Soybean Festival Art Contest winners announced

Several Soybean Festival Art Show winners recently were recognized for their work. Winners chosen by general public votes included (from left) Shelly Glauser, Dresden, first place and received $100 for her painting, “Great Mountain Pasture;” Roy Cates, Martin, second place and $75 for his photograph, “Mare at Dawn;” Crystal Aromsen, Martin, third place and $50 for her paper sculpture, “Music Makes the Bones Go Boom.”

They are pictured with Ian Gray, co-president of the Visual Arts Society, co-sponsor of the event for the third consecutive year.

The Visual Arts Society generates funding for the show through art sales and other activities on the UT Martin campus and throughout the community.

The Visual Arts Society is dedicated to the enhancement of the visual arts and arts education on the UT Martin campus and in the community.

Singapore math strategies sessions begin in October

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies is offering the course, Singapore Math Strategies: Model Drawing for Grades 1-6, with sessions beginning Oct. 21, Nov. 11 and Dec. 9.

The sessions last six weeks with two lessons being released weekly. The courses are entirely Web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes and assignments. The registration fee is $95.

In this professional development course for teachers, participants will get the training to start teaching model drawing. Model drawing gives students a concrete, reliable set of seven steps that can be used to solve 80 percent of all word problems.

Model drawing will help students enjoy and understand math word problems.

UT Martin’s online courses meet the qualifications for professional development activities that can be used for renewal purposes.

If approved, teachers will receive 24 renewal points per course. UT Martin will provide certificates of completion. The instructor is Anni Štipek.

For more information, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies (ECOS) at 731-881-7081. Also, to view a complete list of courses for educators or to register for a course, visit the Web site at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/teaching_professionals.php.
**Young Writers’ Clubhouse offered in Martin**

Young Writers’ Clubhouse, a writing experience for third-eighth graders, will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Oct. 24, in Martin, and Oct. 31, in Ripley. The fee is $30 per session and includes a writing notebook and pen.

Young Writers’ Clubhouse is a day when children write creatively, work with writing project teachers and share time with their friends. Themes include: Monster Mysteries and Scary Suspense, Crazy Creative Writing and other writing themes.

Each child needs to bring his or her lunch or purchase pizza by the slice. Register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/youth-writing/writingreg.php.

For more information, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies (ECOS) at 731-881-7081.

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**Jennifer Horbelt**

**By Todd Atchison**

*Story Created: Oct 2, 2009 at 1:47 PM EDT*

*Story Updated: Oct 2, 2009 at 1:47 PM EDT*

If there is one word to describe Jennifer Horbelt, it would be energetic! Meeting people and telling a great story is part of why she loves her job as an Anchor for Local 6 at 6 and 10 and as a reporter.

A native Texan, Jennifer moved to Memphis, Tennessee before deciding to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin. While there, she acted as Support and Development Director, News Director, and on-air talent for the campus radio station WUTM FM 90.3 "The Hawk". She also worked with WLJT, a PBS affiliate, as a camera operator.

During her time at UTM, she won many awards including The Communicator Award of Distinction for a Habitat for Humanity Public Service Announcement, and Best Television Journalist in the Southeast Journalism Conference. She graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin in May of 2007 as a University Scholar. While working with WPSD Local 6 in 2007, she won First Place in the Kentucky Associated Press Awards for Best Spot News along with photojournalist Michael Driver. In 2008, she was awarded First Place in the Kentucky Associated Press Awards for Best Hard News Feature along with photojournalist Chad Darnell, and an Honorable Mention for Best TV Reporter. In 2009 she was nominated for a Mid-America Emmy along with several of her peers for Team Coverage during Winter Storm '09.

Jennifer knew she had a passion for television news after interning at the CBS affiliate, WREG, in Memphis. It gave her a chance to cover high profile stories like the first Tennessee Waltz Trial, a federal court case.

In the Fall of 2006 she began her internship at Local 6, and was soon given the opportunity to do on-air work with the station. Her first story? A baby deer loose in the McCracken County Sheriff's Department! For Jennifer it was a dream come true when she began working as a reporter at Local 6 in February of 2007.

During her first few months as part of Local 6, Jennifer was finishing school at UT Martin. She says it was stressful, and may have given her a few gray hairs, but was well worth it. Now, she is enjoying only focusing on delivering the news to the WPSD Local 6 region. You can catch her co-anchoring with Scott McGee on Local 6 at 6 and 10 Monday through Friday.

Her motto? If you love what you do to pay the bills, you'll never work another day in your life.
UT Martin to celebrate homecoming

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Alumni Relations will celebrate homecoming week with "Luau" as this year's theme.
Homecoming 2009 will be celebrated Monday through Oct. 11 with Quad City's live music, a children's carnival, reunion and college tents, a petting farm, carnival games, food and fellowship as a focal point Oct. 10.

Events will include:

**Monday**
- 4 p.m. — Rope pull, Pacer Pond.

**Tuesday**
- 4 p.m. — Rope pull, Pacer Pond.
- 7 p.m. — Lip sync show, Pacer Pond.
- 8:45 p.m. — Homecoming court, Pacer Pond.

**Wednesday**
- 4 p.m. — Rope pull, Pacer Pond.
- 7 p.m. — Public Relations Student Society of America's "Womanless Beauty Revue," Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center.

**Thursday**
- 4 p.m. — Rope pull, Pacer Pond.
- 9:09 p.m. — SAC 909 Comedy Series, Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center.

**Oct. 9**
- 9 a.m. — Golf tournament, Sharon.
- 1 p.m. — Family and Consumer Sciences Historical Fashion Show, Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center.
- 3:15 p.m. — Rope pull championship, Pacer Pond.
- 6 p.m. — Alumni Dinner and Awards Program, Duncan Ballroom, Boling University Center.
- 7:30 p.m. — Music Department 2009 Dessert Evening, Martin First United Methodist Church.
- 8:30 p.m. — Pyramid and pep rally, Elam Center.

**Oct. 10**
- 7:30 a.m. — Letterwinner's Breakfast and Hall of Fame Inductions, Student Life Center, Alumni Gym.
- 9:30 a.m. — Chancellor's Brunch, Paul Meek Library.
- 10:30 a.m. — Opening ceremony and open house for Brehm Hall Expansion, Brehm Hall.
- 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. — Quad City.
- 11 a.m. — Football Team's Hawk Walk, Quad near Paul Meek Library.
- 2 p.m. — Skyhawks vs. Tennessee Tech University, Hardy M. Graham Stadium.
- 5 p.m. — Softball reunion and oldtimers game, Giles Softball Field.
- 5 p.m. — Family and Consumer Sciences Tour of Home Management Home, Student Health Center.

**Oct. 11**
- 6 p.m. — Family and Consumer Sciences reception, Room 206 ABC, Boling University Center.
- 6:30 p.m. — Family and Consumer Sciences Banquet, Duncan Ballroom, Boling University Center.
- 7 p.m. — NPHC Greek Step Show, Skyhawk Field House.
- 7:30 p.m. — Music Department 2009 Dessert Evening, Martin FUMC.

**Oct. 11**
- 10 a.m. — "Walk in the Quad."
- 10:30 a.m. — Homecoming Branch, Skyhawk Dining Room, Boling University Center.
Dunagan, Cheesteen author policy papers

Policy papers on the future of Tennessee — including papers by Dr. Nick Dunagan, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor emeritus, and Dr. Richard Cheesteen, professor emeritus of political science — are now available online as part of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations "Forum on Tennessee's Future" project panel.

Dunagan and Cheesteen were among those named to the panel last year, and their papers and those of other panel members are available at http://www.tennessee.gov/tacir/Forum%20on%20Future.html.

TACIR was created to monitor federal, state and local government relations and to make recommendations for improvement to the legislature. The commission is comprised of representatives from the executive and legislative branches of state government, county and municipal governments and the public.

The commission serves as a bipartisan forum for the discussion of intergovernmental issues and may initiate studies resulting in legislative proposals and constitutional amendments. The commission responds to requests for technical assistance from the General Assembly, state agencies and local governments.

The forum panel was charged with developing a list of 10 issues or trends related to the "biggest challenges that Tennessee must deal with in order to improve its competitive edge and enhance the quality of life for all current and future residents." The policy papers are the culmination of the forum's work.

UTM hosts 'Dessert Evening' at church

The University of Tennessee Martin Department of Music and the First United Methodist Church of Martin will host the 16th annual Dessert Evening at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Oct. 10 at the church, 225 Main St. in downtown Martin.

The vocal portion of the dessert will feature classical, contemporary and light choral and solo music. Desserts will be served to the audience at their tables.

For tickets, call Sherry Adams at (731) 881-7402 or send an e-mail to sadams@utm.edu. Tickets are $18 for general admission and $12 for students and children, 12 and under.

Interfaith Pumpkin Patch is at UTM

The Interfaith Student Center, a Christian ministry adjacent to the University of Tennessee Martin, will sell pumpkins, gourds and Indian corn to fund college internships. The first shipment of pumpkins is expected at 3 p.m. Oct. 17. The patch will open as soon as the truck is unloaded.

Each semester, at least two intern scholarships are awarded to UTM students based on academic performance, leadership ability and Christian character.

The pumpkin patch will open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily Oct. 17-31, except for Sundays, when the hours will be noon to 6 p.m. Interfaith is on the east side of the UTM campus, at 312 Lovelace Ave. Call the Rev. Jillanne Balentine-Downey at (731) 587-2803 for more information.

The center is a cooperative project of the United Methodist, Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Cumberland Presbyterian, Missionary Baptist and Presbyterian (USA) churches

The McKenzie Banner, McKenzie, Tennessee, Tuesday, October 6, 2009

WestStar Accepts Applications for Leadership Development Program

MARTIN - Applications to participate in the largest and oldest regional leadership development program in Tennessee are now available from WestStar, which serves the 21 counties of West Tennessee and is operated by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

For application and additional information contact WestStar at 731-881-7228 or write WestStar, Room 201, Hall Moody Administration Building, University of Tennessee at Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238-1001. The deadline for applications is November 13. Anyone can apply to participate in the program. Nominations are accepted but not required. Class members will be competitively selected to participate in the 2010 program.

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.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2009, WestStar welcomes a new executive director, Charley Deal. Deal is assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations, a post he has held since 2007. He succeeds David Belote, who served three years in the post. Deal received bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from UT Martin. He began his career with the university in 1992 as associate director of housing. He also has served as assistant director of development, assistant director of athletics and director of alumni relations.

The WestStar program consists of eight specially designed seminars 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 7.

Last year's graduating class brought the total number of alumni to 555.

WestStar alumni from Carroll County include the following: Quentin Allgood, Dana Deen, Jeff Heyduck, Willie Huffman, Kenny McBride, Natalie Porter, Bob Rutledge, LaVonda Scarborough, Earl Wade and Joel Washburn.
University of Tennessee Interim President Jan Simek brought his fall campus tour to UT Martin on Tuesday with words of praise for the university but tempered with caution about the state’s budget situation.

The stop at Martin was his next-to-last in a month-long tour that began Sept. 2 at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis and will end today in Knoxville. Simek’s comments were made to a group of community leaders, elected officials and university supporters at a noon luncheon in the Boling University Center.

Simek, continuing the five-year tradition of UT presidents touring the university’s campuses, was named acting president Feb. 27 by the UT Board of Trustees following the resignation of Dr. John Petersen.

He became interim president July 1, a position he will hold for two years before returning to the UT Knoxville faculty as a Distinguished Professor of Anthropology.

“Martin’s a wonderful campus,” he said. “Folks here are working on a terrific job educating students and doing a terrific job with what are clearly diminishing resources.”

He added, “These kinds of circumstances, especially difficult budget times, can often produce a situation where people point fingers at others, offer up their colleagues rather than take the difficult choices themselves. That’s not the case as we’ve confronted the difficult budget situations that we face at the University of Tennessee.”

Simek touched on several topics, talking first about the state’s budget situation and its effect on higher education. He noted that state revenues for August “were $28 million below those projected for the budget,” an improvement compared to previous months.

“We are on an upward move but we’re still not in the black as a state, and what that means is that things are getting better, but we’re not fixed,” he said.

“Things are going to be difficult for several years to come,”

He said that cuts in state appropriations that were set to begin July 1 are now delayed for two years because of the availability of federal stimulus funds allocated to the university. But, those budget cuts still must come, and UT campuses have been asked to “look for another six percent of their state appropriations in case of additional budget-cut requirements from the state.” He added, “We’re hopeful that if the economy recovers a little bit, that will be an exercise, but we can’t not plan for additional difficulties into the future. These are tough times.”

Although Simek said that the university’s academic core remains intact, he predicted that reductions in force are inevitable.

“We will lose jobs across the (UT) system, but for the most part, those jobs will be in the support structures for the academic entities,”

He cited UT Knoxville, which he said has a graduation rate of approximately 60 percent, the highest of any public university in Tennessee. But, to compete with other national universities, “we need to have graduation rates of around 80 to 85 percent.” He also noted UT Martin’s graduation rate of just over 50 percent, second-best among public universities in the state, which he said needs to be closer to 70 percent.

“We need to set the bar high,” he said, adding that assessment measures are then necessary to assure the quality of degree programs.

Simek said that the reorganization discussion might also result in “a refocusing of our community college system.” He sees untapped potential in Tennessee’s community colleges and offered the three-tiered California system of higher education as a model.

The system includes the nationally focused University of California, a locally focused state college system and a community college system “that stands by itself and feeds into those other two systems.” He said that the “ingredients” are in place for a similar structure in Tennessee.

“I actually think that very positive things will come out of this (reorganization discussion),” he said. “It’s never a bad time to talk about how higher (education) can fulfill its role in the state.”

He closed by saying that he has no plans to remain as UT president after this interim appointment ends. He reported that the UT Board of Trustees is developing a search procedure and job description for the president’s position, adding, “I think in the next few months, there will be movement to begin a search.”
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, Oct. 24, to help area Boy Scouts earn the chemistry merit badge. The activity is part of the National Chemistry Week celebration. Registration deadline is Oct. 16.

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.

UTM earns 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.

"For the fourth consecutive year, the University of Tennessee at Martin has distinguished itself as an institution providing a challenging academic environment, while doing so at a cost nearly 30 percent below the national average," Lindsey said.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, said that this latest listing recognizes the university’s efforts to provide students and families excellent value for their higher-education investment.

"Being included in this listing for four consecutive years is an outstanding achievement," he said. "These are challenging economic times, and our faculty and staff work hard to deliver a high-quality educational experience for our students."

Phi Kappa Phi boosts literacy with read-aloud experiences

Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 127 at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the Martin Housing Authority, a public housing program, are partnering in a literacy initiative to impact minority, at-risk children with a weekly read-aloud experience.

Research has consistently demonstrated that children who are read to from an early age, and from a wide variety of literature, enter school with a high-listening vocabulary and expanded readiness to read. There is a housing authority volunteer read-aloud program in place; however, the goal of this initiative will be to strengthen the effort.

Volunteers, including UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, PKP members, university students, faculty, staff and American Association of University Women members, are serving as readers and will be an encouragement to children served by the local housing project. The housing authority will organize and schedule the volunteers for at least one session per week.

A total of $2,500 from Phi Kappa Phi National and $500 from the local chapter will also be used to purchase multicultural children's literature for use by volunteers in an after-school program at the Learning Enrichment Center at the Martin Housing Authority. The titles will also be available for UT Martin students, local families and area educators.

80 children directly involved through this reading program. Others will enjoy access to these books at UT Martin’s Paul Meek Library.

Aspiring young writers sought for conference

A conference designed for high school students who want hands-on experience in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, as well as songwriting, play writing, and writing online will be offered, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Oct. 30, in Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center, University of Tennessee at Martin.

The conference workshops will be taught by UT Martin faculty and visiting poet, Bill Brown. Other events include a luncheon, a reading and book signing by Brown 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. 23.

For a copy of the brochure or to register online, go to http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/courses_nondegree.php. The conference is sponsored by the Department of English. For more information, contact Dr. Leslie LaChance, assistant professor of English, at lachance@utm.edu or call 731-881-7296.

Dan Post presented each member with a new pair of cowboy boots. Some time ago, Dan Post introduced a line of boots specifically geared toward the working cowboy. The boots were named "Cowboy Certified".

The boots are made of tough leather and possess special features on the outsole and the first-ever stitched gel insole system. Cowboy Certified boots are designed for riding, rodeo, working, or just achieving the authentic cowboy look.

Post added a second generation of this boot with a half leather outsole and wanted to use a home state rodeo team to "wear test" and promote this new line.

UTM Coach John Luthi agreed to outfit his team. UTM is proud to represent Dan Post and graciously welcomes them as a sponsor of the rodeo team. Dan Post also supports the tradition of rodeo queens and is an Emerald Sponsor of the Miss Tennessee Rodeo Pageant.

UTM and Dan Post feel this is just the beginning of a great relationship between two outstanding organizations.
WestStar accepts applications for leadership development program

Applications to participate in WestStar, which serves the 21 counties of West Tennessee and is operated by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

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 Nov. 13.

Anyone can apply to participate in the program. Nominations are accepted but not required. Class members will be competitively selected to participate in the 2010 program.

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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.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2009, WestStar welcomes a new executive director, Charley Deal. Deal is assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations, a post he has held since 2007.

He succeeds David Belote, who served three years in the post. Deal received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business administration from UT Martin. He began his career with the university in 1992 as associate director of housing. He also has served as assistant director of development, assistant director of athletics and director of alumni relations.

Deal serves as a board member for a number of organizations, including the UT Federal Credit Union, Weakley County Emergency Food and Shelter, and is past president and current assistant treasurer of the Martin Kiwanis Club and coordinates the annual We Care Stocking Drive.

He has received the Love Community Service Award, UT Martin Outstanding Employee Award and UT Foundation Board of Directors Award. He and his wife Shannon, UT Martin Student Health Services director and a nurse practitioner, have two children.

The WestStar program consists of eight 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. 7.

WestStar alumni from Weakley County include the following: David Belote, Tommy Boroughs, Joe Brasher, Jerry

NACEP fall 2009 conference scheduled

The University of Tennessee at Martin is slated to host the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP) conference at the Memphis Marriott downtown, Oct. 25-27.

