WELCOME 2009 FRESHMAN – Local businesses showed incoming students their services during the City of Martin’s annual UTM Freshman Welcome event Friday night at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Local organizations were also on hand while Sodexho Dining Services catered the affair. Students were given free gifts and opportunities for door prizes throughout the evening.
Monograms and More owner Anita Allen (top left), 5 Seasons Men's Shop manager Barry Keathley (above) and First State Bank associate DeAnna Chappell (left) met with new UT Martin students during the festivities as they received complimentary gifts and registered for door prizes.
$189,573 grant to UT Martin will enhance law enforcement training

Rural West Tennessee law enforcement officials will have the opportunity to get the training they need free and at a convenient location. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs recently awarded a $189,573 grant to the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

The two-year American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Justice Assistance Grant will provide criminal justice professional enhancement training within an approximate 30-mile radius of targeted agencies in 19 West Tennessee counties along with Stewart, Houston, Humphreys, Perry, Wayne, Lawrence, Hickman and Lewis counties. Project title is “Technology to Commit and Technology to Con- vict (TC2).”

On Feb. 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The bill includes more than $2.76 billion for state and local law enforcement and for other criminal justice activities that prevent and control crime and improve the criminal justice system. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs in Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration was designated as the state agency responsible for administering a portion of these criminal justice system funds through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

A needs analysis determined that the following topics of training would benefit local law enforcement agencies: Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST), de- fusing confrontations, interview and interrogation, report writing, legal update and recent court decisions, search and seizure and child sexual abuse.

Combating Crime in Rural West Tennessee, a 24-hour course, has been designed to better prepare rural law enforcement officers to meet today’s challenges in law enforcement, to increase officers’ knowledge of the technology used in the commission and investigation of crimes and to protect the communities they serve. This course will include two days of intense training. Participants will reconvene approximately 60 days later to review lessons learned, problems encountered and develop strategies to encounter service demands.

Instruction will be provided by Training Services Group, Inc. (TSG). TSG lead instructors are Jimmie V. Leach and Dennis Mays. Leach is a 20-plus-year law enforcement professional who has served as a police officer, state trooper, special agent and special agent in charge with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and finally as the director of criminal investigations for the Tennessee Department of Safety. Mays is a 33-year law enforcement professional. In his last assignment, he commanded the patrol division and the Special Operations Units of Jackson Police Department from 1998-2009. He also served as the department’s Aviation Unit commander, Critical Incident commander, liaison with the U.S. Secret Service, a member of the interagency counterterrorism-working group and legal adviser.

Upcoming training dates and locations are as follows: Lexington Police Department – Sept. 23-24, Nov. 3; Martin Police Department – Sept. 23-29, Dec. 8; Medina Police Department – Oct. 1-2, Dec. 7; Henry County Sheriff Office – Oct. 5-6, Dec. 9; Henderson Police Department – Oct. 7-8, Dec. 8.

Anyone who would like to attend one of the seminars or if a law enforcement department is interested in hosting one of the seminars, contact Dennis Joyner, IPD Law Enforcement Training Specialists, at 901-831-0036 or djoyner@comcast.net.

Enrollment is approaching 8,000 students.

Officials said final fall enrollment numbers would be available by late September.

University officials also are pleased this fall that the average ACT score of the incoming freshman class is 22.42, which is an increase from last year.

The university is at 99 percent occupancy in the residence halls and University Village phases I and II, while University Courts and Grove Apartments are at 99 percent occupancy.

First-year students moved in Thursday, and upperclassmen moved in Friday and over the weekend.

"Thursday went well with parents and students sharing smiles and compliments throughout the check-in and move-in," director of student housing Earl Wright said in a news release.

"We are particularly proud to have the level of excellent facilities we have for our students," UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes said in the release.

Last month, UT Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master’s level public universities in the South in the 2010 edition of America’s Best Colleges by U.S. News & World Report.

