upcoming changes in income tax laws. Drawing on her background as an attorney, tax accountant and professor, Moore uses a case approach and provides summary handouts to illustrate relevant changes in the tax code.

“Financial Accounting Standards Update for Businesses” will be taught by Dr. Robert Putman, professor emeritus of accounting. This session addresses the most up-to-date and important changes to FASB and other financial accounting standards. Dr. Putman will provide useful “take away” materials on the subject.

To register, call ECCE at 800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.
UT Martin’s Vanguard Theatre to present ‘The Learned Ladies’

The University of Tennessee at Martin Vanguard Theatre will present its opening performance of “The Learned Ladies” at 8 p.m. Nov. 6 on the main stage in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre of the Fine Arts Building on campus. Additional performances will be at 8 p.m. Nov. 7-8 and 3 p.m. Nov. 9.

Moliere’s “The Learned Ladies” is an age-old story — a father wants his daughter to marry one man; a mother wants her to marry another. The story concerns a 17th Century Parisian named Chrysale whose wife, sister and eldest daughter have fallen under the spell of a would-be poet named Trissotin who aspires to marry the youngest daughter, Henrietted, and thereby acquire a lovely and rich wife. Henrietted, however, has her own plans for marriage with the poor but handsome Clitandre. A crew of unforgettable characters inhabits this fast-paced satire on intellectual pretensions where mishaps and mayhem abound.

UT Martin cast members include Jonathan Johnson of Union City; Kassi Abney, Jay Campbell and Justin Hunt, all of Martin; Davida Ambrose, Anne Albrecht, Natalie Horbelt and Patrick Nugent, all of Memphis; Jade Johnson of Paris; Joshua Jones of Kingston Springs; Kara Salyers of Huntingdon; Benjamin Stoer of Gainesville, Fla.; and Lizzie Wouters of Knoxville.

The box office will open at noon Monday. Hours of operation are noon-5 p.m. and two hours before performances. Tickets are $5 for students and children and $10 for adults. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at (731) 881-7090.

Concealed weapons permit class planned for November 8

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education (ECCE) is offering a concealed weapons permit class from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., November 8. The goal of this course is to provide education in the fundamentals of handgun safety. Students will be taught how to use, clean and store handguns. State certified handgun instructors, John Ayers and Larry Coffman, will also cover legal liabilities, firing range participation, course review and testing.

The handgun safety course will consist of two separate but related areas of classroom and firing range instruction. This is a one-day, eight-hour course. Upon course completion, each student will take a written examination and handgun firing qualification test. A minimum of 70 percent must be achieved on both sections to successfully pass the concealed weapons course. After successful completion, students may apply for a concealed weapons permit from the State of Tennessee.

The registration fee is $95. Each student should take a pen, pencil and paper to class, as well as a handgun, 50 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses and hearing protection for firing range instruction. Students should also provide a pistol-cleaning kit in class. No one under the age of 21 is allowed to enroll in this course.

To register, contact ECCE at 731-881-7082 or go online to www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

Martin clean-up days set

Martin Mayor Randy Brundige and the Martin City Board have announced that Nov 10 through 15 have been designated as City Fall Clean-up Days in Martin. UTM Recycles! will hold a community recycle collection event on Nov 15.

During the clean-up week on each ward’s usual brush pick up day the City Public Works Department will collect at curb-side all debris that can be accepted in the city’s landfill. These items include: construction material, brush and limbs, and wood. Items should be curb-side early on the day of pick up. No hazardous materials will be accepted.

Residents can improve the landscape by cleaning up their yard, their neighborhood or a public place.

Groups or individuals wanting to be involved in litter pick up can call Martin Beautiful Chair Marvin Downing at 587-6054 for suggestions.

The Martin Beautiful Committee is helping coordinate the clean up effort. Community members are encouraged to recycle.

UTM Recycles! accepts glass bottles of any color, all plastic including bags, aluminum cans, paper and cardboard, steel cans, scrap metal, used clothing in good shape, eyeglasses, cell phones, and ink cartridges.

On Nov 15 items will be accepted at the recycling barn located behind the University of Tennessee at Martin motor pool at the north end of Moody Street from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information contact Dennis Kosta at 881-7640 or dkosta@utm.edu.
Ground broken for UTM rec center

The University of Tennessee at Martin broke ground recently for a 96,000 square foot campus recreational center. Target completion date for the $16.5 million project is spring 2010.

University of Tennessee President John Petersen and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes participated in the ceremony that took place at the site on Mt. Pelia Road during UT Martin homecoming week activities. The UT board of trustees approved construction of the facility in November 2006.

The new Student Recreation Center will allow the Office of Campus Recreation to expand hours and offerings. For the fiscal year 2008, more than 3,000 students participated in intramural activities, and leisure recreation recorded participation counts of 46,000.

Dr. Margaret Toston, UT Martin vice chancellor for student affairs, noted that in 2005 the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association estimated that by 2010 new construction and renovations for indoor campus recreational sports facilities would cost colleges and universities at least $3.17 billion, at an average cost of $14.2 million.

The facility will include four basketball courts/indoor soccer arena, a walking/jogging/running area, weight room, cardio-fitness areas, an aerobic room, a multipurpose room, locker rooms and racquetball courts. Also, there will be space for a lounge area, equipment checkout stations, offices, classrooms, storage and janitorial rooms.

The new recreational center will be built primarily for students, as student fees will be the main funding source. Other potential users may include faculty, staff, retirees, alumni and families of UT Martin students and employees, who will pay a fee for use of the facility.

Lyle, Cook, Martin, of Clarksville, and Fleming Associates of Memphis, are serving as project architects in a joint venture, and A&K Construction Co., of Paducah is building the center.

UT Martin’s current primary recreational facility, the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, houses campus recreation, athletics and academic departments.

UTM to host accounting conference Nov. 10

The West Tennessee Accounting Conference is planned Nov. 10, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Offered by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education and the UT Martin Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and International Business, the workshop will be in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

Five professionals will staff the workshop that will provide participants with eight continuing professional education credits. The day will begin with registration and a continental breakfast at 7:30 a.m. The first session begins at 8 a.m. The fee for the conference is $195.

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