Estimated attendance is expected to be 300. A reception for the members will be held at the National Civil Rights Museum.

UT Martin is the only NACEP member university in the state, has participated with NACEP since 2001 and offers the largest university dual enrollment program in the state.

UT Martin has been offering dual enrollment classes just for home-schooled students in the Memphis area since 2007.

NACEP is a professional organization for high schools and universities that fosters and supports rigorous concurrent enrollment (concurrent enrollment is also called dual enrollment or dual credit).

Established in 1999 in response to the increase in dual enrollment courses throughout the country, NACEP serves as a national accrediting body and supports members by providing standards of excellence, research, communication and advocacy.

For a tentative agenda of conference activities, go to http://www.nacep.org.

To register or receive more information for NACEP conference, go to http://www.nacep.org/pdfs/confreg09.pdf or call the UT Martin Jackson center at 731-425-9277.

UT Martin tops 8,000 in fall enrollment

The University of Tennessee at Martin has more than 8,000 students for the first time and continues to set all-time enrollment records in seven categories, based on fall 2009 enrollment figures.

A total of 8,110 students are enrolled for the fall semester, an increase from 7,878 recorded for fall 2008. The fall 2009 total includes all-time record fall enrollments for total headcount, incoming freshmen, undergraduates, dual-enrollment students, transfer students, total credit hours and total full-time equivalent. Public higher education funding is based on fall semester full-time equivalency.

“We are pleased to see this level of continued student interest in our programs,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, university chancellor.

“Such enrollment growth is one indicator of support and affirmation concerning the overall quality of the college experience UT Martin provides.”

Based on final figures, this fall’s enrollment at UT Martin is a 6.9 percent increase over fall 2008. Final figures are compiled by the university’s Office of Institutional Research and Planning.

The record enrollment also reflects 1,350 freshmen, the largest freshman class on the UT Martin campus. Fall enrollment indicates that first-time freshmen have an average 3.39 high school grade-point average, up from 3.38 in 2008, and an average ACT score of 22.5, up from 22.4 in 2008.

“Although enrollment growth is exciting, more important is the fact that this entering class is the most academically capable group of new students we have admitted,” said Rakes.

Compared to last year’s totals, UT Martin has 523 more undergraduates and graduates for a 6.9 percent increase; 81 additional dual-enrollment students, a 9.6 percent increase; and 66 more transfer students, 13.5 percent increase.

UT Martin begins the 2009-10 school year with the announcement that the university continued its top-tier ranking for master’s level public universities in the South in the 2010 edition of America’s Best Colleges compiled by U.S. News & World Report. Also, it was announced earlier this summer, that UT Martin again earned the designation as one of the best colleges and universities in the Southeast, according to The Princeton Review, 2010.

Department of Music hosting dessert evening

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music and the First United Methodist Church of Martin will host the 16th annual Dessert Evening at 7:30 p.m., Oct. 9 and Oct. 10, at the First United Methodist Church of Martin.

The voice area of the department will feature a variety of classical, contemporary and light choral and solo music that will include desserts served to the audience at their tables.

The First United Methodist Church of Martin is located at 225 Main St. For tickets, contact Sherry Adams in the Department of Music at 731-881-7402 or by email at sadams@utm.edu. Tickets are $18 for general admission and $12 for students and children 12 and under.
Leadership program accepting applications

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The WestStar program consists of eight 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. 7.

Last year’s graduating class brought the total number of alumni to 555.

WestStar alumni from Gibson County include the following: Allen Barker, Jim Blankenship, Tara Bradford, Blake Brown, Kelly Bryant, Tony Burris, 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 Lashlee, 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.
NEW MADRID SEISMIC ZONE
Dr. Roy Van Arsdale, professor of geology at the University of Memphis, spoke on "The Past and Possible Future of the New Madrid Seismic Zone" Sept. 28 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Before the lecture, he met with Honors Programs students. With Van Arsdale are, from left, Kassie Hughes, South Fulton sophomore majoring in geology and psychology, Allen Farmer, Waynesboro sophomore majoring in biology, and Lauren White, Jackson sophomore majoring in chemistry. (Photo submitted)

UT Martin listed among best buys
The University of Tennessee at Martin is again listed among America's 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc.
Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president, made the announcement.
"For the fourth consecutive year, the University of Tennessee at Martin has distinguished itself as an institution providing a challenging academic environment, while doing so at a cost nearly 30 percent below the national average," Lindsey said.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, said that this latest listing recognizes the university's efforts to provide students and families excellent value for their higher-education investment.
"Being included in this listing for four consecutive years is an outstanding achievement," he said. "These are challenging economic times, and our faculty and staff work hard to deliver a high-quality educational experience for our students."
The listing in 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 2010 edition of America's Best Colleges, compiled by U.S. News & World Report.

In addition, The Princeton Review named UT Martin "A Best Southeastern College" for 2010.

CAMPUS TOUR '09 - University of Tennessee Interim President Dr. Jan Simek met with administrators, faculty, staff, students, public officials and community leaders when he visited UT Martin, Sept. 29, as part of the president's annual campus tour. During his visit, he participated in a student/faculty panel and heard from student scholars who presented their research. Also attending was each scholar's faculty mentor. Pictured with Dr. Simek following his presentation is Andrew Moore, South Fulton junior majoring in chemistry and piano performance. (Photo submitted)
PREVIEW PARTICIPANTS
— Darrin Howard, a student at Obion County Central High School, attended the recent University of Tennessee at Martin Preview Day. He was joined by his mother, Jana Howard. More than 175 students were in attendance and received information about a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid, college and housing costs and various university academic programs.

SPEAKER VISITS — Dr. Roy Van Arsdale (left), professor of geology at the University of Memphis, spoke on "The Past and Possible Future of the New Madrid Seismic Zone" recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Van Arsdale appeared as part of the Academic Speakers Series sponsored by Honors Programs. Prior to the lecture, he met with Honors Programs students. Visiting with him were (continuing from left) Samantha Perry, a Henry County sophomore majoring in education; Sarah Powell, a Union City sophomore with an undeclared major; and Joe Cook, a Memphis sophomore majoring in chemistry.

UC student featured in recital

Jonathan Byrd, a senior music education major from Union City, will perform his senior euphonium recital at 3 p.m. Sunday at the University of Tennessee at Martin Watkins Auditorium in the Boling University Center.

Byrd will perform with UT Martin collaborative artist and lecturer of music Delana Easley on works by Antonio Capuzzi, Jiro Censhu, Joseph Horovitz and Giacomino Puccini. Byrd will also perform "Primitive Origins" by Brooke Pierson with Adam Laman and Cory Bozard.

This event will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Bradley Coker, assistant professor of music, at (731) 881-7401.
Five alumni, friends honored during UT Martin homecoming

Five University of Tennessee at Martin alumni and friends will be honored during University of Tennessee at Martin homecoming activities, this week.

The awards will be presented at the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet at 6 p.m. Friday in Duncan Ballroom of Boling University Center.

This year’s recipients are:

- Dawn Gabriele — Outstanding Young Alumni Award;
- Bill and Roberta Blankenship — Outstanding Alumni Award;
- Charles and Bettye Moore — Chancellor’s Award for University Service.

Gabriele joined Mirixa Corporation, a privately owned health information and pharmacy-based company, in May 2009, following a 16-year career at Pfizer pharmaceuticals. She is vice president of health plans and employer services. With a blend of corporate marketing and field sales experience, she was responsible for implementing Pfizer’s first fully integrated Hispanic marketing campaign. Her most recent work includes developing the southeast employer and health plan markets while consulting with them to optimize their healthcare costs.

Gabriele, a Fulton native, received a bachelor’s degree in marketing from UT Martin in 1990 and holds a master’s degree in organizational management from Tusculum College. In 1999, she formed the UT Martin Aspiring Women’s Scholarship Endowment in an effort to help mentor women from the university setting to the career setting. To date, 18 scholarships have been awarded.

She currently lives in Tampa, Fla., with her husband and is a member of the Junior League of Tampa and the UT Alliance of Women Philanthropists. In her free time, she enjoys traveling with her husband and playing tennis.

The Blankenships, of Sandestin, Fla., attended the University of the former Tennessee Martin Branch, where they met. Bill graduated with a bachelor’s degree in agriculture. Roberta graduated with a bachelor’s degree in home economics.

Bill currently is a member of the UT Development Council and the UT Martin Campaign Steering Committee and is a former member of the UT Martin Development Committee. The couple’s contributions to the Campaign for Tennessee support the UT Martin College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and other UT Martin programs.

After obtaining his UT Martin degree, Bill, a Covington native, was accepted in the Navy Officer Candidate School and, on receiving his commission, was assigned to the Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet Staff. He started his business career with Buckeye, a division of Procter & Gamble. P&G sold the cellulose business in the early 1990s to an investment group that formed Buckeye Technologies, and Bill was vice president of cotton manufacturing. Roberta is a Memphis native.

The Moores, Sharon natives, reside in Baton Rouge, La. Charles attended UT Martin and earned a bachelor’s degree in engineering from UT Knoxville. Both are retired from careers with Boeing, where Charles was a senior specialist with the Apollo Programs and Bettye was the administrative aide for senior management at a number of Boeing locations and corporate headquarters. Charles also served as vice president of corporate engineering at Ethyl/Albemarle and as executive vice president/chief operating officer with Stone and Webster.

He is a member of the UT Development Council and the UT Martin Campaign Steering Committee. Bettye is a member of the UT Martin Development Committee.

The Moores’ gift to the Campaign for Tennessee established the Charles and Bettye Moore Scholarship Endowment to support UT Knoxville and UT Martin students.

For more UT Martin homecoming information, visit the Web site www.utmforever.com.

Aspiring young writers sought for event

A conference designed for high school students who want hands-on experience in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, songwriting, play writing and writing online will be offered 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Oct. 30 in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The conference workshops will be taught by UT Martin faculty and visiting poet Bill Brown.

Other events will include a luncheon, a reading and book signing by Brown 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. 23.

For a copy of the brochure or to register online, go to http://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 lachance@utm.edu or call (731) 881-7296.
WestStar accepts applications for Leadership Development Program

Applications to participate in the largest and oldest regional leadership development program in Tennessee are now available from WestStar, which serves the 21 counties of West Tennessee and is operated by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

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 applications is November 13. Anyone can apply to participate in the program. Nominations are accepted but not required. Class members will be competitively selected to participate in the 2010 program.

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 will 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.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2009, WestStar welcomes a new executive director, Charley Deal. Deal is assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations, a post he has held since 2007. He succeeds David Belote, who served three years in the post. Deal received a bachelor's and master's degree in business administration from UT Martin. He began his career with the university in 1992 as associate director of housing. He also has served as assistant director of development, assistant director of athletics and director of alumni relations.

Deal serves as a board member for a number of organizations, including the UT Federal Credit Union, Weakley County Emergency Food and Shelter, and is past president and current assistant treasurer of the Martin Kiwanis Club and coordinates the annual We Care Stocking Drive. He has received the Love Community Service Award from UT Martin Outstanding Employee Award and UT Foundation Board of Directors Award. He and his wife Shannon, UT Martin Student Health Services director and a nurse practitioner, have two children.

The WestStar program consists of eight 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 7.

Last year's graduating class brought the total number of alumni to 555.

WestStar alumni from Weakley County include the following: David Belote, Tommy Boroughs, Joe Brasher, Jerry Brigance, Andrew Brown, Randy Brandige, John Bucy, Keith Carver, Tommy Cates, John Clark, Phil Dane, Charley Deal, Marvin Flatt, Bobby German, Suzie German, Bobby Goode, Melinda Goode, Bud Grimes, Jacky Gullett, Brian Harris, Leslie Huywood-Moore, Hollie Holt, Steve Holt, Andrea Hughes, Loretta Insco, George Jennings, Sam Lewallen Jr., Stacey Lockhart, David Moore, Andy Page, Tom Payne, Dick Phebus, Jim Pritchett, Madelyn Pritchett, Audrey Roberts, John Salmons, Tom Seratt II, Suezane Speight, Ray Stevenson, Dennis Suitner, Jama Swafford, Lisa Tuck, Steve Vantrease, Walter Ward and Steve Westenhofe.

Brehm Hall addition marked with ceremony

Homecoming will be the backdrop for the Brehm Hall expansion opening ceremony and open house on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus. The ceremony will be at 10:30 a.m., October 10, at the start of Homecoming weekend.

Among those speaking during the ceremony will be Dr. Thomas Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. Also making remarks will be Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jim Byford, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean; and Dr. Jerry Gresham, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources chair. They will join other state, local and university officials at the event.

The $1.7 million, 9,900-square-foot project provides an additional lecture room, laboratories, lab preparatory areas, conference rooms and offices.

The original building was constructed in 1950. In 1970, it was named the C.E. Brehm Agriculture and Biology Hall honoring Dr. Brehm, the 15th president of the University of Tennessee, who served from 1946-1959.

For more information, contact the Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.

More Weakley County students choose UTM

Additional Weakley County students are part of a record enrollment at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The fall 2009 enrollment reflected a 6.9 percent increase compared to fall 2008. There are 913 students from the county currently attending UT Martin, up from 865 last fall.

Total enrollment for fall 2009 was 8,101, compared to the fall 2008 total of 7,578 students.

Department of Music hosting Dessert Evening

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music and the First United Methodist Church of Martin will host the 16th annual Dessert Evening at 7:30 p.m., October 9 and October 10, at the First United Methodist Church of Martin. The voice area of the department will feature a variety of classical, contemporary and light choral and solo music that will include desserts served to the audience at their tables. The First United Methodist Church of Martin is located at 225 Main Street. For tickets, contact Sherry Adams in the Department of Music at 731-881-7402 or by email at sadams@utm.edu. Tickets are $18 for general admission and $12 for students and children 12 and under.
Phi Kappa Phi boosts literacy with weekly read-aloud experiences

Among participants in the weekly read-aloud program are from left, De Lovett, Johanna Romero, Ally Pannel, Natasia Jones, Seth Mitchell and Danielle Southerland. Pictured with them are University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, Kristy Robinson, Martin Housing Authority social services director; and Robert Nunley, Martin Housing Authority Learning Enrichment Center director.

Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 127 at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the Martin Housing Authority, a public housing program, are partnering in a literacy initiative to impact minority, at-risk children with a weekly read-aloud experience.

Research has consistently demonstrated that children who are read to from an early age, and from a wide variety of literature, enter school with a high-listening vocabulary and expanded readiness to read. There is a housing authority volunteer read-aloud program in place; however the goal of this initiative will be to strengthen the effort.

Volunteers, including UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, PKP members, university students, faculty, staff and American Association of University Women members, are serving as readers and will be an encouragement to children served by the local housing project. The housing authority will organize and schedule the volunteers for at least one session per week.

A total of $2,500 from Phi Kappa Phi National and $500 from the local chapter will also be used to purchase multicultural children’s literature for use by volunteers in an after-school program at the Learning Enrichment Center at the Martin Housing Authority. The titles will also be available for UT Martin students, local families and area educators.

The children will be K-5th graders, with approximately 80 children directly involved through this reading program. Others will enjoy access to these books at UT Martin’s Paul Meek Library.

Clarion Trumpet and Organ Duo

As a part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music’s Concert Series, the First United Methodist Church of Martin will host a performance of the clarion trumpet and organ duo in modern music. The concert will be held at 8 p.m., October 15, at the First United Methodist Church of Martin.

Founded in 1983, the trumpet and organ duo presents a range of styles, with performances featuring music spanning more than 400 years. Music by Samuel Adler, Petr Eben, Sergei Rachmaninov and Václav Neřivý will be on the program. The performers are Dr. Keith Benjamin, professor of trumpet at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Melody Steed, assistant professor of music at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas. The event is free and open to the public.
UTM 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 24, to help area Boy Scouts earn the chemistry merit badge. The activity is part of the National Chemistry Week celebration. Registration deadline is October 16.

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 advisor, Dr. S.K. Airee, at 731-881-7454, or the Department of Chemistry office, at 731-881-7450.

Paul Meek Library has drive-up book drop

Ashley Grimes, Martin freshman, takes advantage of the new book drop at Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

With the addition of a drive-up book drop, it is now even easier to use the Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The library will continue to accept the return of materials at the circulation desk, or the book drop in the foyer, but now patrons will also have the option of using a drive-up depository.

The book drop is located on the curb by the west parking lot, adjacent to the library, and was installed by the UT Martin Physical Plant. Library customers are asked to separate their materials by print or non-print by placing in the appropriate slot. However, overdue items should be returned to the interior circulation desk. Patrons are also reminded that they can renew items by phone or at the library Web site. For more information, contact Sam Richardson at 731-881-7061 or richardson@utm.edu.
WestStar is a regional leadership program of the University of Tennessee at Martin. With only one class chosen each year, selection is based on leadership achievements and potential to contribute to the development of the region. Geography and diversity are factors in the overall class selection. Past participants have been chosen from all occupations and levels of community and regional involvement. 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 goal is to 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. For more information visit www.utm.edu.
CLUB RECEIVES AWARD
Charley Deal, Martin Kiwanis Club member, receives a Certificate of Appreciation awarded by We Care Ministries of Martin. Deal annually heads the Christmas Stocking project that provides gifts to local children who might not have Christmas presents otherwise. The stockings are distributed through We Care Ministries and the project is a collaboration between the Martin Kiwanis Club and Sodexo Food Services at UT Martin.
UTM grad of 1974
returns as author

In 1974, Pat (Hawkins) Montgomery left the University of Tennessee at Martin with a Degree in Nursing. This weekend she returns to the campus as an award winning author.

The married mother now has three children, two stepchildren and 12 grandchildren.

Montgomery will conduct a book signing on the UT Martin Quad near the University Bookstore on Saturday, Oct. 10 as part of Homecoming Festivities. The signing will begin at 10 a.m.


She says the book is a great read for her fellow alumni.

“The book is about the mis-

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AUTHOR
FROM PAGE 1

takes I made as a parent and the things I did well. It’s meant to encourage parents and grandparents and to let them know they’re not alone.”

In addition to being an award winning author, Montgomery is also a popular radio show host in the Metro Atlanta area.

Her talk show is called “Parents Rule!” and offers the same type of information and inspiration as her book. It features stimulating topics that cover all aspects of parenting from conception issues to grandparenting. More information can be found at http://parentsrulewith-

pat.com/parents_rule_guests.