During the summer, the Princeton Review named UT Martin one of the best colleges and universities in the Southeast.
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UT president’s campus tour begins Wednesday

The University of Tennessee president’s annual campus tour will begin Wednesday in Memphis, with a stop scheduled for Sept. 29 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Throughout the month, Interim UT President Jan Simek and members of his staff will spend a day at each of the UT System’s campuses.

In addition, there will be a Nashville stop to meet with employees based in Middle Tennessee and Simek will visit with Institute for Public Service employees while they are meeting in Norris.

The complete schedule for the campus tour includes: Wednesday, Memphis, UT Health Science Center; Sept. 9, Norris, Institute for Public Service meeting; Sept. 10, Nashville, including employees from UT Extension, UT AgResearch, UT Knoxville College of Arts and Work, UT Health Science Center College of Pharmacy and Institute for Public Service; Sept. 14, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Sept. 15, Knoxville, Institute of Agriculture; Sept. 18, Tullahoma, Space Institute; Sept. 20, UT Martin; and Oct. 6, University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

During the visits, Simek will meet with campus administrators, faculty, staff, students, public officials and community leaders.

“In these tough economic times, it is important to reassure everyone that the university is continuing to move forward and that improving our quality remains the paramount goal,” Simek said.

The tour provides the campuses an opportunity to highlight their achievements and goals. Employees also have a chance to voice their concerns and ask questions in a face-to-face setting.

There are two new features with this year’s tour—a special Web site and Twitter.

The public can follow the tour with updates from each stop by visiting http://www.tennessee.edu/campustour/ or by following Simek on Twitter at http://twitter.com/utpresident.
Students head back to campus at UT Martin

Audrey Williams, left, of Dover, Jamie Crist, center, of Fairview, and Amy Long, of Spring Hill, took time to talk Monday while on campus for the first day of classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Submitted photo

8,000 enrolled as fall semester begins

The Jackson Sun

University of Tennessee Martin students began classes Monday, and officials expect high enrollment numbers this fall. Enrollment is approaching 8,000 students.

Officials said final fall enrollment numbers would be available by late September.

University officials also are pleased this fall that the average ACT score of the incoming freshman class is 22.42, which is an increase from last year.

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The Fulton Leader, September 2, 2009

LEGACY LUNCHEON - University of Tennessee alumni and their children who are enrolled at the university for the fall semester were invited to the annual Legacy Luncheon recently hosted as the students moved in their residence halls. Among those attending the luncheon at Paul Meek Library were Anna Seratt and her father, Chuck of South Fulton. (Photo submitted)
Chancellor says UT Martin well positioned for the future

University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes sees plenty of opportunities amid challenging times.

Rakes told those attending last week's fall faculty meeting, "Our future is bright because we are well-positioned and balanced. I could not be more proud of where we are at this point in time."

Confident of the process and outcome of budget decisions made last fall, Rakes said, "There are challenges ahead, but ... we have many positives to cheer."

Rakes said the university as a whole is adjusting to changes in operations, instructional offerings, delivery modes and overall campus-wide resources. He also made reference to stimulus funds as a means to acquire scientific, communications, musical and technology-related equipment and support for other university initiatives and programs that will serve the university well for many years.

The chancellor cited effective faculty leadership as one of the university's strengths and thanked those who have served through the years.

He also pointed to increased internship opportunities, strong showings in assessments and comparative measurements, such as continuing increases in ACT scores of incoming students, steady enrollment growth and higher graduation rates, as positives.

"We measure up very well," he said.

Playing an important role in student access are the online bachelor's and master's programs, extended campuses in Jackson, Selmer, Ripley and Parsons and the dual-enrollment program — the latter two representing nearly 11 percent of the total university enrollment, he said.

Rakes included successful development efforts — exceeding $11 million in giving this year — research, grant and scholarly activity along with ongoing and recently completed capital-building projects as examples of capacity-building efforts for the future.

Finally, he mentioned community-service projects carried out by students, faculty and staff that benefit the community and surrounding area.