Montgomery says she is thrilled to be coming back to UTM.

“I’m really excited to come back to the place where I gained so much knowledge to share a little of what I have learned with my fellow students and alumni.”

About Pat Montgomery

Montgomery is a 1974 University of Tennessee at Martin graduate, where she earned a degree in Nursing.

She began her nursing career in Martin, and her first child was born there at Volunteer General Hospital.

She is currently a business owner, as well as the host of a weekly radio talk show.

AWARD RECIPIENTS -

Charles and Bettye Moore were awarded the Chancellor's Award for University Service in recognition of outstanding service to UT Martin.

The Moores, Sharon natives, reside in Baton Rouge, La. Charles attended UT Martin and earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from UT Knoxville. Both are retired from careers with Boeing, where Charles was a senior specialist with the Apollo Programs and Bettye was the administrative aide for senior management at a number of Boeing locations and corporate headquarters. Charles also served as vice president of corporate engineering at Ethyl/Albemarle and as executive vice president/chief operating officer with Stone and Webster.

He is a member of the UT Development Council and the UT Martin Campaign Steering Committee. Bettye is a member of the UT Martin Development Committee. The Moores' gift to The Campaign for Tennessee established the Charles and Bettye Moore Scholarship Endowment to support UT Knoxville and UT Martin students.
UT Martin grad returns with grandmotherly wisdom

In 1974, Pat (Hawkins) Montgomery left the University of Tennessee at Martin with a degree in nursing. This weekend, she returns to the campus as an award-winning author.

Mrs. Montgomery will conduct a book-signing on the Quad near the University Bookstore on Saturday as part of UT Martin's homecoming festivities. The signing will begin at 10 a.m.

For more information, visit her Web site at http://parentsrulewithpat.com/events.

Mrs. Montgomery's book, "Now You Know What I Know: Parenting Wisdom of a Grandmother," won a Pinnacle Award this year as an Outstanding Inspirational Book. She said the book is a great read for her fellow alumni.

"The book is about the mistakes I made as a parent and the things I did well. It's meant to encourage parents and grandparents and to let them know they're not alone," she said.

In addition to being an award-winning author, Mrs. Montgomery is also a popular radio show host in the Metro Atlanta area. Her talk show, "Parents Rule!," offers the same type of information and inspiration as her book. It features stimulating topics that cover all aspects of parenting, from conception issues to grandparenting.

Mrs. Montgomery said she is thrilled to be coming back to UT Martin.

"I'm really excited to come back to the place where I gained so much knowledge to share a little of what I have learned with my fellow students and alumni," she said.

She began her nursing career in Martin and her first child was born there at Volunteer General Hospital.

She is currently a business owner, as well as the host of the weekly radio talk show. The married mother now has three children, two stepchildren and 12 grandchildren.

Brehm Hall addition marked with ceremony

Homecoming will be the backdrop for the Brehm Hall expansion opening ceremony and open house on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus.

The ceremony will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the start of Quad City during homecoming weekend.

Among those speaking during the ceremony will be Dr. Thomas Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

Also joining the remarks will be Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jim Byford, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean; and Dr. Jerry Gresham, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources chair. They will join other state, local and university officials at the event.

The $1.7 million 9,900-square-foot project provides an additional lecture room, laboratories, lab preparatory areas, conference rooms and offices.

The original building was constructed in 1950. In 1970, it was named the C.E. Brehm Agriculture and Biology Hall honoring Dr. Brehm, the 15th president of the University of Tennessee, who served from 1946-59.

For more information, contact the Office of University Relations at (731) 881-7615.
DSCC and UT Martin to sign agreement

The official signing of a dual admission agreement between Dyersburg State Community College and the University of Tennessee at Martin for new agricultural science, kindergarten through sixth and early childhood education programs will be held Monday in Room 142 of the Learning Resource Center on the DSCC Dyersburg campus.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes and DSCC President Karen Bowyer will each sign the agreement as representatives of their institutions.

Dual admission programs allow a student to complete an associate's degree at DSCC and then finish their bachelor's degree at UT Martin.

"Implementation of the dual admission concept will allow students to confidently move from an associate degree program to a baccalaureate program, knowing they are on the right track every step of the way," Ms. Bowyer said. "Advisors from Dyersburg State Community College and UT Martin will be available to help students from day one.

The dual admission programs in agriculture, early childhood education and K-6 education will encourage students to make an early decision about their career plans. This initiative is an indicator of the cooperative spirit that exists between our two institutions. The opportunities offered by this special partnership will encourage more students to complete the associate and bachelor's degrees and enhance the workforce of this region."

"This partnership is an example of the many ways higher education institutions are sharing resources and programs to help students," Rakes said. "We value our links with Dyersburg State Community College and others as we all strive to improve student success and access to quality post-secondary academic programs and services. This linkage will open doors for students to more easily access a high quality UT Martin education and pave the way toward even more collaborative program offerings in the future."

To apply for dual admission, a student must plan on pursuing a bachelor’s degree, meet the admissions criteria for DSCC, have 29 or fewer college-level semester hours and have a grade point average of 2.0 or better. Once enrolled in the dual admission program, a student must maintain a GPA of at least 2.0.

Dual admission programs offer students many benefits. Participating students will have a clearly outlined course of study laid out semester by semester. They will be assured that their coursework will transfer as a part of their chosen degree program. Students will get to know their UTM academic advisers and staff even before they start at the university because they will receive advising from both schools during their first two years.

For more information, contact the DSCC Office of Admissions and Records at (731) 286-3350.

CAMPUS TOUR — Katelin Turner, Miss UT Martin and a biology major from Union City, spoke during a luncheon for legislators and community leaders last week with University of Tennessee Interim President Dr. Jan Simek and UT leadership. Simek met with administrators, faculty, staff, students, public officials and community leaders when he visited UT Martin as part of the president’s annual campus tour.

Latin percussion specialist Glen Caruba (right) recently was in residence with the University of Tennessee at Martin percussion studio. The event was hosted by Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music. With Caruba are Hamilton Moore (left), sophomore music performance major from Cordova; and Sean Johnson, senior music education major from Memphis.
Seniors watched Brehm Hall expansion project develop

The future joined the past at Brehm Hall on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus Saturday.

The Brehm Hall expansion opening ceremony and open house were staged during homecoming and attracted a large number of alumni and current students — some of whom have watched the progress of the project for several years.

“I first heard of the plans for the Brehm Hall expansion as a scholar in the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences (at UT Martin) in 2005. As I learned about the additional classrooms, laboratory space and conference areas, I was intrigued at the opportunity that these facilities would provide,” said Ashley McDougal, a senior animal science major from Pulaski.

“This helped in my decision to come to UT Martin. Throughout the years, I have seen the development of the project and the eventual completion. As a senior, I will only get a year of use out of the expansion. However, this will prove to be very beneficial for future students.”

The $1.7 million 9,900-square-foot project provided an additional lecture room, laboratories, lab preparatory areas, conference rooms and offices joining an original structure built in 1950.

Nicholas Lewis, a senior agricultural business management major from Ocoee, also has watched the project come to fruition.

“The expansion will benefit the students so much,” said Lewis. “The rooms that are available now are more technology-enabled and are more conducive to the learning experience here at UT Martin.” And, he added, the prep rooms are perfect for professors to get ready for classes and provide students with more visual examples of the classroom material being studied.

Dr. Jim Byford, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean, welcomed the group attending Saturday’s ceremony and introduced guests that included Donna Brehm Matlock, who retired from UT Knoxville and is the granddaughter of C.E. Brehm, the 15th UT president.

“We are just as pleased as we can be,” Byford said of the expansion.

“I just appreciate ... the fact that he is still being remembered and recognized,” said Matlock. “He was a modest man, she said he would say, "Don’t shine the spotlight on me, it belongs on the outstanding faculty and students.”

Chancellor Tom Rakes, highlighted the history of the building, noting that 39 years ago, the building was named the C.E. Brehm Agriculture and Biology Hall honoring Dr. Brehm, who served from 1946-1959.

“Today is an exciting day for us,” said Rakes. The chancellor spoke of the years since expansion plans were initiated in 1991 through construction in 2007-09. “That’s a long wait,” he told those involved in the project. “It just shows if you are tenacious, you plan well and deserve it. Things do come.”

Rakes thanked legislators, UT trustees, Drs. Byford and (Jerry) Gresham, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources chair, and faculty and staff.

Ogg used enrollment, cost and square footage numbers to tell Brehm’s story — closing with what he termed the most important number. “This is the number of students whose lives have been changed because of the outstanding faculty and staff over the past 58 years who have brought these square feet to life.”

Gresham thanked the architect and contractor and closed the ceremony talking about the future and what the building means to UT Martin and its students. “This also creates opportunities for us,” Gresham said. He noted that one of the department’s visions is to establish a student/faculty research program.

“Some day, we would like to try to create an endowment,” he added. “That will come with time, but at least we have the space now that we can further our department ...”
BREHM HALL EXPANSION — Officially opening the University of Tennessee at Martin Brehm Hall expansion, 39 years after its dedication to C.E. Brehm, UT's 15th president, are, from left, Dr. Jim Byford, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean; Jenna Wright, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Jerry Gresham, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources chair; Chancellor Emeritus Nick Dunagan; Chancellor Tom Rakes; Donna Brehm Matlock, Brehm's granddaughter; Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; Tim Nipp, Physical Plant director; Jamie Stempel, Hartlip Studio PLLC, Memphis, project architect; Lynn Smith, Allen Searcy Builder-Contractor, Inc., project superintendent; and Allen Searcy, Allen Searcy Builder-Contractor, Inc., Union City.

SKYHAWK MARCHING BAND INVITATIONAL — Westview High School of Martin, was among the 28 marching bands from Tennessee, Mississippi and Kentucky that competed before a panel of experts at the University of Tennessee Martin's Graham Stadium. Members of the Westview band are pictured here with Skyhawk Band drum majors, Jennifer Reeves and Jared Nobles, and Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs. The Westview band received the 2nd place trophy in Class A Blue.
Reed Center offers Excel class in Union City

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Tennessee Small Business Development Center and Obion County Library, in Union City, will host a hands-on seminar titled, "Beginning Excel," 6 p.m.-8 p.m., Oct. 27, at the library.

Participants will learn the basics of Microsoft Excel 2007 and be introduced to the new Ribbon interface and the new toolbars. They will also be taught the various ways to input information, create formulas and generate charts and graphs and useful tips to get started.

Steve Holt, UT Martin Instructional Technology Center director, will be the instructor. The program is free; however, UT Martin Continuing Education credits are available for $10.

This service is being offered in cooperation with the UT Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center. "Seating is limited to the first 20 registrants. For more information or to register, contact Hollie Holt, TSBDC director, at 731-587-7333, or register online at www.utm.edu/reed.

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UT Martin photo

HCHS band plays at UT Martin

Henry County High School was among the 28 marching bands from Tennessee, Mississippi and Kentucky that competed before a panel of experts at the University of Tennessee at Martin's Graham Stadium. Members of the Henry County band are pictured here with Skyhawk Band drum majors, Jennifer Reeves (right) and Jared Nobles (left), and Margaret Toston (second from left, front row), vice chancellor for student affairs. The Henry County band received the third-place trophy in Class AAA. Bradley G. Coker, assistant professor of music, served as the administrator for this event, which featured more than 2,100 high school students performing various musical styles from Broadway to classic rock.

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Merry Methodists - Tuesday, October 20 at 10:30 a.m. Our guest will be Dr. Roberto Mancusi. Dr. Mancusi is a wonderful bass singer, voice teacher at UTM and Choir Director at Martin First UMC. You do not want to miss this mini concert; if you do you will be sorry! The Merry Methodists is for all adults. Following the wonderful music of Dr. Mancusi we will enjoy a potluck luncheon.

The Visitor

October 14, 2009
UT-M’s Chancellor Rakes Addresses Rotarians

MCKENZIE (October 6) Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin, was the featured speaker at the McKenzie Rotary Club meeting on October 6. Dr. Rakes said the university has 8,100 students, the highest enrollment in the university’s history. UT-M has campuses in Martin, Jackson, Selmer, Ripley, and Parsons. Some 960 students are high school students, such as in McKenzie and Hollow Rock-Bruce, who are enrolled in dual credit courses. The University is also working with home-school high school students in the state.

UT-Martin recently raised enrollment standards and has achieved the second highest graduation rates in the public colleges in Tennessee. Enrollment, graduation, and retention rates have all increased amid budget cuts. The school specializes in undergraduates and offers a limited number – six – masters’ programs.

The school is one of the fastest growing campuses in the state. Improvements at the campus include new dormitories, a new student recreation center, Internet Wi-Fi campus-wide, improvements to the swimming pool and football facilities.

The Jackson Sun/38

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

WestStar is accepting applicants till Nov. 13

Applications are available from WestStar, which serves 21 counties of West Tennessee and is operated by the University of Tennessee Martin.

Call (731) 881-7298 or write WestStar, Room 321, Hall Moody Administration Building, University of Tennessee Martin, Martin, TN 38238-5011. The deadline for application is Nov. 13.

Nominations are accepted but not required. Class members will be selected to participate in the 2010 program. The WestStar program consists of eight seminar programs addressing 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. 7.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2009, WestStar welcomes new executive director Charley Deal, assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations. He received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business administration from UTM.

Concert series features Mancusi

As a part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music’s Concert Series, Dr. Roberto Mancusi, assistant professor of music, will perform his faculty voice recital at 3 p.m., Oct. 25, in the Boling Auditorium in the Boling University Center. The theme is “Viva Verdi: Tragedy and Nobility in the music of Giuseppe Verdi.”

The Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi wrote all of the music to be performed. The first half will be tragic music followed by comical music for the remainder of the recital. Denise Knowlton, performer and teacher from Kansas City, Mo., will sing with Mancusi. Other performers include Joshua Gatlin, tenor-junior voice education major; Aaron Hand, baritone-freshman voice performance major; and John Paul Barry, tenor. The event is free and open to the public.

Free seminar available for Beginning Excel

The University of Tennessee at Martin Tennessee Small Business Development Center and Obion County Library, in Union City, Tenn., will host a hands-on seminar titled, “Beginning Excel,” 6 p.m.-8 p.m., Oct. 27, at the library.

Participants will learn the basics of Microsoft Excel 2007 and be introduced to the new Ribbon interface and the new toolbars. They will also be taught the various ways to input information, create formulas and generate charts and graphs and useful tips to get started.

Steve Holt, UT Martin Instructional Technology Center director, will be the instructor. The program is free; however, UT Martin Continuing Education credits are available for $10.

This service is being offered in cooperation with the UT Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center. "Seating is limited to the first 20 registrants. For more information or to register, contact Hollie Holt, TSBD director, at 731-587-7333, or register online at www.utm.edu/reed.

UTM to sponsor trip to Italy

The University of Tennessee at Martin will sponsor a travel-study trip to Italy, March 11-22.

The travel-study group, led by Dr. John Overby and Stan Sieber, will visit Roman ruins, Renaissance art in Florence and explore the canals of Venice. They will tour San Marino—the third smallest state in Europe (after the Holy See and Monaco) that claims to be the world’s oldest republic.

For complete information, contact Dr. Overby, Department of Management, Marketing, Computer Science and Information Systems chair, at 731-881-3268; Sieber, professor of history, at 731-881-7467 or the Center for International Education at 731-881-1023.
University of Tennessee Interim President Jan Simek brought his fall campus tour to UT Martin on Tuesday with words of praise for the university but tempered with caution about the state's budget situation. The stop at Martin was his next-to-last in a month-long tour that began September 2 at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis and will end October 6 in Knoxville. Simek's comments were made to a group of community leaders, elected officials and university supporters at a noon luncheon in the Boling University Center.

Simek, continuing the five-year tradition of UT presidents touring the university's campuses, was named acting president February 27 by the UT Board of Trustees following the resignation of Dr. John Petersen. He became interim president July 1, a position he will hold for two years before returning to the UT Knoxville faculty as a Distinguished Professor of Anthropology.

"Martin's a wonderful campus," he said. "Folks here are doing a terrific job educating students and doing that terrific job with what are clearly diminishing resources." He added, "These kinds of circumstances, especially difficult budget times, can often produce a situation where people point fingers at others, offer up their colleagues rather than take the difficult choices themselves. That's not been the case as we've confronted the difficult budget situations that we face at the University of Tennessee." Simek touched on several topics, talking first about the state's budget situation and its effect on higher education. He noted that state revenues for August were $28 million below those projected for the budget, an improvement compared to previous months. "We are on an upward move but we're still not in the black as a state, and what that means is that things are getting better, but we're not fixed," he said. "Things are going to be difficult for several years to come."

He said that cuts in state appropriations that were set to begin July 1 are now delayed for two years because of the availability of federal stimulus funds allocated to the university. But, those budget cuts still must come, and UT campuses have been asked to "look for another six percent of their state appropriations in case of additional budget-cut requirements from the state." He added, "We're hopeful that if the economy recovers a little bit, that will be an exercise, but we can't not plan for additional difficulties into the future. These are tough times."

Although Simek said that the university's academic core remains intact, he predicted that reductions in force are inevitable. "We will lose jobs across the UT system, but for the most part, those jobs will be in the support structures for the academic entities, rather than the academic entities themselves," he said. "We'll lose a lot of contingent faculty, people we hire part-time. But our tenure-track faculty that are the core of who we are will, for the most part, remain intact. That is very important, because that's what provides the seed for future growth as we come out of this." Even with additional fallout from the budget crisis looming, Simek said, "the University of Tennessee is doing quite a bit better than many of our colleagues in surrounding states."

His comments then turned to the discussion of reorganizing higher education in Tennessee. He said that a "working group is examining reorganization as a way to address the primary need for more college graduates in the state. However, he said that steps could be taken with the higher-education systems in place to address this internally without major changes in the structure. He said that the current tiered system has a "quite variable record of performance in producing college graduates." He pointed out that measures such as retention and graduation rates are variable from one institution to the next and are not as high as they should be.

He cited UT Knoxville, which he said has a graduation rate of approximately 60 percent, the highest of any public university in Tennessee. But, to compete with other national universities, "we need to have graduation rates of around 80 to 85 percent." He also noted UT Martin's graduation rate of just over 50 percent, second-best among public universities in the state, which he said needs to be closer to 70 percent. "We need to set the bar high," he said, adding that assessment measures are then necessary to assure the quality of degree programs.

Simek said that the reorganization discussion might also result in "a refocusing of our community college system." He sees untapped potential in Tennessee's community colleges and offered the three-tiered California system of higher education as a model. The system includes the nationally focused University of California, a locally focused state college system and a community college system "that stands by itself and feeds into those other two systems." He said that the "ingredients" are in place for a similar structure in Tennessee. "I actually think that very positive things will come out of this (reorganization discussion)," he said. "It's never a bad time to talk about how higher (education) can fulfill its role in the state."

He closed by saying that he has no plans to remain as UT president after this interim appointment ends. He reported that the UT Board of Trustees is developing a search procedure and job description for the president's position, adding, "I think in the next few months, there will be movement to begin a search." Anticipating his return to teaching, he said, "I love being part of its (the university's) faculty. I love working with the wonderful students we have here. I want to get back to that, because that's the best job in the world for anybody who's ever experienced it."

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes opened the event by noting UT Martin's success in the Campaign for Tennessee, with the university reaching its fundraising goal of $40 million and looking to raise more. He also noted the university's record enrollment of 8,100 students and said that the enrollment increase can be linked in part to improved retention of sophomores and juniors. "We brought in a few more freshmen than usual, but the retention is what's boosting the enrollment," Rakes said, adding, "We're working very hard on the retention. We're working hard on everything, but that has made a real difference for us in the last couple of years."

Also on the program was a presentation by Katelin Turner, a junior biology major from Union City, Turner, the reigning Miss UT Martin who competed in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in June, said her decision to attend the university initially was "a business decision" as she sought the best education value. But in weighing the benefits and academic opportunities, UT Martin "was the best and only choice" for her college experience. Turner plans to attend medical school after graduating from UT Martin.
Former U.S. Attorney Gonzales to speak at UT Martin

Alberto Gonzales, United States attorney general from 2001 to 2005, will speak at 7:30 p.m. October 22, in the Elm Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He will speak on “Living Legal History: Working with the White House, the Department of Justice and the Supreme Court.”

His appearance is co-sponsored by Honors Programs, the College of Business and Global Affairs, the Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science, the First Year Initiative and the Office of Student Life.

The second of eight children, Gonzales was born in San Antonio and raised in Houston, living in a house built by his father and two uncles. Receiving his early education in the Texas public schools, he joined the Air Force in 1973, serving through 1975, after which he attended the United States Air Force Academy from 1975 to 1977. The first member of his family to attend college, Gonzales graduated from Rice University in 1979.

After receiving his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1982, he returned to Houston and joined the law firm of Vinson & Elkins, eventually becoming a partner in the firm. He entered government service in 1995 as general counsel to Texas Gov. George W. Bush, during which he also served as chief elections officer and as the governor's lead liaison on Mexican and border affairs. In 1997, he was named Texas' secretary of state and served in that position until his appointment to the Texas Supreme Court in 1999.

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Gonzales has a long record of public service and has served on numerous boards, including the Big Brothers and Sisters, Catholic Charities, the State Bar of Texas and the Board of Directors of the Texas Gulf Coast. He serves as Houston Hispanic Bar Association president, Leadership Houston president and as Houston Hispanic Forum president.

Among his numerous honors and awards are his recognition as the Outstanding Young Lawyer of Texas by the Texas Young Lawyers Association; the State Bar of Texas; as the Latino Lawyer of the Year by the Hispanic National Bar Association; and as the 80th Attorney General of the United States.

The pageant application form is available online at www.utm.edu/missspt. Deadline to register is November 10, and applications from all UT Martin students should be returned to the UT Martin Office of Student Life, 222 Administration Building, Martin, TN 38237. All others should be sent to Hollie Holt, 406 S. Lindell 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 director, Hollie Holt, 731-580-5566 or email at hhol@utm.edu.

Music Department Mancusi Voice Recital slated October 25

As a part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music’s Concert Series, Dr. Roberto Maneuci, assistant professor of music, will perform his faculty voice recital at 3:00 p.m., October 25, in Watkins Auditorium in the Boling University Center. The theme is “Viva Verdi: Tragedy and Nobility in the music of Giuseppe Verdi.”

The Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi wrote all of the music to be performed. The first half will be tragic music followed by comical music for the remainder of the recital. Denise Knowlton, performer and teacher from Kansas City, Missouri, will be singing with Maneuci. Other performers include Joshua Gatlin, tenor-junior voice education major; Aaron Hand, baritone-freshman voice performance major; and John Paul Barry, tenor. This event is free and open to the public.

To perform senior percussion role

Daniel Vargason, a senior music education major from Selmer, will perform his senior percussion recital at 7:30 p.m., October 25, in Campbell Auditorium of Holt Humanities Building on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus.

Vargason is performing works for marimba, vibraphone, timpani and concert snare drum. Additionally, he is playing new works that involve CD playback and special-effect lighting.

For more information, contact Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music, at 731-881-7418.
Deadline to apply for 2010 Governor’s Schools nears

The deadline to apply for two 2010 Governor’s Schools hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin is November 25. Governor’s School for the Humanities will be June 6-July 3 and Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences is slated for May 23-June 18. Successful applicants will be notified February 15.

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 to Suzanne Speight at 731-881-7211, by email at sspeight@utm.edu, or mail TGSAS at 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.

REED Center offers Excel class in Union City

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“Alberto Gonzales is definitely a prototypical American success story,” said Dr. Dan McDonough, UT Martin Honors Program director. “The son of a Mexican immigrant who never finished grade school, he was the first member of his family to attend college and received degrees from Rice University and Harvard Law School. Rising in the political world as a protege of President Bush, he served in several prominent positions and was even on the short list for appointment to the United States Supreme Court, before serving as the first Hispanic attorney general of the United States. His policies were controversial in a very controversial period in American History.”

UT Martin to host NACEP conference

The University of Tennessee at Martin is slated to host the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships conference at the Memphis Marriott Downtown Oct. 25-27.

Estimated attendance is expected to be 300. A reception for the members will be held at the National Civil Rights Museum.

UT Martin is the only NACEP member university in the state, has participated with NACEP since 2001 and offers the largest university dual enrollment program in the state. UT Martin has been offering dual enrollment classes for home-schooled students in the Memphis area since 2007.

NACEP is a professional organization for high schools and universities that fosters and supports rigorous concurrent enrollment (concurrent enrollment is also called dual enrollment or dual credit).

For a tentative agenda of conference activities, go to http://www.nacep.org. To register or for more information on NACEP conference, go to http://www.nacep.org/pdfs/confreg09.pdf.
WORKING TOGETHER — Dr. Karen Bowyer, president of Dyersburg State Community College, and Dr. Tom Rakes, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin, hold a dual admission agreement for new agricultural science, kindergarten-6 and early childhood education programs. The agreement was signed Monday in the Learning Resource Center on the Dyersburg campus. Dual admission programs allow a student to complete an associate's degree at DSCC and then finish their bachelor's degree at UT Martin. For more information about the dual admission program, contact the DSCC Office of Admissions and Records at (731) 286-3350 or the UT Martin Office of Admissions at (731) 881-7020.

Elams...

(Continued from Page One)

1996 coincided with the university's naming of the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center in the couple's honor. After her husband's death, Mrs. Elam continued her support to the university by gifting nearly $1.9 million.

The UT Martin Skhawk football program received more than $1.7 million of Mrs. Elam's gifts. This included a $560,000 challenge gift to launch a private campaign to build the Bob Carroll Football Building located in the south end zone of Hardy M. Graham Stadium. The multipurpose room in the Bob Carroll Football Building was named the Kathleen H. Elam Room in her honor.

In addition to these gifts, Mrs. Elam, who died in April, bequeathed most of her estate to UT Martin, UT Knoxville and UT Health Science Center. The bequest is the largest gift in UT Martin's history.
Former Attorney General Alberto Gonzales to speak at UT Martin

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The 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 are also available in high school guidance offices.

As a part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music's Concert Series, Dr. Amy Simmons, associate professor of music, will perform a clarinet/saxophone recital at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 27 in Campbell Auditorium in Holt Humanities Building.

Dr. Simmons will perform an eclectic mix of styles and groupings of instruments with music from the 20th and 21st centuries. The recital will feature works for clarinet, saxophone and percussion.

UT Martin percussion students and Dr. Joshua Smith, assistant professor of music at Bethel University, will be performing with Simmons.
Cody Alcorn is a reporter for FOX Carolina News.

Cody grew up in Sikeston, Mo., and went to school at The University of Tennessee at Martin, where he graduated with a bachelor's of arts degree in communications.

Before moving to Greenville in July 2006, Cody worked in Jackson, Tenn., where he was a co-anchor on "Good Morning West Tennessee" at WBBJ-TV.

Cody has reported on some of the Upstate's biggest stories since joining the FOX Carolina News team. He reported from Columbia when musician Travis Barker and DJ AM's airplane crashed during take off. He also reported live from the scene of a 13 hour standoff at a Madison, Ga., motel which stemmed from an Amber Alert in South Carolina. Cody was also part of the FOX Carolina team that reported live from Washington, D.C., during President Barack Obama's historic inauguration.

Cody has also taken viewers along as deputies raided Upstate drug houses, took down prostitutes in the act and busted men accused of trying to meet up with Upstate children for sex.

"This isn't an eight-to-five job," Cody said. "When stories break, we stay on the scene until we gather all the information we can to bring our viewers a fair, accurate report about what's happening."

Most recently, Cody was the first reporter on scene of an attempted bank robbery and hostage situation in Greenville. It was his day off. Cody provided live reports from the scene along side his colleagues until Greenville police were able to bring the situation to an end.

"It's in my blood," Cody said. "I've come to admit that I'm a news junkie."

E-mail: cody.alcorn@foxcarolina.com, Want to request a visit from Cody? Click here!

Awards/Recognitions:
- Associated Press Award for Series for his reports on "Operation Rolling Thunder"
- Associated Press Award for Investigative Reporting for his reports on "Online Prostitution"

On the weekends, I love to: I would love to be off but I work the weekends!

My favorite movie is: I can't sit long enough to make it through a movie.

My favorite kind of music is: I like all kinds, but I'd have to say I've had the most memories with FloRida's song "Low."

My favorite food is: steak and sushi.
Hobbies: Before news consumed my life, I team-roped, calf-roped and just enjoyed taking an afternoon ride on my horses back home.

Pets: Nope, I can barely take care of myself.

Most memorable story: I would have to say the search for 4-year-old Javeion Mayes near downtown Greenville in 2007 really sticks out in my mind. For two days, in 100 degree temperatures, I was out there, along with my colleagues, as hundreds of law enforcement and citizens searched for Javeion. I was actually in the woods filming search crews when they found his body less than a few hundred feet from where I was standing. I won’t forget the screams as law enforcement officers yelled, “We found the body!” To see a mother learn her baby has been found dead is unforgettable. No parent should ever have to endure that. It’s hard to separate yourself from stories when it involves innocent children who have their whole lives ahead of them. I just remember standing there and thinking how could anyone have killed this little guy. It’s a story I will certainly never forget.
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GONZALEZ
FROM PAGE 1

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Diversity Grant for UT Martin

10/15/09 - Weakley County

Diversity Grant for UT Martin
By: Holly Deasy
ndeasy@wbbjtv.com
10:45 p.m.

A University of Tennessee at Martin project to embrace diversity in the classroom has received a big boost from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

The commission awarded the school a grant of more than $200,000 to fund the Success in Teacher Education Project, or STEP. The effort between UT Martin, Dyersburg State Community College and the Lauderdale County School System aims to recruit, prepare and retain teachers from underrepresented groups who embrace diversity as a learning tool.

This is the sixth award THEC has made to the Diversity in Teaching Program at UT Martin.

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Participants will learn the basics of Microsoft Excel 2007 and be introduced to the new Ribbon interface and the new toolbars. They will also be taught the various ways to input information, create formulas and generate charts and graphs and useful tips to get started.

Steve Holt, UT Martin Instructional Technology Center director, will be the instructor.

The program is free; however, UT Martin Continuing Education credits are available for $10.

The service is being offered in cooperation with the UT Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center.

Seating is limited to the first 20 registrants. For more information or to register, contact Hollie Holt, TSBDc director, at (731) 587-7333 or register online at www.utm.edu/reed.

Deadline to enter Martin pageants nears

Plans are under way for the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant to be staged at 7 p.m. Nov. 21 in the Student Life Center at UT Martin.

Winners of each crown will compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson.

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 Nov. 10. Applications from 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 director Hollie Holt at (731) 514-3556 or by e-mail at hholt@utm.edu.
HOMECOMING COURT — Shavonda Watkins (center) of Brownsville, a senior management information systems major, was crowned 2009 University of Tennessee at Martin homecoming queen during halftime of the UT Martin-Tennessee Tech football game at Hardy M. Graham Stadium. She represented the Office of Housing. Court members include (from left) Lindsey Joy of Collierville, a senior education pre-K-3 major, representing Alpha Delta Pi; Davene King of Memphis, a senior biology major, representing the Black Student Association; Watkins; Rebecca Fry of Paris, a senior education K-6 major, representing Alpha Omicron Pi; and Heather Grossner of Troy, a senior accounting and finance double major, representing Chi Omega.

First State Youth Leadership Class of 2010
$204,736 diversity in teaching grant awarded to UT Martin

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission recently awarded the University of Tennessee at Martin a grant totaling $204,736 through the Diversity in Teaching program to fund the Success in Teacher Education Project (STEP) for 2009-2011.

The STEP project is a collaborative effort between UT Martin, Dyersburg State Community College and Lauderdale County School System to recruit, prepare and retain teachers from underrepresented groups who embrace diversity as an instructional tool.

The program design emphasizes two key areas: intentional recruiting strategies and individualized academic success strategies.

The intended outcome of Project STEP is the placement of more underrepresented groups among the teacher ranks in local school systems in rural West Tennessee.

Dr. Mary Lee Hall, UT Martin College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean, serves as the project director. Youlanda Jones, UT Martin Ripley Center director, and Dr. Kay Patterson, Dyersburg State Community College dean of arts and sciences, are serving as co-project directors.

This is the sixth award THEC has made to UT Martin under the Diversity in Teaching (formerly the Minority Teacher Recruitment) program.

“I am pleased that we have attained a Diversity in Teaching grant to assist underrepresented groups in completing requirements for the undergraduate degree and a teaching license,” said Hall. “The most critical component of Project STEP is the intense mentoring and support provided to the candidates selected for the project. We are very fortunate to have the support of the Lauderdale School System in assisting us with providing the required field experiences and student teaching for the candidates.” She added, “This is a win-win situation for students who complete the Associate of Science in Teaching at Dyersburg State Community College and transfer to the K-6 licensure program offered at the UT Martin Ripley Center.”

For more information about the program, contact Dr. Mary Lee Hall at 731-881-7127.

The Wildlife Society honors Byford

The Wildlife Society, based in Bethesda, Md., recently presented Dr. James Byford with lifetime honorary membership in recognition of his contributions to the wildlife profession through four decades as an “exemplary steward, educator, scientist and administrator.”

The award was presented during the society’s recent 16th Annual Conference in Monterey, Calif. Tom Franklin, TWS national president, presented Byford’s award.

Byford, dean of the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, joined the university in 1987.

He also serves as professor of wildlife biology. He received a bachelor’s degree at UT Martin and a doctorate at Auburn University.

As a certified professional wildlife biologist since 1979, he spent 20 years as extension wildlife specialist in Georgia and Tennessee - giving hundreds of presentations and writing numerous articles on wildlife conservation.

Byford was featured in the 1983 Sports Afield hunting annual, the June 1985 issue of Outdoor Life and appeared regularly on TNN Outdoors from 1996-98. He has been a speaker at numerous seminars on agriculture, land management and natural resource conservation throughout the U.S., Ecuador and Japan. In 1999, he authored a book through U.T. Press, titled “Close To The Land.”
BCM CELEBRATES 70 YEARS – Baptist Collegiate Ministry was honored for 70 years of service Oct. 10 at the University of Tennessee at Martin during 2009 Homecoming. David Taylor (r), UT Martin student organizations coordinator, presented a plaque during Quad City festivities to the BCM recognizing the milestone. On hand for the presentation were (l to r) David Stephan, BCM board president and music minister, Martin First Baptist Church; Morgan Owen, BCM director; and Joe Cook, UT Martin student from Cordova and BCM president.

UT Martin Science Bowl is Nov. 14

Area high schools are invited to send teams to the 30th Annual Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin and can register for the Nov. 14 event by email or phone. The registration is free, and the deadline is Nov. 1.

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. Each participating school will receive a copy of The Merck Index, which is an internationally recognized handbook of chemical, pharmaceutical and biomedical information on behalf of the Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society and the Merck & Company.

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

For registration or information, email skairre@utm.edu or call 731-881-7450/7454.
S.A.F.E. instructor certification program offered

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Public Safety and Institute of Professional Development are offering S.A.F.E. (Self-defense Awareness & Familiarization Exchange), an instructor training and certification program.

The program will be offered 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Nov. 16, in Room 229, Boling University Center, at UT Martin.

The registration fee is $185 per person. To register, call the institute at 731-881-7081. Enrollment is limited.

This eight-hour instructor training and certification program prepares instructors to teach the S.A.F.E.

Program. S.A.F.E. is a two-hour education awareness, crime-victim prevention program – encompassing strategies, techniques, options and prevention – that provides teenage and adult women with information that may reduce their risk of exposure to violence and introduces them to the physical aspects of self-defense.

The goals are to prevent crimes of sexual violence through programs of education and training, focusing primarily on awareness and prevention to educate women about realistic options that will help them avoid, escape and survive assaults if they do occur.

S.A.F.E. Program elements include: a 13-piece full color folio filled with safety information every woman should know (given to every participant); a 17-minute motivational video that is shown as part of every program; a 1 1/2 hour familiarization with what physical self-defense is about; instructor training to train and certify trainers from public safety departments, colleges/universities, schools and victim services agencies to facilitate the two-hour S.A.F.E. class for adult and teenage women as a community service.