"Here, service to other people counts," he said.

Looking ahead to the new school year, he said the university would be called upon to be more inclusive, diverse with an 'expanded view of the individuals and world around us.'

In closing, he also asked the faculty to focus on perceptions and highlighted how powerful perceptions about the university can be. He added that the statements made on and off campus and observations to someone in the community and to each other, have a direct bearing on how the university is viewed.

"What we benefit from are solution-finding, capacity-building comments. We can be as good as we want to be," he said.

Rakes thanked faculty members for their service to the university and added, "I really feel blessed to work here with you."

The showing of the university's new promotional video capturing academics, service learning, diversity, quality of life and other strengths closed out the meeting.

Locals attend Legacy Luncheon

University of Tennessee alumni and their children who are enrolled at the university for the fall semester were invited to the annual Legacy Luncheon recently hosted as the students moved in their residence halls. Among those attending the luncheon at Paul Meek Library were Kelly Nanney and her son, Dylan, of Sharon.
Little Texas, Sister Hazel concerts join popular festival events

Little Texas and Sister Hazel will headline the 16th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, September 5-13, in Martin. A mix of free musical entertainment, along with a car and bike show, pageants, talent contest, parade, barbecue cook off and educational programs, also highlight this year’s event. The theme is “The Crossroads of Good Livin’.”

“This is our 16th year to promote agriculture and community through the Tennessee Soybean Festival,” said David Bectol, festival chairman. He added that the festival continues to be a week packed with events to interest people of all ages throughout Martin and the region. “We try to offer the best possible entertainment while striving to provide a program of events that is diverse and exciting.”

“The Tennessee Soybean Festival has grown to be one of the premier festivals in the state,” said Randy Brundige, Martin mayor. “I am proud of what this community has done and the way it comes together during the event.”

The 2009 festival will include “The Return, A Beatles Tribute” concert as the Tuesday night feature during festival week, the fifth annual Faith and Community Night, sponsored by the Martin Ministerial Alliance, with The Lesters concert and Dennis Swanberg, “America’s Minister of Encouragement,” as the Wednesday night entertainment; and Sister Hazel performing Thursday night. On Friday, Main Line, Peacekeepers and Second Helping, a Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band, are slated to perform. Saturday night concerts begin with Margarita Beach and 7 Bridges, an Eagles Tribute band, and end with Little Texas. All concerts are free.

Little Texas hits include the No. 1 single, “My Love,” as well as hits such as, “Some Guys Have All The Love,” “You and Forever Me,” “What Were You Thinkin’,” and “I’d Rather Miss You.” Sister Hazel hit’s with “All For You,” “Champagne High” and “Change Your Mind.”

Traditional festival events will include the Mayor’s Kickoff Luncheon, sponsored by Leland-Powell Fasteners, Inc., First State Bank-sponsored Soybean Festival Parade; the Soybean Farmer’s Breakfast, sponsored by Farm Credit Services, Weakley County Farm Bureau, Weakley Farmers Co-op and Tennessee Soybean Promotion Council, Vincent, Inc. and TN Tractor; Union City Coca-Cola Bottling Co.-sponsored School Children’s Street Fair with Volunteer Community Hospital hosting lunch for the children. Also included in the lineup are the “Singing Bee” live game show, sponsored by Thunderbolt Broadcasting Co.; Soybean Idol, sponsored by WENK; WPSD-TV “What’s It Worth,” sponsored by C.E. Weldon Public Library; Rotary Club golf tournament; Kiwanis/Ken-Ten Sports/Sideline Physical Therapy & Fitness 5K run; Lions Club Health Fair/Street Fair; Optimist Club/Pilot Club bicycle rodeo; the 13th annual car and bike show, sponsored by MTD Products Inc.; and the 16th annual barbecue cook off, sponsored by Tyson Foods. Among other activities planned are senior adult events, an art exhibit and competition, talent show, pageants, quilt show, pet show, prayer breakfast and more.