The two-hour S.A.F.E. class is facilitated as a community service for various community organizations.

After instructor training, the only cost is for a printed 13-piece folio (which depends on how often an agency wants to facilitate the program).

Cost of the folios range from $3.50 to $4.50 per person, depending on the quantity ordered.

For more information, call the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 731-881-7081.

OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE
- Marsha Mitchell, University of Tennessee at Martin assistant director and bursar in the Office of Business Affairs, received the exempt UT Martin Fall 2009 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. Included as part of her nomination were comments such as, "She strives for excellence in all that she does, taking the extra time necessary in helping our students, giving them her undivided attention, to solve their problems. Her professionalism and leadership make Business Affairs a more efficient and effective environment."
UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN KICKOFF — Sam Lewallen will serve as the Weakley County United Way Campaign Chair for 2009-10. Lewallen addressed partner agencies and board members last week during a kickoff luncheon for the United Way campaign effort. During the upcoming year, 16 local agencies will benefit from the campaign including Community Program of Weakley County, Learning Enrichment Center of the Martin Housing Authority, Gleason, Sharon and Martin senior citizens centers, Dresden's Office on Aging; Community Developmental Services; American Red Cross (Weakley and Obion counties); Damascus Road of Paris; We Care Ministries and the Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse serving Weakley and Obion counties. Weakley County School Board member Steve Vantrease was also named United Way's Vice Chair of Outreach for West Tennessee.

NEW MEMBER — The Martin Rotary Club inducted a new member, Derrick Head, to its membership. Derrick works for the UT Online Program at UT Martin. Presenting the new member was Rotary President, Todd Hampton.

DRESDEN ENTERPRISE, Dresden, Tennessee, October 21, 2009

Le Bonheur Charity Golf Scramble slated October 24

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Pi Sigma Epsilon and Finance Management Association will host a Le Bonheur Charity Golf Scramble on October 24, at Persimmon Hills Golf Course in Sharon. Registration will be from 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Tee time will begin at 8:45 a.m.

The two-man scramble will cost $40 per player or $36 in advance. This will include the green fee, cart fee, a chance at prize money and refreshments on arrival. Cash prizes will total up to $500. There will also be a putting contest held after the tournament. Proceeds will be donated to Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center.

Advanced registration forms are available in the UT Martin Business Administration Building lobby. Completed forms with registration fee can be returned to Tenn Byram in the College of Business and Global Affairs. For more information, call 731-881-7306.
DSCC and UTM to offer new dual admission programs in Agricultural Science, K-6 and Early Childhood Education

Dyersburg – The official signing of a dual admission agreement between Dyersburg State Community College and University of Tennessee at Martin for new Agricultural Science, Kindergarten – 6, and Early Childhood Education programs took place on the DSCC Dyersburg campus on Monday, Oct. 12. UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes and DSCC President Karen Bowyer each signed the agreement as representatives of their institutions.

Dual admission programs allow a student to complete an associate degree at DSCC and then finish their baccalaureate program at UTM.

"Implementation of the dual admission concept will allow students to confidently move from an associate degree program to a baccalaureate program, knowing they are on the right track every step of the way," said President Bowyer. "This initiative is an indicator of the cooperative spirit that exists between our two institutions. The opportunities offered by this special partnership will encourage more students to complete the associate and bachelor's degrees and enhance the workforce of this region," she continued.

"This partnership is an example of the many ways higher education institutions are sharing resources and programs to help students," said Chancellor Rakes. "We value our links with Dyersburg State Community College and others as we all strive to improve student success and access to quality post-secondary academic programs and services." He added, "This linkage will open doors for students to more easily access a high quality UT Martin education and pave the way toward even more collaborative program offerings in the future."

To apply for dual admission, a student must plan on pursuing a bachelor's degree, meet the admissions criteria for DSCC, have 29 or fewer college-level semester hours, and have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better. Once enrolled in the dual admission program, a student must maintain a 2.0 GPA.

Dual admission programs offer students many benefits. Participating students will have a clearly outlined course of study laid out semester by semester. They will be assured that their coursework will transfer as a part of their chosen degree program. Students will get to know their UTM academic advisers and staff even before they start at the university because they will receive advising from both schools during their first two years.

For more information about the program, please contact the DSCC Office of Admissions and Records at 731/286-3350.

$204,736 Diversity in Teaching Grant awarded to UT Martin

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Dr. Mary Lee Hall, UT Martin College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean, serves as the project director. Youlanda Jones, UT Martin Ripley Center director, and Dr. Kay Patterson, Dyersburg State Community College dean of arts and sciences, are serving as co-project directors. This is the sixth award THEC has made to UT Martin under the Diversity in Teaching (formerly the Minority Teacher Recruitment) program.

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For more information about the program, contact Dr. Mary Lee Hall at 731-881-7127.
Alums, friends find special ways to give back to UTM

The five people honored with awards during the University of Tennessee at Martin annual Homecoming Alumni Awards Banquet share the common goal of better preparing UT Martin students to achieve, but each has chosen a special means to give back to the university.

This year’s award recipients were Dawn Gabriele, Tampa, Fla., who received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award; Bill and Roberta Blankenship, Sandestin, Florida, Outstanding Alumni Award; and Charlie and Bettye Moore, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Chancellor’s Award for University Service. Each has endowed scholarships and supported other programs based on particular areas of interest.

Moore, who attended UT Martin and received a degree from UT Knoxville, credited his wife, Bettye, with initiating their support of the university. “A few years ago, we were getting ready to retire, and she said, ‘We need to figure out some way to give something back to the university.’” Four years ago, they began providing scholarships, and their subsequent gift to The Campaign for Tennessee established the Charlie and Bettye Moore Scholarship Endowment for UT Knoxville and UT Martin students. “Today, we have a senior, junior, sophomore and freshman (scholarship) at UT Martin, and we plan on continuing that every year.”

Moore explained that one particular area of interest focuses on the UT Martin off-campus centers in West Tennessee, “where people who are out there now who didn’t get a chance to go to college, are going to Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and places like that and now have opportunities that they did not have in the past. ‘To me, that’s one of the best things, and I just want to keep up the good work.’

The Blankenships told of a special bond with the university. “There were only a few who came before us,” he said, explaining that the couple was in the second graduating class of the University of Tennessee-Martin Branch.

“There are a lot of new faculty, and the enrollment ... has increased some 10 times what it was when we were here. But what has not changed is the environment. The caring and mentoring of students certainly was here and still exists today.” Blankenship noted that the educations that they both received at UT Martin “without question aided us in our business careers and our lives.” He added, “Education is the key to meeting the challenges of today and tomorrow.” The couple’s contributions to The Campaign for Tennessee support the UT Martin College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and other UT Martin programs.

Blankenship cited 30 percent state support to the university and noted the remainder has to be generated from tuition and private gifts. He added, “There are a lot of good reasons why we should make contributions for higher education. But, the only thing I can tell you is, ‘It’s just the right thing to do.’ We’re passionate about UT Martin and what it means to the economic growth ... of the region. UT Martin is truly preparing the next generation of leadership.” He closed issuing a challenge to all alumni, “Let’s provide support for the students of today and of the future.”

Gabriele took some time to explain the background of her UTM Aspiring Women’s Scholarship Endowment, noting that it is meant to assist women graduates transitioning from academic to career environments. “That’s really where I feel like there is a gap,” she said, “in terms of what I learned in college and the real work world. That’s really the genesis of the scholarship. It’s really to create a network of women who are aspiring to do something with their lives.”

Also, she said, decisions about personal career goals, financial management and other issues graduates will face for the first time entering the job market can be daunting. The goal of the scholarship is to assist the UT Martin graduates through mentors and networking with other professional women as they get established in their fields and advance in their careers.

“I’ve been very fortunate to have some wonderful mentors in my life,” said Gabriele in introducing her parents, George and Karen Gunter of South Fulton. From them, she said she learned the “value of hard work and dedication. She also noted that her mother had helped her “brainstorm about initiating the scholarship. From her grandparents Gabriele said she “learned to be self-sufficient and keep a positive attitude.”

To several scholarship recipients attending the banquet, Gabriele said, “I do hope you will find a way to pay it forward. She added, “Dream, do, dare and most importantly, aspire.”

Dr. Jan Simek, left, University of Tennessee interim president, and Dr. Thomas Rakes, right. University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, are pictured with Bettye and Charlie Moore, during the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet, hosted October 9. The Moores received the Chancellor’s Award for University Service.
Dr. Jan Simek, left, University of Tennessee interim president, and Dr. Thomas Rakes, right, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, are pictured with Roberta and Bill Blankenship, during the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet, hosted October 9. The Blankenships received the Outstanding Alumni Award.

UT Martin Science Bowl is November 14

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Music Department Simmons Recital slated October 27

As a part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music’s Concert Series, Dr. Amy Simmons, associate professor of music, will perform a clarinet/saxophone recital at 7:30 p.m., October 27, in Campbell Auditorium in Holt Humanities Building.

Simmons will perform an eclectic mix of styles and groupings of instruments with music from the 20th and 21st centuries. The recital will feature works for clarinet, saxophone and percussion. UT Martin percussion students and Dr. Joshua Smith, assistant professor of music at Bethel University, will be performing with Simmons.

For more information, call 731-881-7402.

Young Writers’ Clubhouse offered

Young Writers’ Clubhouse, a writing experience for third- and eighth graders, will be held from 9:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., October 24, in Martin, and October 31, in Ripley. The fee is $30 per session and includes a writing notebook and pen.

Young Writers’ Clubhouse is a day when children write creatively, work with writing project teachers and share time with their friends. Themes include: Monster Mysteries and Scary Suspense, Crazy Creative Writing and other writing themes. Each child needs to bring his or her lunch or purchase pizza by the slice. Register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/youthwriting/writingreg.php.

For more information, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies (ECOS) at 731-881-7081.
S.A.F.E. instructor training/certification program to be offered

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Public Safety and Institute of Professional Development are offering S.A.F.E. (Self-defense Awareness & Familiarization Exchange), an instructor training and certification program. The program will be offered 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Nov. 16, in Room 229, Boling University Center, at UT Martin. The registration fee is $185 per person. To register, call the institute at 731-881-7081. Enrollment is limited.

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For more information, call the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 731-881-7081.

Elams named Philanthropists of the Year

Tom and Kathleen Elam recently were honored with the Philanthropists of the Year Award presented posthumously at the University of Tennessee All-Stars Development Council awards dinner in Knoxville.

The award is presented to a donor(s) who has made a significant gift or gifts to the University of Tennessee. The award recognizes the profound impact a donor can have on the university and the lives of its students.

Tom Elam was appointed to the UT Board of Trustees in 1956. He identified so closely with UT and its board that in 1996, when his term was about to expire, the Tennessee General Assembly extended it to 2020, with the proviso that should the seat become vacant, it would not be filled. He remained the senior member of the UT Board of Trustees until his death in 1998.

He served 42 years on the Board of Trustees and even longer on the Tennessee Athletics Board. In his hometown of Union City, Elam was a respected attorney and businessman.

The Elams supported many academic and athletic programs during their lifetimes. A $1 million contribution to UT Martin in 1996 coincided with the university's naming of the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center in the couple's honor. After her husband's death, Mrs. Elam continued her support to the university by gifting nearly $1.9 million.

The UT Martin Skyhawk football program received more than $1.7 million of Mrs. Elam's gifts. This included a $560,000 challenge gift to launch a private campaign to build the Bob Carroll Football Building located in the south end zone of Hardy M. Graham Stadium. The multipurpose room in the Bob Carroll Football Building was named the Kathleen H. Elam Room in her honor.

In addition to these gifts, Mrs. Elam, who died in April, bequeathed most of her estate to UT Martin, UT Knoxville and UT Health Science Center. The bequest is the largest gift in UT Martin's history.

Wildlife Society honors Byford

The Wildlife Society, based in Bethesda, Maryland, recently presented Dr. James Byford with lifetime honorary membership in recognition of his contributions to the wildlife profession through four decades as an "exemplary steward, educator, scientist and administrator." The award was presented during the society's recent 16th Annual Conference in Monterey, Calif. Tom Franklin, TWS national president, presented Byford's award.

Byford, dean of the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, joined the university in 1987. He also serves as professor of wildlife biology. He received a bachelor's degree at UT Martin and a doctorate at Auburn University.

As a certified professional wildlife biologist since 1979, he spent 20 years as extension wildlife specialist in Georgia and Tennessee giving hundreds of presentations and writing numerous articles on wildlife conservation. Byford was featured in the 1983 Sports Afield hunting annual, the June 1985 issue of Outdoor Life and appeared regularly on TNN Outdoors from 1996-98. He has been a speaker at numerous seminars on agriculture, land management and natural resource conservation throughout the U.S., Ecuador and Japan. In 1999, he authored a book through U.T. Press, titled "Close To The Land."
Phi Kappa Phi recognizes top 3 percent of first- and second-year 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., October 27, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center. This year’s Phi Kappa Phi lecturer, Dr. Mary Lee Hall, UT Martin College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean, will speak to the group on “Those Who Can Do, Those Who Can Do More Teach.” Chancellor Tom Rakes, 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 Mary Carpenter, 731-881-7070 or maryc@utm.edu.

BCM celebrates 70 years

Baptist Collegiate Ministry was honored for 70 years of service October 10 at the University of Tennessee at Martin during 2009 Homecoming. David Taylor (right), UT Martin student organization coordinator, presented a plaque during Quad City festivities to the BCM recognizing the milestone. On hand for the presentation were (left to right): David Stephen, BCM board president and music minister, Martin First Baptist Church; Morgan Owen, BCM director; and Joe Cook, UT Martin student from Cordova and BCM president.

Singapore Math Strategies Sessions beginning in October

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies is offering the course, Singapore Math Strategies: Model Drawing for Grades 1-6, with sessions beginning October 21, November 11, and December 9. The sessions last six weeks with two lessons being released weekly. The courses are entirely Web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes and assignments. The registration fee is $95.

In this professional development course for teachers, participants will get the training to start teaching model drawing. Model drawing gives students a concrete, reliable set of seven steps that can be used to solve 80 percent of all word problems. Model drawing will help students enjoy and understand math word problems.

UT Martin’s online courses meet the qualifications for professional development activities that can be used for renewal purposes. The courses are considered to be 24 hours, and participants who successfully complete a course receive 2.4 continuing education units. If approved, teachers will receive 24 renewal points per course. UT Martin will provide certificates of completion. The instructor is Anni Stipek.

For more information, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies (ECOS) at 731-881-7081. Also, to view a complete list of courses for educators or to register for a course, visit the Web site at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/teaching_professionals.php.

Senior Art Exhibition slated October 27

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will host a senior art exhibition beginning with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m., October 27, on the second floor of the Paul Meek Library. The art exhibition will represent the works of Dade Roberts, a visual art studio and graphic design emphasis student from Brownsville; Jennifer Fergie, a graphic design emphasis student from Brownsville; and Brittany Branan an art education emphasis student from Humboldt. The exhibitions will be located in the Paul Meek Library while the Fine Arts Building undergoes renovations. The exhibition will continue through November 14. It will be free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.
Seniors watched Brehm Hall expansion project develop

The future joined the past at Brehm Hall on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus Saturday. The Brehm Hall expansion opening ceremony and open house were staged during homecoming and attracted a large number of alumni and current students some of whom have watched the progress of the project for several years.

"I first heard of the plans for the Brehm Hall expansion as a scholar in the Tennessee Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences (at UT Martin) in 2005. As I learned about the additional classrooms, laboratory space and conference areas, I was intrigued at the opportunity that these facilities would provide," said Ashley McDougal, a senior animal science major from Pulaski. "This helped in my decision to come to UT Martin. Throughout the years, I have seen the development of the project and the eventual completion. As a senior, I will only get a year of use out of the expansion. However, this will prove to be very beneficial for future students."

The $1.7 million 9,900 square-foot project provided an additional lecture room, laboratories, lab preparatory areas, conference rooms and offices joining an original structure built in 1950.

Nicholas Lewis, a senior agricultural business management major from Ooee, also has watched the project come to fruition. "The expansion will benefit the students so much," said Lewis. "The rooms that are available now are more technology-enabled and are more conducive to the learning experience here at UT Martin." And, he added, the prep rooms are perfect for professors to get ready for classes and provide students with more visual examples of the classroom material being studied.

Officially opening the University of Tennessee at Martin Brehm Hall expansion, 39 years after its dedication to C.E. Brehm, UT's 15th president, are, from left, Dr. Jim Byford, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean; Jenna Wright, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Jerry Gresham, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources chair; Chancellor Emeritus Nick Dunagan; Chancellor Tom Rakes; Donna Brehm Matlock, Brehm's granddaughter; Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; Tim Nipp, Physical Plant director; Jamie Stempel, Hazlip Studio PLLC, Memphis, project architect; Lynn Smith, Allen Searcy Builder-Contractor, Inc., project superintendent; and Allen Searcy, Allen Searcy Builder-Contractor, Inc., Union City.

Dr. Jim Byford, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean, welcomed the group attending Saturday's ceremony and introduced guests that included Donna Brehm Matlock, who retired from UT Knoxville and is the granddaughter of C.E. Brehm, the 15th UT president. "We are just as pleased as we can be," Byford said of the expansion.

"I just appreciate... the fact that he is still being remembered and recognized," said Matlock. Noting that he was a modest man, she said he would say, "Don't shine the spotlight on me, it belongs on the outstanding faculty and students."

Chancellor Tom Rakes highlighted the history of the building noting that 39 years ago, the building was named the C.E. Brehm Agriculture and Biology Hall honoring Dr. Brehm, who served from 1946-1959.

"Today is an exciting day for us," said Rakes. The chancellor spoke of the years since expansion plans were initiated in 1991 through construction in 2007-09. "There's a long wait," he told those involved in the project. "It just shows if you are tenacious, you plan well and deserve it. Things do come."

Rakes thanked legislators, UT trustees, Drs. Byford and (Jerry) Gresham, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources chair, and faculty and staff.

Ogg used enrollment, cost and square footage numbers to tell Brehm's story closing with what he termed the most important number. "This is the number of students whose lives have been changed because of the outstanding faculty and staff over the past 58 years who have brought these square feet to life."

Gresham thanked the architect and contractor and closed the ceremony talking about the future and what the building means to UT Martin and its students. "This also creates opportunities for us," Gresham said. He noted that one of the department's visions is to establish a student/faculty research program.

"Some day, we would like to try to create an endowment," he added. "That will come with time, but at least we have the space now that we can further our department..."
$204,736 Diversity in Teaching Grant Awarded to UT Martin

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission recently awarded the University of Tennessee at Martin a grant totaling $204,736 through the Diversity in Teaching program to fund the Success in Teacher Education Project (STEP) for 2009-2011. The STEP project is a collaborative effort between UT Martin, Dyersburg State Community College and Lauderdale County School System to recruit, prepare and retain teachers from underrepresented groups who embrace diversity as an instructional tool. The program design emphasizes two key areas: intentional recruiting strategies and individualized academic success strategies. The intended outcome of Project STEP is the placement of more underrepresented groups among the teacher ranks in local school systems in rural West Tennessee.

Dr. Mary Lee Hall, UT Martin College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean, serves as the project director. Youlanda Jones, UT Martin Ripley Center director, and Dr. Kay Patterson, Dyersburg State Community College dean of arts and sciences, are serving as co-project directors. This is the sixth award THEC has made to UT Martin under the Diversity in Teaching (formerly the Minority Teacher Recruitment) program.

"I am pleased that we have attained a Diversity in Teaching grant to assist underrepresented groups in completing requirements for the undergraduate degree and a teaching license," said Hall. "The most critical component of Project STEP is the intense mentoring and support provided to the candidates selected for the project. We are very fortunate to have the support of the Lauderdale School System in assisting us with providing the required field experiences and student teaching for the candidates." She added, "This is a win-win situation for students who complete the Associate of Science in Teaching at Dyersburg State Community College and transfer to the K-6 licensure program offered at the UT Martin Ripley Center."

For more information about the program, contact Dr. Mary Lee Hall at 731-881-7127.

UTM earns fourth listing in America's 100 Best College Buys

The University of Tennessee at Martin is again listed among America's 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president, made the announcement.

"For the fourth consecutive year, the University of Tennessee at Martin has distinguished itself as an institution providing a challenging academic environment, while doing so at a cost nearly 30 percent below the national average," Lindsey said.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, said that this latest listing recognizes the university's efforts to provide students and families excellent value for their higher-education investment.

"Being included in this listing for four consecutive years is an outstanding achievement," he said. "These are challenging economic times, and our faculty and staff work hard to deliver a high-quality educational experience for our students."


Vocal master class slated October 23

Denise Knowlton will offer a master class for four voice majors at University of Tennessee at Martin at 3:00 p.m., October 23, Watkins Auditorium in Boling University Center.

Knowlton began teaching as a graduate student at Bowling Green State University, where she graduated with a Master of Music in 1998. After receiving her degree, she went to Cleveland Institute of Music where she spent three years focused on singing. During this time, Knowlton performed in more than 10 master classes with singers such as Ely Ameling, Bo Skovhus and Dawn Upshaw. Knowlton continues to teach at University of Missouri-Kansas City's Community Music and Dance Academy, also maintaining a private studio and singing with the Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

Knowlton is instructing Karen Cook, Martin soprano senior voice education major; Linzie Tedford, Memphis soprano senior voice education major; Joshua Gatlin, Troy, tenor junior voice education major, and Aaron Hand, Fairview baritone freshman voice performance major.
University of Tennessee at Martin seniors watched Brehm Hall expansion develop

The future joined the past recently at Brehm Hall on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus.

The Brehm Hall expansion opening ceremony and open house were staged during homecoming and attracted a large number of alumni and current students—some of whom have watched the progress of the project for several years.

"I first heard of the plans for the Brehm Hall expansion as a scholar in the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences (at UT Martin) in 2005. As I learned about the additional classrooms, laboratory space and conference areas, I was intrigued at the opportunity that these facilities would provide," said Ashley McDougal, a senior animal science major from Pulaski.

"This helped in my decision to come to UT Martin. Throughout the years, I have seen the development of the project and the eventual completion. As a senior, I will only get a year of use out of the expansion. However, this will prove to be very beneficial for future students.

The $1.7 million 9,900-square-foot project provided an additional lecture room, laboratories, lab preparatory areas, conference rooms and offices joining an original structure built in 1950.

Nicholas Lewis, a senior agricultural business management major from Ocoee, also has watched the project come to fruition.

"The expansion will benefit the students so much," he said. "The rooms that are available now are more technology-enabled and are more conducive to the learning experience here at UT Martin."

And, he added, the prep rooms are perfect for professors to get ready for classes and provide students with more visual examples of the classroom material being studied.

Dr. Jim Byford, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean, welcomed the group attending Saturday’s ceremony and introduced guests that included Donna Brehm Matlock, who retired from UT Knoxville and is the granddaughter of C.E. Brehm, the 15th UT president.

"We are just as pleased as we can be," Byford said of the expansion.

"I just appreciate ... the fact that he is still being remembered and recognized," Ms. Matlock said.

Noting that her grandfather was a modest man, she said he would say, "Don’t shine the spotlight on me, it belongs on the outstanding faculty and students."

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes highlighted the history of the building, noting that 39 years ago, the building was named the C.E. Brehm Agriculture and Biology Hall honoring Dr. Brehm, who served from 1946-59.

"Today is an exciting day for us," Rakes said.

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"That’s a long wait," he told those involved in the project. "It just shows if you are tenacious, you plan well and deserve it. Things do come."

Rakes thanked legislators, UT trustees, Dr. Byford, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources chair Dr. Jerry Gresham and faculty and staff.

Ogg used enrollment, cost and square footage numbers to tell Brehm’s story, closing with what he termed the most important number.

"This is the number of students whose lives have been changed because of the outstanding faculty and staff over the past 58 years who have brought these square feet to life," he said.

Gresham thanked the architect and contractor and closed the ceremony talking about the future and what the building means to UT Martin and its students.

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"Some day, we would like to try to create an endowment," he added. "That will come with time, but at least we have the space now that we can further our department ..."

Vocal class scheduled at UT Martin

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During this time, she performed in more than 10 master classes with singers such as Elly Ameling, Bo Skovhus and Dawn Upshaw. Knowlton continues to teach at University of Missouri-Kansas City’s Community Music and Dance Academy, also maintaining a private studio and singing with the Lyric Opera of Kansas City.

Ms. Knowlton is instructing Karen Cook, Martin soprano senior voice education major; Linzie Tedford, Memphis soprano senior voice education major; Joshua Gatlin, Troy tenor junior voice education major; and Aaron Hand, Fairview baritone freshman voice performance major.
BREHM HALL EXPANSION — Officially opening the University of Tennessee at Martin Brehm Hall expansion, 39 years after its dedication to C.E. Brehm, UT's 15th president, were (from left) Dr. Jim Byford, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean; Jenna Wright, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Jerry Gresham, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources chair; Chancellor Emeritus Nick Dunagan; Chancellor Tom Rakes; Donna Brehm Matlock, Brehm's granddaughter; Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs; Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; Tim Nipp, Physical Plant director; Jamie Stempel, Haizlip Studio PLLC, Memphis, project architect; Lynn Smith, Allen Searcy Builder-Contractor Inc., project superintendent; and Allen Searcy, Allen Searcy Builder-Contractor Inc., Union City.

Skyhawk Marching Invitational
Peabody High School of Trenton was among the 28 marching bands from Tennessee, Mississippi and Kentucky that competed before a panel of experts at the University of Tennessee Martin's Graham Stadium recently. The field commanders, Shayla Smith (center) and Annie Williams of the Peabody band are pictured here with Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs. The Peabody band received the first place trophy in Small Division Field commander. Dr. Bradley G. Coker, assistant professor of music, served as the administrator for this event, which featured more than 2,100 high school students performing various musical styles from Broadway to classic rock.
UT Martin named best college buy fourth year in a row

The University of Tennessee at Martin is again listed among America’s 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president, made the announcement.

"For the fourth consecutive year, the University of Tennessee at Martin has distinguished itself as an institution providing a challenging academic environment, while doing so at a cost nearly 30 percent below the national average," Lindsey said.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, said that this latest listing recognizes the university’s efforts to provide students and families excellent value for their higher education investment.

"Being included in this listing for four consecutive years is an outstanding achievement," he said.

"These are challenging economic times, and our faculty and staff work hard to deliver a high-quality educational experience for our students." The listing in 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 2010 edition of America’s Best Colleges, compiled by U.S. News & World Report. Also, the Princeton Review named UT Martin “A Best Southeastern College” for 2010.

Gibson Co. students choose UT Martin

Additional Gibson County students are part of a record enrollment at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The fall 2009 enrollment reflected a 6.9-percent increase compared to fall 2008. There are 578 students from the county currently attending UT Martin, up from 522 last fall.

Total enrollment for fall 2009 was 8,101, compared to the fall 2008 total of 7,578 students.

Science bowl slated at local university

Area high schools are invited to send teams to the 30th Annual Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin and can register for the Nov. 14 event by e-mail or phone.

The registration is free and the deadline is Nov. 1.

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 medals for all team members. Each participating school will receive a copy of the Merck Index, which is an internationally recognized handbook of chemical, pharmaceutical and biomedical information, on behalf of the Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society and Merck & Company.

The rules for science bowl can be accessed on the Web at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skaira/saacs/scibowl.html. The program of the last bowl can be seen at http://www.utm.edu/staff/skaira/scibowl/. For registration or more information, e-mail skaira@utm.edu or call (731) 881-7450 or 881-7445.

Phi Kappa Phi to honor top 3 percent of 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 7 p.m. Tuesday in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

This year’s Phi Kappa Phi lecturer, Dr. Mary Lee Hall, UT Martin College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean, will speak to the group on "Those Who Can Do, Those Who Can Do More Teach!" Chancellor Tom Rakes, 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.

For more information, contact Mary Carpenter at (731) 881-7070 or e-mail maryl@utm.edu.
The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Friday, October 23, 2009

UT Martin racing team prepares car for November event in Mexico

What do a University of Tennessee at Martin engineering professor, several engineering alums and the Tennessee Technology Center at McKenzie have in common?

Each contributes to a 12-member team that has built a race car to compete in the Tecate SCORE Baja 1000 Nov. 19 in Ensenada, Mexico.

The Class 1 desert racecar will be shown to the public at 11:30 a.m. Monday in the north patio area of UT Martin's Boling University Center, where team members will also be on hand.

Dr. Bob LeMaster leads the team with assistance from UT Martin engineering grad Brian Boggs, Ashley Owens and Jonathon Kolwycz. Jimmy Kee, who teaches welding at the Tennessee Technology Center, and former students Matt Jackson, Jason Young, Shay Barksdale and Kyle McConnell have also played a major role in the car's construction. The car was recently certified by SCORE International, the race organizer, and the car will bear number 107 during the race.

The Baja 1000 is the longest and most difficult off-road race in the Western Hemisphere and is rivaled on the world stage only by the Dakar Rally in western Africa, LeMaster said. The race attracts cars from across the United States and will feature cars from 20 countries. This year's race will be 672 miles long and will start and end in Ensenada. Several television specials about the race will be broadcast in early December, he added.

LeMaster became interested in building the car through the university's participation in the Baja SAE competition. He annually advises UT Martin engineering students who construct a small Baja race car that competes against teams from other universities. Welding students from the Tennessee Technology Center at McKenzie have frequently assisted with the fabrication of these cars. His work with students sparked LeMaster's interest in building the current Class 1 desert race car.

The car is about 18 feet long, weighs 3,800 pounds and has a 650-horsepower custom-built engine and 35-inch tires with 24 inches of suspension travel. The car was designed to reach speeds of 150 mph.

"The shock technology used in this form of racing is more advanced than that used in other forms of motorsports," LeMaster said. "Although the terrain is very rough, the ride inside the car is amazingly smooth."

During the technical inspection, SCORE Race officials told LeMaster that "you guys have a serious entry" and that they "could not recall another unlimited-class desert racecar being entered from the state of Tennessee." LeMaster said there are typically 30 cars in the class, but because of the extreme nature of the course, only half the cars in the class are likely to finish.

The car is being entered by West Tennessee Baja LLC and driven by LeMaster and Jackson. Boggs will navigate and serve as a back-up driver. The car is equipped with a satellite tracking system that will allow race officials to monitor the location of the car along with its speed and orientation. Race officials positioned hundreds of miles away will know instantly if the car has been involved in an accident or is not moving. The navigator is responsible for radio communications, monitoring the engine operating parameters and keeping the car on track using a GPS system.

The car is also equipped with an on-board fire suppression system that will automatically activate in the event of a fire.

The logistics of competing in an off-road endurance race are demanding, with pit stops located approximately 150 miles apart, LeMaster said. Fuel, tires and spare parts needed at each pit stop must be determined in advance and positioned at appropriate points one to two days before the race begins. A chase vehicle, equipped with extra fuel, spare tires and parts will follow the racecar as closely as possible. In the event of a breakdown or accident, the chase team must locate and provide assistance as quickly as possible.

Participation in the race is expensive and sponsorship is important, LeMaster said. BF Goodrich is providing access to tires with Kevlar reinforced sidewalls and pit support. West Tennessee sponsors include Legens Hot Rod Shop, Fuqua Family Farms, Stewart Perkins Trucking, Pablo's Pickles and Southern Custom Metalworks.

"The team believes that they will be representing West Tennessee at the race and would like to make it a true West Tennessee effort by having most of the sponsorship coming from West Tennessee companies," LeMaster said, adding that more sponsors are needed and there is still time for sponsors to become involved.

Some 300,000 are expected to attend the November race, but LeMaster and the race team aren't intimidated.

"I've always thought that if the only reason for not doing something is fear of failure, that that's not a good enough reason not to do it," LeMaster said. The team will face many challenges during the race but will have overcome the biggest one simply by making it to the starting line."

Gonzales speaks at Martin

MARTIN (AP) — Former U.S. Attorney General got a mixed reception during a speech at UT Martin on Thursday.

Gonzales resigned in 2007 amid accusations that he had authorized the torture of terrorism suspects.

A group of about 35 students protested the speech, in which Gonzales stressed the importance of education and also defended the Bush administration's handling of the War on Terror.

The Jackson Sun reported that Gonzales told students he does not want to see another person killed in defense of the country. But, he added, we have to fight our enemies overseas if we don't want to fight them in our backyard.

He said sometimes things the president does may not make sense to the general public, but that's because they don't have all the information he has.
Racing team readies baja car for November race

What does a University of Tennessee at Martin engineering professor, several engineering alums and the Tennessee Technology Center at McKenzie have in common? Each contributes to a 12-member team that has built a racecar to compete in the Tecate SCORE Baja 1000, Nov. 19, in Ensenada, Mexico. The Class I desert racecar will be shown to the public at 11:30 a.m., Monday, Oct. 26, in the north patio area of UT Martin’s Boling University Center.

Dr. Bob LeMaster leads the team with assistance from UT Martin engineering grads Brian Boggs, Ashley Owens and Jonathon Kolvyck. Jimmy Kee, who teaches welding at the Tennessee Technology Center, and his former students Matt Jackson, Jason Young, Shay Barkdale and Kyle McConnell, have also played a major role in the car’s construction. The car was recently certified by SCORE International, the race organizer, and the car will wear number 107 during the race.

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The desert racecar will be on display at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 26 in the patio area of UT Martin’s Boling University Center.

In the event of a breakdown or accident, the chase team must locate and provide assistance as quickly as possible. Participation in the race is expensive, and sponsorship is important, LeMaster said. BF Goodrich is providing access to tires with Kevlar reinforced sidewalls and pit support.

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The team will face many challenges during the race but will have overcome the biggest one simply by making it to the starting line.

The public is invited Oct. 26 to see the car and meet the race team.

More about the November race can be found on the Web at http://www.score-international.com/.
Gonzales
gets mixed
reception

‘Education equals freedom,’
former attorney general
tells UT Martin students

By TAJUANA CHERSHER
	tchersier@jacketsun.com

MARTIN — Former United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzales told University of Tennessee Martin students to dream big and be prepared for education during his visit to the campus Thursday night.

Gonzales, 54, served as White House Counsel from 2001 to 2005. In 2005, he became the first Hispanic attorney general.

He established the Justice Department’s national security division to deal with new legal problems after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Gonzales resigned from his position in 2007 amid controversy on the handling of terrorism suspects and prisoners detained during the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

When introduced, Gonzales received a mix of applause and boos from the students gathered in the Elam Center.

"Why should he not be held liable for authorizing torture?" said Corbin Gibson, 21, a UT Martin senior. Gibson organized 35 students to protest Gonzales' visit and speech.

"This is not a liberal, Democratic or Republican issue," Gibson said. "We all came together for basic human rights, and that's what the United States should always stand up for."

Postgraduate student Trey Hamilton, 30, demonstrated his feelings by wearing a black trash bag over his clothes and a large dunce cap covered in a black trash bag on his head.

"I'm demonstrating the torture of war criminals," Hamilton said. "I don't agree with Bush's methods. I'm very much against conservatives."

Hamilton and Gibson booed Gonzales.

Ellion Kilpatrick held a sign that read, "Love your enemies — Jesus. Kill your enemies — Military" outside of the Elam Center Thursday night.

"Jesus told followers to put away the sword," said Kilpatrick, of Jackson. "Those who live by the sword, will die by the sword." Kilpatrick is not a UT student.

In an interview with The Jackson Sun before addressing students, Gonzales said former President George W. Bush wanted his administration to treat every day like it was Sept. 12, 2001, the day after the terrorist attacks.

"That meant finding out what happened and making sure we held those responsible accountable for their actions," Gonzales said.

He said he believes progress was made. "Many leaders of al-Qaeda were killed, their leadership and planning were disrupted," Gonzales said. "And there hasn't been a Sept. 11 since then."

Gonzales told students that he felt the war against terrorism is winnable.

"I don't want to see another person killed in defense of our country, but if we're not prepared to fight the enemy overseas, then we must be prepared to fight in our backyard," Gonzales said. "None of us knows as much as the president knows. So some actions may not make sense, but then you don't have all the information."

Though met with a group of critics, Gonzales did receive support from some students in attendance.

"I respect the man. I can't do his job," said Jennifer Taylor, 19, a sophomore.