Complete festival information is posted on the Web at www.tnsoybeanfestival.org. For more information, call Kimberly Craddock, at 731-588-2507, or email med@martin.tennessee.org.

Holt, Hacker claim regional award in annual Digital Media Tournament

University of Tennessee at Martin director of the Instructional Technology Center and Web Services Steve Holt and Tim Hacker, UT Martin instructor of English, recently won the faculty service-learning category of a regional digital media tournament.

In the spring, UT Martin joined universities across the state and around the southeast in the Digital Media Sandbox Consortium Governor’s Challenge Academic Media Tournament. Participating institutions included campuses all across Tennessee, as well as campuses from Georgia, Texas, North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky and Washington.

Faculty and students from all campuses competed in six categories (faculty course concepts, faculty service-learning, student course concepts, student features, and student service-learning). UT Martin selected campus winners in three of the six categories to advance to regional competition, where Holt and Hacker’s entry in the tournament was selected as the winner in the faculty service-learning category.

Digital media files in all categories were judged by a collection of judges from all over the world, who were identified and selected by using social media tools such as Facebook and Google Docs. The Digital Media Sandbox Consortium Governor’s Challenge Academic Media Tournament files were hosted this year by East Tennessee State University on its iTunesU site.

“I hope to generate more interest in participation from our students and faculty in the next tournament, which is being rolled out this fall,” said Holt.

The Digital Media Sandbox Consortium Web site can be found at www.tnsandbox.com, ETSU’s iTunes Web site, which contains the entries for the spring 2009 tournament, can be found at www.etsu.edu/itunes.

Piano recital to open UT Martin concert series

The opening program in the 2009-2010 Concert Series at the University of Tennessee Martin will be given pianist Dr. Lauren Shack Clark, associate professor of piano at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. Clark's recital is 3 p.m., September 13, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center. She will perform Bach’s “Prelude and Fugue in E” from WTCII, six of Mendelssohn’s “Songs without Words,” Prokofiev’s “Sonata A Minor,” and Schubert’s “Sonata in A Minor.” In addition, she will perform three contemporary works from “Solar Terms” by Rosey Mei-Kuei Lee. There is no admission charge, and the recital is open to the public.

Clark holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from Boston University, a master’s in piano performance and pedagogy from Northwestern University, a graduate diploma from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Mass., and a Bachelor of Music from the Hart School of Music. She was voted Teacher of the Year 2008 by the Arkansas State Music Teachers Association and Barney Smith Professor of the Year 2009 at ASU.

Clark’s solo CD was released by Centaur Records in February 2008, and contains piano music written by Boston composer Dr. Rosey Lee, faculty, Berklee College of Music. She may also be heard on the recently released CD, “Wildfire: Music of Karen Griebeling” on the Vienn Mandelstern label. Clark is the author of Keyboard Theory and Piano Technique recently published by Longbow Publishing. For additional information, contact Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, at 731-881-7411 or elaineh@utm.edu.
New faculty introduced at annual fall meeting

A number of lecturers, instructors, assistant professors and associate professors have been appointed to the faculty at the University of Tennessee at Martin for the fall semester. They were introduced at the annual fall faculty meeting. Classes begin August 31.

"One of the highlights of my job is interviewing faculty candidates, and this year's new faculty will be outstanding additions to the instructional team," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs. "They understand our mission, and they are committed to making a difference in the educational lives of our students."

"Hires like this would not happen without the efforts of the faculty, department chairs and deans who work so diligently to recruit these exceptional teacher-scholar-servants. Our folks understand how critical this process is, and the results bode well for our continued ability to offer a top-notch educational experience," Ogg added.