During the question-and-answer period, Taylor asked Gonzales if he thought the process of becoming an American citizen should be easier.

"It ought to be hard if you want to be a citizen of this country," Gonzales told her.

"This is a special country."

Taylor, who is from Colombia, told him that it took her 13 years to become a citizen.

Gonzales said education has been an important part of his life from his beginnings as the second of nine children to his service in the White House.

"Education is important. Everyone needs to be educated," he said. "Parents of minority children need to know that education is not a luxury; it's a necessity. Education equals freedom in this country."

— Tajuana Chersher,
	425-9543
Former AG Gonzales speaks at UT Martin

By Associated Press

Friday, October 23, 2009

MARTIN, Tenn. — Former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales got a mixed reception during a speech at UT Martin on Thursday.

Gonzales resigned in 2007 amid accusations that he had authorized the torture of terrorism suspects.

A group of about 35 students protested the speech, in which Gonzales stressed the importance of education and also defended the Bush administration’s handling of the war on terror.

The Jackson Sun reported Gonzales received a mix of applause and boos after his introduction. One of those booing was senior Corbin Gibson.

"Why should he not be held liable for authorizing torture?" Gibson said. "This is not a liberal, Democratic or Republican issue. We (protestors) all came together for basic human rights, and that’s what the United States should always stand up for."

Postgraduate student Trey Hamilton came dressed in black trash bags meant to look like the famous picture of a hooded detainee at Iraq’s Abu Ghraib prison who was forced to hold electrical wires and told he would be electrocuted if he fell off of the box where he was standing.

Gonzales told students he felt the war on terror is winnable.

"I don’t want to see another person killed in defense of our country, but if we’re not prepared to fight the enemy oversees, then we must be prepared to fight in our backyard," he said.

He also defended former President Bush.

"None of us knows as much as the president knows. So some actions may not make sense, but then you don’t have all the information," he said.

Sophomore Jennifer Taylor said she respected Gonzales and his abilities. During the question and answer period the Colombia native told him it took her 13 years to become an American citizen and asked if he thought the process should be easier.
"It ought to be hard if you want to be a citizen of this country," Gonzales said. "This is a special country."

Gonzales told students education is what took him from his humble beginnings as the second of nine children to become the nation's first Hispanic attorney general.

"Education is important. Everyone needs to be educated," he said. "Parents of minority children need to know that education is not a luxury; it's a necessity. Education equals freedom in this country."

More details as they develop online and in Saturday's News Sentinel.
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Monday, October 26, 2009, Vol. 124, No. 210
The Associated Press

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http://www.memphisdailynews.com/editorial/ArticleEmail.aspx?id=45630&print=1
UTM professor is bound for Baja
West Tenn. team to participate in off-road race in Mexico

MARTIN - A little bit of brains and a lot of patience and perseverance is what Bob LeMaster said it took to turn his dream into a racing car that will compete for the first time in an international off-road race in Mexico.

"I've put every ounce of spare time into this project for the last two years," said LeMaster, an engineering professor at the University of Tennessee at Martin. "It was a little like building Noah's Ark - we built a buggy for desert racing with the closest desert 1,500 miles to the west."

LeMaster, 56, and his design and support team held a press conference at the UT Martin campus Monday morning to talk about their project and show off the race car. The group is called West Tennessee Baja, and most of the work was done in LeMaster's garage.

Team members include Jimmy Kee, who teaches welding at the Tennessee Technology Center at McKenzie, and graduates from UT Martin and the Tennessee Technology Center.

The University of Tennessee is not involved in or sponsoring the project.

LeMaster, who has been working on the project for three years, is the owner and primary engineer.

Known as a "Baja buggy," LeMaster's car looks like a cross between a dune buggy and a jeep.

It is the first off-road racing car of its kind built in West Tennessee, LeMaster said, and is classed as Class 1, Unlimited Division.

LeMaster plans to travel to Ensenada, Mexico, to compete in the Tecate SCORE 2009 Baja 1000 on Nov. 19.

This year, the race covers about 672 miles of mountainous terrain and sandy desert lake beds in Baja California, Mexico, LeMaster said.

Up to 400 participants from more than 20 countries take part in the race every year. The race will take about 12 hours to complete, and the car will be followed by a support team.

"The Baja 1000 is one of the longest and most difficult off-road races in the world," LeMaster said. "Only about half the cars finish the race. Our goal is to finish."

Monday's demonstration included firing the 650-horsepower, custom-built Corvette engine, which emitted a loud roar. LeMaster also showed how built-in jacks can lift one side of the car at a time.

The car weighs close to 4,000 pounds and has 35-inch tires with about 24 inches of suspension travel. It can travel faster than 150 miles an hour and can sustain speeds of up to 80 miles an hour in deep sand.

"It will be the little things that bite you, like a loose brake line," added Kee. "But it will be fun just to be there and meet all the great racers."

- Marliann Martin, 425-9782.
PUMPKIN SALE — Volunteers Ashley Ballard (left) and Christa Totty arrange pumpkins in front of the University of Tennessee at Martin Interfaith Student Center Thursday afternoon. The organization will continue to sell various shapes, sizes and colors of pumpkins through Halloween. The center is located on Lovelace Street in Martin across from the UT Martin campus.

HOMECOMING FUN — Steve and Bea Mohler, of Martin, were among those enjoying the Homecoming 2009 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. He is a former Department of Foreign Languages chair and professor emeritus of Spanish, and she is a former adjunct instructor.
Alums, friends find special ways to give back to UT Martin

UT MARTIN HOMECOMING AWARD – Dr. Jan Simelk, left, University of Tennessee interim president, and Dr. Thomas Rakes, right, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, are pictured with Betsy and Charlie Moore, during the annual UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet, hosted Oct. 9. The Moores received the Chancellor's Award for University Service.

The five people honored with awards during the University of Tennessee at Martin annual Homecoming Alumni Awards Banquet share the common goal of better preparing UT Martin students to achieve, but each has chosen a special means to give back to the university.

This year's award recipients were Dawn Gabriele, Tampa, Fla., who received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award; Bill and Roberta Blankenship, Sandestin, Fla., Outstanding Alumni Award; and Charlie and Betsy Moore, Baton Rouge, La., Chancellor's Award for University Service. Each has endowed scholarships and supported other programs based on particular areas of interest.

Moore, who attended UT Martin and received a degree from UT Knoxville, credited his wife, Betsy, with initiating their support of the university.

"We need to figure out some way to give something back to the university."

Four years ago, they began providing scholarships, and their subsequent gift to The Campaign for Tennessee established the Charlie and Betsy Moore Scholarship Endowment for UT Knoxville and UT Martin students.

"Today, we have a senior, junior, sophomore and freshman (scholarship) at UT Martin, and we plan on continuing that every year."

Moore explained that one particular area of interest focuses on the UT Martin off-campus centers in West Tennessee, "where people who are out there now who didn't get a chance to go to college, are going to Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and places like that and now have opportunities that they did not have in the past. "To me, that's one of the best things, and I just want to keep up the good work."
John Bucy named
TAHRA president

The Tennessee Association of Human Resource Agencies (TAHRA) has named John Bucy as its new president. Bucy is the Executive Director of Northwest Tennessee Human Resource Agency and Development District in Martin and was voted into the position by a group of his peers earlier this year.

The TAHRA consists of nine Human Resource Agencies (HRAs) across the state of Tennessee. He was elected by his peers to serve the two-year term in office.

"I very much appreciate the vote of confidence from my colleagues in the other Human Resource Agencies. Collectively, we touch the lives of over xxx Tennessean through our various programs," Bucy said. "We continue to look for additional programs and services that can help someone's quality of life."

The TAHRA was established in 1973 by the Tennessee General Assembly to serve as a delivery system for human resources across the state. The association has an established track record of effective administration of a variety of programs including regional planning, area agencies on aging and disability, elderly nutrition, rural public transportation, homemaker services, senior aides, long-term care, an ombudsman program and the retired senior volunteer program.

Bucy has a history of community service. He has served as the chairman of the Weakley County 911 board since its inception, is an active member of the Weakley County Economic Development Board, is on the

SEE BUCY, PAGE 8

Bucy
FROM PAGE 1

board of directors for the West Tennessee Housing Resource Network Inc.

Bucy was recently appointed to the board of directors of the West Tennessee Seismic Safety Commission by Tennessee Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey.

Bucy is a native of Paris, Tennessee and received his BS degree in History and Social Studies from the University of Tennessee at Martin, and his Master of Science, Educational Psychology and Guidance two years later.

He left UTM in 1999 having served as the Executive Director of the Boiling University Center. The Paris native also served in the US Army, and retired as Lt. Colonel from the Tennessee Army National Guard and was on the Weakley County Commission from 1988-1999.

He currently resides in Martin with his wife, Kathy Bucy, a retired school psychologist for the Weakley County Board of Education.

"We are pleased to provide services in Weakley County and appreciate the field staff and the volunteers who serve as on our committees and advisory councils. A special appreciation goes to Mike Medlin of Greenfield and Mayor Houston Patrick who serves on our executive committee," Bucy added.

Other officers recently elected are Mike Smith, Executive Director of Southwest Tennessee Human Resources Agency as vice-president and Coy Anderson from South Central Tennessee as treasurer.
Evans receives Beth Maloan Outstanding UT Martin Student Employee Award

The Fall 2009 Beth Maloan Outstanding University of Tennessee at Martin Student Employee Award recently was presented to Benita Evans, the news director for WUTM, FM 90.3 "The Hawk."

Evans is a communications-broadcasting major and has been employed at the radio station for two years. The award was presented Oct. 22 prior to an Academic Speaker Series presentation.

Among many tasks, Evans, of Dresden, gathers and writes stories, supervises radio practicum students and trains students in several communication classes to operate studio equipment. According to her supervisor, "Ms. Evans has performed her duties at WUTM with efficiency and dedication that go far beyond the call of duty. She is simply an outstanding individual who deserves to be recognized for her hard work and dedication to this campus and for her commitment to the betterment of UT Martin."

This award, given every fall and spring semester, is a memorial for Beth Maloan, longtime UT Martin director of budgeting and payroll, who, during her years of service, was a strong advocate for student employment. Maloan had a vision that more positions would be developed on campus to challenge students and make them significant contributors to the university's mission. Recipients of this award exemplify a strong work ethic and commitment to the university. They receive a $1,000 cash award, an engraved plaque and a nameplate on the perpetual plaque in a place of honor in the Boling University Center.

Contributions to this scholarship award may be made through payroll deduction by employees of UT Martin or by sending a contribution to the Office of Development at UT Martin.
UTM professor is bound for Baja

West Tenn. team to participate in off-road race in Mexico

By MARIANN MARTIN
mmartin10@jacksonsun.com

MARTIN — A little bit of brains and a lot of patience and perseverance is what Bob LeMaster said it took to turn his dream into a racing car that will compete for the first time in an international off-road race in Mexico.

"I've put every ounce of spare time into this project for the last two years," said LeMaster, an engineering professor at the University of Tennessee Martin. "It was a little like building Noah's Ark — we built a buggy for desert racing with the closest desert 1,500 miles to the west."

LeMaster, 56, and his design and support team held a press conference at the UT Martin campus Monday morning to talk about their project and show off the race car. The group is called West Tennessee Baja, and most of the work was done in LeMaster's garage.

Team members include Jimmy Kee, who teaches welding at the Tennessee Technology Center at McKenzie, and graduates from UT Martin and the Tennessee Technology Center.

The University of Tennessee is not involved in or sponsoring the project.

LeMaster, who has been working on the project for three years, is the owner and primary engineer.

Known as a "Baja buggy," LeMaster's car looks like a cross between a dune buggy and a jeep.

It is the first off-road racing car of its kind built in West Tennessee, LeMaster said, and is classed as Class 1, Unlimited Division.

LeMaster plans to travel to Ensenada, Mexico, to compete in the Tecate SCORE 2009 Baja 1000 on Nov. 19.

This year, the race covers about 672 miles of mountainous terrain and sandy desert lake beds in Baja California, Mexico, LeMaster said.

Up to 400 participants from more than 20 countries take part in the race every year. The race will take about 12 hours to complete, and the car will be followed by a support team.

"The Baja 1000 is one of the longest and most difficult off-road races in the world," LeMaster said. "Only about half the cars finish the race. Our goal is to finish."

Monday's demonstration included firing the 650-horsepower, custom-built Corvette engine, which emitted a loud roar. LeMaster also showed how built-in jacks can lift one side of the car at a time.

The car weighs close to 4,000 pounds and has 35-inch tires with about 24 inches of suspension travel. It can travel faster than 150 miles an hour and can sustain speeds of up to 80 miles an hour in deep sand.

It runs on 110 octane fuel and only gets about 3 miles per gallon. At $8.25 a gallon, it will cost about $2,000 in fuel for the race, LeMaster said.

"The horsepower isn't so much for speed as for power," LeMaster said. "The wheels will be half buried in sand during part of the race."

The most difficult part of the project was taking the computer plans and translating them into an actual car, according to Bryan Boggs, a UT Martin engineering alum.

Boggs, 25, joined the team in May 2009 and worked on putting together much of the car.

"If it leaks, it's my fault," Boggs said. "But I loved it, and you couldn't put me in a more ideal situation. It is a unique car, so we had to do a lot of trouble shooting on our own."

Boggs will be the navigator for the team during the Baja race and also will help with the support vehicle.

Matt Jackson, a Tennessee Tech graduate, has spent two years working on welding for the car. He will drive part time during the race and also work as a navigator.

Jackson, 22, has raced on dirt tracks in West Tennessee for several years and also helped build race cars in Jonesboro, Ark.

But he has never done any racing in the desert.

"I don't know what it will be like," he said. "We'll go out there and do our best."

"It will be the little things that bite you, like a loose brake line," added Kee. "But it will be fun just to be there and meet all the great racers."

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Bucy Named President of TAHRA

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Bucy has a history of community service. He has served as the chairman of the Weakley County 911 board since its inception, is an active member of the Weakley County Economic Development Board, is on the board of directors for the West Tennessee Housing Resource Network Inc. Bucy was recently appointed to the board of directors of the West Tennessee Seismic Safety Commission by Tennessee Lt. Gov. Ron Ramsey.

Bucy is a native of Paris and received his BS degree in History and Social Studies from the University of Tennessee at Martin, and his Master of Science, Educational Psychology and Guidance two years later. He left UTM in 1999 having served as the Executive Director of the Boling University Center.

The Paris native also served in the US Army, and retired as Lt. Colonel from the Tennessee Army National Guard and was on the Weakley County Commission from 1988-1999. He currently resides in Martin with his wife, Kathy Bucy, a retired school psychologist for the Weakley County Board of Education.

“We are pleased to provide services in Carroll County and appreciate the field staff and the volunteers who serve as on our committees and advisory councils. A special appreciation goes to Mayor Kenny McBride who has formerly been our board chairman and currently serves on the executive committee. Also, I’d like to thank Cindy West for her work as an executive committee member,” Bucy added.

Other officers recently elected are Mike Smith, Executive Director of Southwest Tennessee Human Resources Agency as vice-president, and Coy Anderson from South Central TN as treasurer.
Gonzales address students at UT Martin

On Thursday, October 22, former United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, 54, who served as White House Counsel from 2001 to 2005, addressed the student body at the University of Tennessee Martin.

Gonzales, the first Hispanic attorney general, talked about the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001 and the resulting changes that took place in enhancing national security, the war in Afghanistan and Iraq, and other developments during his tenure in office.

One of the things he did in response to 9-11 was to establish the Justice Department’s national security division. In 2007, Gonzales resigned from his position amid controversy concerning the handling of terrorism suspects and prisoners detained during the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In reference to 9-11, Gonzales stated former President George W. Bush wanted to find out what happened and make sure those responsible were held accountable for their actions. To this end, he said he believes progress was made. He noted many al-Qaeda leaders were killed and their leadership and planning disrupted. And most importantly, terrorism attacks in the United States have, thus far, been averted.

Although Gonzales stated he believes the war against terrorism is winnable, he cautioned, “If we’re not prepared to fight the enemy overseas, then we must be prepared to fight in our backyard.”

Gonzales encouraged the students to dream big. He stressed the importance of education, saying parents of minority children need to know that education is not a luxury, but a necessity. “Education equals freedom in this country,” he said.

Final preview day set for November 21 at UT Martin

The final preview day is set for November 21 at the University of Tennessee Martin. Preview days are opportunities for high school students and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each day 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.

Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answer 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 will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Elam Center. Students are invited to attend the UT Martin Skyhawks vs. Austin Peay State University football game at 1 p.m., November 21. Each student will receive a complimentary ticket for the game.

Registration will be followed by a welcome and general information session, the university’s academic fair, 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.

Accounting Workshop November 13 at UTM

The West Tennessee Accounting Conference is planned November 13, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Offered by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies and the UT Martin Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics and Political Science, the workshop will be in Room 206 of Boling University Center. The fee for the conference is $195.

Four professionals will staff the workshop that will provide participants with eight continuing professional education credits. Ray Todd, Tennessee Department of Revenue, will offer “Tennessee Sales and Use Taxes for Businesses and Legislative Update.” Dennis Dyeus, director of the Division of Municipal Audit for the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee, will present “My Favorite Frauds and How They Could Have Been Prevented” and “Tennessee State-Specific Ethics.” Dr. Bob Putman, professor emeritus of accounting, will teach “Financial Accounting Standards Update for Businesses.” “Better Performance Reviews” will be taught by Brian Johnson, lecturer of psychology.

To register, call ECOS or 731-881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecee/non_credit_registration.php.

Nanoparticles and cancer topic of November 2 speaker

Dr. Isaac Stayton

The University of Tennessee at Martin chapters of the Sigma Xi, Tri Beta, Mu Epsilon Delta and Student Members of the American Chemical Society are joint sponsors of a special presentation by Dr. Isaac Stayton about his research on the interactions of silica nanoparticles with human lung carcinoma cells. Current research has implications for the causes and cure of lung cancer. Stayton received his bachelor’s degree from Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri, and doctorate from the Missouri University of Science and Technology at Rolla, Missouri.

The lecture will be at 6:30 p.m., November 2, in Room 258, Brehm Hall, and is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Dr. S.K. Airee, president of UT Martin Sigma Xi and advisor of the SMACS chapter, 731-881-7454, or Dr. Ann Gathers, Sigma Xi vice president and advisor of Tri Beta and MED, 731-881-7178.
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Deadline to Enter Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant November 10

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 21, in the Student Life Center 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 10, and applications from all UT Martin students should be returned to the UT Martin Office of Student Life, 222 Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238. All others should be sent to Hollie Holt, 406 S. Lindell 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 director, Hollie Holt, 731-541-5516 or by email at hholt@utm.edu.
Yeung voice recital slated for November 1

As a part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music's Concert Series, Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of voice, will perform a recital of Baroque vocal music at 3:00 p.m., November 1, in the Trinity Presbyterian Church of Martin. Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, will accompany Yeung at the harpsichord. Dr. Kurt Gorman, associate professor of trumpet, Sarah Beth Hanson, adjunct lecturer of flute, and Carla Field, violist, will join the two performers at the recital. The program will include sacred songs from Vivaldi's "Gloria," Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater," Bach's "Magnificat" and opera arias by Handel and Arne. Trinity Presbyterian Church is located at 145 Hannings Lane in Martin. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music at 731-881-7402.

The Gazette, Trenton, Tennessee

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

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.

Deadline to enter Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant nears

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Wildlife Society honors Byford

The Wildlife Society, based in Bethesda, Maryland, recently presented Dr. James Byford with lifetime honorary membership in recognition of his contributions to the wildlife profession through four decades as an "exemplary steward, educator, scientist and administrator." The award was presented during the society's recent 16th Annual Conference in Monterey, Calif. Tom Franklin, TWS national president, presented Byford's award.

Byford, dean of the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, joined the university in 1987. He also serves as professor of wildlife biology. Byford was the recipient of a bachelor's degree at UT Martin and a doctorate at Auburn University. He is a graduate of Peabody High School in Trenton. As a certified professional wildlife biologist since 1979, he spent 20 years as extension wildlife specialist in Georgia and Tennessee-giving hundreds of presentations and writing numerous articles on wildlife conservation. Byford was featured in the 1983 Sports Afield hunting annual, the June 1985 issue of Outdoor Life and appeared regularly on TNN Outdoors from 1996-98. He has been a speaker at numerous seminars on agriculture, land management and natural resource conservation throughout the U.S., Ecuador and Japan. In 1999, he authored a book through U.T. Press, titled "Close To The Land."
UT Martin graduate hits the road for musical ride from jazz to rock

By RITA MITCHELL
Special to The Messenger

Ed Sargent stepped on a tour bus three days after finishing finals at UT Martin in 1982 and began a jazz ride that lasted 24 years. Now, he has taken a walk on the wild side.


While the music genre he is part of now differs distinctly from his years in jazz, the road has an attraction that drew him out again after the legendary Ferguson died in 2006.

It was Ferguson, a dear friend in addition to being a mentor and boss, who gave him his start in the business, promoting him to tour manager, later adding personal manager to his title. And, it was Ferguson’s final album, completed just weeks before his death and produced by Sargent and drummer Stockton Helbing, which gained a Grammy nomination in 2008.

In addition to his current responsibilities with Joan Jett, Sargent manages Tim Ries, Rolling Stones saxophonist, and Carl Fischer, Billy Joel’s trumpeter. While not touring, Sargent also conducts master classes and production-oriented workshops on college campuses mentoring young musicians.

Sargent’s love of music began as a small child. He would sit on the floor of his grandmother’s house with wooden spoons tapping out a tune. “She was my first big influence.” She’d make over me and say ‘you’re going to be a great drummer one of these days.’”

His interest took a formal turn when he joined the fifth-grade band in Amory, Miss., and continued throughout high school after a move to Bolivar. His high school band director in Bolivar would get to school early and play his favorite albums before morning rehearsal. “I remember the first day he played an album from a trumpet player named Maynard Ferguson, and it just blew us all away.” It began a lifelong love of that trumpet player’s music and jazz in general.

“Because of interest shown in him by his senior year after a solo in a band workshop conducted by a UT Martin band director, Anthony D’Andrea, Sargent auditioned and joined the university’s band program in the fall of 1977. He majored in percussion but also took business courses. “I loved to play, but I started becoming more involved in the whole business aspect.”

Maynard Ferguson was very popular with the UT Martin jazz and marching band that even did a field show tribute to the jazz great. That led to Sargent’s attempting to get Ferguson to play a UT Martin concert. It (See Page 19, Col. 1)

He accepted the job of valet or personal assistant. “I was willing to do whatever it took to maintain a position on that tour bus, travel the world and get to see my favorite band play every night.”

Two years later, at the age of 24, Sargent was Maynard Ferguson’s tour manager, touring the world performing 200 dates a year.

Sargent tells the students in his master classes that it’s really OK “to fly by the seat of your pants and try to figure it out along the way... there’s no handbook for life...” as long as you are honest to yourself and to those with whom you are dealing.

As tour manager on the road, Sargent was responsible for literally every logistical aspect and on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“Once they (management, buyer) sign off on terms of an agreement, then it comes to the tour manager and it’s called ‘making it happen.’ The travel, personnel, logistics, equipment — all the components that make the show. Sometimes it’s complete insanity and always a phone call away from a disaster at any given point,” he said.

He said the key to his success on the road has been his good communication skills and effective advance work that covers everything from the first call to the end of the show, to the doors shutting and the bus pulling out of the parking lot. “Do your advance work so you don’t have to figure out surprises on show day.”

Sargent follows the same formula with the Joan Jett tours.

Noting that Jett has been in the business since she was 15, he said she has a strong work ethic. She, too, comes from that old school.

“Nothing is more important to Joan on show day than preparing for the show. If a tour manager has done his job effectively, the musicians have nothing to worry about but playing,” he said.

During his long career with Ferguson, when they were not touring or recording, that’s when he had the opportunity to work with other legendary musicians — Ray Charles, Dizzy Gillespie, Art Blakey, Al Hirt and Billy Eckstein. Charles was, and still is, one of his boyhood heroes.

JAZZ LEGEND — Ed Sargent (right), a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, enjoyed a special relationship with legendary trumpeter Maynard Ferguson, for whom he served as longtime tour manager. Ferguson, who died in 2006, was Sargent’s dear friend, mentor and boss who gave him a start in the music industry, promoting him to tour manager and later adding personal manager to his title.
"I still think he was probably the most soulful cat that ever lived," he said. "I was very fortunate being a drummer and having 'ears' for music."

Ferguson gave him the opportunity to be involved in all of his projects right through the final album, "The One and Only Maynard Ferguson." The recording in Tony Bennett's studio was completed 30 days before Ferguson died.

With the Joan Jett organization, Sargent has been on tour with Aerosmith, Alice Cooper, Motorhead, Cyndi Lauper and Def Leppard. "Tours are run like a business. There's very little trashing of dressing rooms or hotel rooms anymore. That just doesn't fly any more in the business we're in."

Meshed with Sargent's years on the road are his memories — especially those of his days with Ferguson.

"He took a 22-year-old kid from West Tennessee who was green as a gourd, who was willing to do anything — eyes and ears wide open and good enough sense to keep my mouth shut — and basically gave me the opportunity to see the world. He molded me into what he wanted in a tour manager and we became best friends in the process," he said.

Ferguson took Sargent on trips during tour breaks, including India, one of the jazz legend's favorite places to relax and recuperate. Sargent also hung out with Ferguson and his wife, Flo, at their Ojai, Calif., home.

"I felt like and was treated like one of his kids," he said.

Ferguson also wanted his band to have fun and provided sightseeing excursions during days off.

"How could you not feel like a blessed person working for your favorite band, traveling all over the world, eating at the best restaurants, hanging with fun people and your best friend. How could you not dig that?" he said. "This is what I do in life. I can't ever see myself stopping."

After a brief hiatus as president of JohnnyBoy drumstick company in 2000-01, Sargent realized his place was on the road. "If I'm home for two weeks, I get stir crazy. I love the excitement this business brings.

"Being nominated for a Grammy was certainly one of my highlights," Sargent said. He broke his parents' hearts when he left UT Martin lacking just a few hours to graduate. "But it was an opportunity I couldn't let get away. When the album received the Grammy nomination last year (for the 'One and Only Maynard Ferguson') I think my mom finally forgave me."

And now he is making new memories with Joan Jett and the Blackhearts. "I've always been a big fan of Joan's. Touring with her is great and I must say — is never boring."

Sargent is happy to have the opportunity to do university master classes like the one he offered earlier this year at UT Martin. It is a way to give back in honor of a mentor, Nancy Matheson, his UT Martin percussion instructor.

"She was not cautious about speaking her mind or her choice of words that motivated me in a way, at the time, I really needed. She never sugar-coated the truth," he said.

Once, she told him he was an OK drummer, but that he was great with people and had keen sense for musical production.

"She wasn't happy I left (early), but she saw the opportunity for me to go out and utilize my strengths in a business I loved. She motivated me to try my best and pursue the dream, which, let's face it, is the best gift a teacher can give a student," he said.

Sargent took his talents on the road — and what a ride.

Editor's note: Ritu Mitchell works as university editor in the Office of University Relations at the University of Tennessee at Martin.
READY TO RACE — Members of a 12-member team unveiled their Class 1 desert racecar Monday at the University of Tennessee at Martin's Boling University Center. The car will race Nov. 19 in the Tecate SCORE Baja 1000, a 24-hour off-road race held in Ensenada, Mexico. Dr. Bob LeMaster (center), UT Martin engineering professor, guided the car’s construction. Other members of the team include (from left) Jimmy Kee, welding instructor, Tennessee Technology Center at McKenzie; Ashley Owens of South Fulton, UT Martin engineering graduate; LeMaster, who will drive the car; Matt Jackson of Medina, Tennessee Technology Center graduate and car navigator; and Brian Boggs of Martin, UT Martin engineering graduate and also a navigator. More about the car can be found online at http://west-tennessee-baja.com.

University of Tennessee at Martin awarded teaching program grant

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission recently awarded the University of Tennessee at Martin a grant totaling $204,736 through the Diversity in Teaching program to fund the Success in Teacher Education Project (STEP) for 2009-11.

The STEP project is a collaborative effort between UT Martin, Dyersburg State Community College and the Lauderdale County School System to recruit, prepare and retain teachers from underrepresented groups who embrace diversity as an instructional tool.

The program design emphasizes two key areas: intentional recruiting strategies and individualized academic success strategies. The intended outcome of Project STEP is the placement of more underrepresented groups among the teacher ranks in local school systems in rural West Tennessee.

Dr. Mary Lee Hall, UT Martin College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean, serves as the project director. Youlanda Jones, UT Martin Ripley Center director, and Dr. Kay Patterson, Dyersburg State Community College dean of arts and sciences, are serving as co-project directors.

This is the sixth award THEC has made to UT Martin under the Diversity in Teaching (formerly the Minority Teacher Recruitment) program.

“I am pleased that we have attained a Diversity in Teaching grant to assist underrepresented groups in completing requirements for the undergraduate degree and a teaching license,” Hall said. “The most critical component of Project STEP is the intense mentoring and support provided to the candidates selected for the project. We are very fortunate to have the support of the Lauderdale School System in assisting us with providing the required field experiences and student teaching for the candidates.

“This is a win-win situation for students who complete the associate of science in teaching degree at Dyersburg State Community College and transfer to the K-6 licensure program offered at the UT Martin Ripley Center,” she added.

For more information about the teaching program, contact Dr. Mary Lee Hall at (731) 881-7127.
Nanoparticles, cancer to be discussed

The University of Tennessee at Martin chapters of the Sigma Xi, Tri Beta, Mu Epsilon Delta and Student Members of the American Chemical Society will be joint sponsors of a special presentation by Dr. Isaac Stayton about his research on the interactions of silica nanoparticles with human lung carcinoma cells. Current research has implications for the causes and cure of lung cancer.

Stayton received a bachelor's degree from Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo., and a doctorate from the Missouri University of Science and Technology at Rolla, Mo.

The lecture will be held 6:30 p.m., Monday in Room 258 of Brehm Hall on the UT Martin campus and is free and open to public.

For more information, contact Dr. S.K. Airee, president of UT Martin Sigma Xi and adviser of the SMACS chapter, at (731) 881-7454; or Dr. Ann Gather, Sigma Xi vice president and adviser of Tri Beta and Mu Epsilon Delta, at (731) 881-7178.

Voice recital set for Sunday in Martin

As a part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music's Concert Series, Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of voice, will perform a recital of Baroque vocal music at 3 p.m. Sunday at Trinity Presbyterian Church of Martin.

Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, will accompany Yeung at the harpsichord. They will be joined by Dr. Kurt Gorman, associate professor of trumpet; Sarah Beth Hanson, adjunct lecturer of flute; and Carla Field, violinist. The program will include sacred songs from Vivaldi's "Gloria," Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater," Bach's "Magnificat" and operatic arias by Handel and Arne.

Trinity Presbyterian Church is located at 145 Hannings Lane in Martin. The event is free and open to the public.

Hands-on writing conference Oct. 30 for high school students

A conference designed for high school students who want hands-on experience in writing poetry, fiction, non-fiction, as well as songwriting, play writing, and writing online will be offered, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Oct. 30, in Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center, University of Tennessee at Martin.

The conference workshops will be taught by UT Martin faculty and visiting poet, Bill Brown. Other events include a luncheon, a reading and book signing by Brown 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. 23.

For a copy of the brochure or to register online, go to http://www.utm.edu/departments/ece/courses_nondegree.php.

The conference is sponsored by the Department of English.

For more information, contact Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English, at lachance@utm.edu or call 731-881-7296.
Bondurant one of Top 40 Under 40

Barry "Skipper" Bondurant, administrator and CEO of Baptist Memorial Hospital Tipton, Tenn., was recently named one of the Top 40 Under 40 by the editorial staff of Memphis Business Journal. This year marks the 13th time the Memphis publication has held the awards, which are given to young business professionals who give back to the community. Christian Brothers University is the sponsor of the 2009 awards.

Bondurant was selected to the Top 40 from a field of more than 200 candidates based on a nomination submitted by Cyndi Roberts, who works in administration at Baptist Tipton.

In her nomination, Roberts wrote. "Employees admire him for his integrity, honesty and loyalty, and Baptist Tipton has flourished under his leadership, which is reflected in the hospital's increasing patient satisfaction scores." Bondurant has been administrator and CEO at Baptist Tipton since 2008 and previously served as assistant administrator at Baptist Memorial Hospital, Union City, Tenn.

He received his bachelor's degree in education from the University of Tennessee at Martin and his master's degree in exercise and sports medicine from the University of Memphis. He also has a second master's degree in business administration from Union University.

Bondurant and his fellow Top 40 Under 40 recipients will be honored at a luncheon Nov. 13 at the Hilton in Memphis, Tenn.

A native of South Fulton, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Bondurant of South Fulton.

UTM Tech symposium set Nov. 18

Concurrent sessions dealing with technology on campus and in the classroom will be the focus of The University of Tennessee at Martin 2009 West Tennessee Technology Symposium from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Nov. 18, in the Boling University Center. There will also be a vendor showcase located in Duncan Ballroom of the center.

The keynote speaker will be Lee Wetherington, Senior Vice President of Goldleaf Financial Solutions, Inc. His speech, "Space and Time Converge: A Technology Forecast," is about the convenience of technology and what to look for in the future of technology.

Early registration ends Nov. 4 with a fee of $40. Registration after Nov. 4 will be $50. The registration fee includes lunch. Door prizes, including Dell mini computers, will also be given away.

For more information or to register online, visit http://www.utm.edu/wtts/registration.php.

Future UTM students alerted to final preview day Nov. 21

The final preview day is set for Nov. 21 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Preview days are opportunities for high school students 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.

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 will be from 9-9:30 a.m. in the Elam Center.
Accounting conference
Nov. 13 at UTM campus

The West Tennessee Accounting Conference is planned Nov. 13, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Offered by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies and the UT Martin Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics and Political Science, the workshop will be in Room 206 of Boling University Center. The fee for the conference is $195.

Four professionals will staff the workshop that will provide participants with eight continuing professional education credits. Ray Todd, Tennessee Department of Revenue, will offer “Tennessee Sales and Use Taxes for Businesses and Legislative Update.” Dennis Dycus, director of the Division of Municipal Audit for the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Tennessee, will present “My Favorite Frauds and How They Could Have Been Prevented” and “Tennessee State-Specific Ethics.” Dr. Bob Putman, professor emeritus of accounting, will teach “Financial Accounting Standards Update for Businesses.” “Better Performance Reviews” will be taught by Brian Johnson, lecturer of psychology.

To register, call ECOS or 731-881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

SERVICE LEARNING — The University of Tennessee at Martin, Department of Behavioral Sciences and the Institute for Civic Engagement recently sponsored a Service Learning and Volunteer Fair that included organizations from surrounding Northwest Tennessee, Memphis and Jackson. Twenty-nine diverse organizations were able to recruit many student volunteers who stopped by to discuss volunteer opportunities. A growing number of courses at UT Martin are including services learning or a community service component. Pictured are, Leslie Salowsky, left, Americorps volunteer, representing Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, and Elisabeth Tompkins of Dukedom, Tenn.

UTM Science Bowl open
to area high school teams

Area high schools are invited to send teams to the 30th Annual Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin and can register for the Nov. 14 event by email or phone. The registration is free, and the deadline is Nov. 1.

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. Each participating school will receive a copy of The Merck Index, which is an internationally recognized handbook of chemical, pharmaceutical and biomedical information on behalf of the Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society and the Merck & Company.

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

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

Yeung recital slated for Nov. 1

As a part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music’s Concert Series, Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of voice, will perform a recital of Baroque vocal music at 3 p.m., Nov. 1, in the Trinity Presbyterian Church of Martin.

Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, will accompany Yeung at the harpsichord.

Dr. Kurt Gorman, associate professor of trumpet, Sarah Beth Hanson, adjunct lecturer of flute, and Carla Field, violin, will join the two performers at the recital.

The program will include sacred songs from Vivaldi’s “Gloria,” Pergolesi’s “Stabat Mater,” Bach’s “Magnificat” and opera arias by Handel and Arne.

Trinity Presbyterian Church is located at 145 Huddings Lane in Martin.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music at 731-881-7402.