Among faculty members recognized at the meeting were: Dr. Todd H. Albert, assistant professor of meteorology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Andrew M. Bliss, lecturer of music, Department of Music; Dr. John M. Cochran, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Capt. William J. Crawford, assistant professor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Dr. Texas E. Culver, lecturer of education, Department of Educational Studies; Dr. Stuart M. Currie, lecturer of health and human performance, Department of Health and Human Performance; Dr. David C. Dietrich, lecturer of counseling, Department of Educational Studies; Mary F. Geddie, assistant professor of accounting, Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance, and International Business; Melvin G. Hill, assistant professor of English, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; and Dr. Colin W. Key, assistant professor of psychology, Department of Behavioral Sciences; Master Sgt. James E. Harbin, senior instructor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Dr. Jeffrey S. Longacre, assistant professor of English, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; and Dr. Alicia E. Mayo, assistant professor of social work, Department of Behavioral Sciences.

Others recognized were: Dr. Sandy A. Miehlhorn, lecturer of agricultural engineering technology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Thomas A. DePriest, lecturer of geology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Neena W. Patterson, assistant professor of nursing, Department of Nursing; Dr. Eric R. Walker, assistant professor of plant science, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Floyd L. Wiseman, lecturer of chemistry, Department of Chemistry and Physics; Jennifer R. Head, lecturer of library science, Paul Meek Library.

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UT Martin well positioned for opportunities, challenges

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Rakes thanked faculty members for their service to the university and added, “I really feel blessed to work here with you.”

The university’s new promotional video capturing academic, service learning, diversity, quality of life and other strengths Rakes highlighted, capped the meeting.

Brothers’ artwork on display at UTM

Art is fun as evidenced by the Ivy brothers. Children’s artwork is the subject of an exhibit at the Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin through September. Derek Ivy, library media services technical assistant, and wife, Beth, of Martin, have provided a number of paintings for display that were created by their sons, Isaac (7), Luke (5), and Zeke (4). The exhibit is free and open to the public. Library hours are 7:50 a.m.-11:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 7:50 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Friday; noon-5 p.m., Saturday; and 2-11 p.m., Sunday.

Soybean Festival has plenty going on

The 16th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival will be held in Martin. The Soybean Idol contest, sponsored by KF99 and KQ105, will present a program Tuesday on the downtown stage. The winner will perform on stage at 8:30 p.m., prior to the Little Texas concert, Sept. 12. Call (731) 885-1240.

Children and youth participate in “The Singing Bee,” a live game show program sponsored by WCMT and Oldies 95.1, at 7 p.m. Sept. 11 at Weldon Park. Call (731) 887-9526.

Other activities include: Soybean Festival 5K Road Race/1 Mile Fun Walk, sponsored by Martin Kiwanis Club, Ken-Tenn Sports, and The Sideline Physical Therapy and Fitness Center; pet show, sponsored by Weakley County Animal Clinic, sidewalk chalk art contest; and Reels Wade Music Studio will sponsor Performers in the Park. Contact numbers are as follows: Road Race/Fun Walk, Jim Scott, (731) 587-9572; pet show, Sarah Baringer/ Amy Mitchell, (731) 587-5319; chalk art contest, Roberta Peacock, (731) 587-3148; and Performers in the Park, Wade, (731) 587-5893.

A bicycle rodeo is planned Sept. 13, with registration at 1:30 p.m., and events at 2 p.m. at the recreation complex. Sponsors are the Martin Optimist Club and the Martin Pilot Club. Call Steve Vantrease at (731) 881-7766.
LEGACY LUNCHEON — University of Tennessee alumni and their children who are enrolled at the university for the fall semester were invited to the annual Legacy Luncheon recently hosted as the students moved in their residence halls. Among those attending the luncheon at Paul Meek Library were Ashley Grimes, Casey Hazlewood, Phil Watkins, retired vice chancellor for student affairs, Amy Olds and Whitney Mount, all of Martin.

20th ANNIVERSARY — In a 20-year history, the University of Tennessee at Martin has had a special role in developing leaders in West Tennessee’s 21 counties through the WestStar Leadership Program. Participants learn new leadership skills and develop strategies to assist communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Numerous class members have utilized their WestStar skills to work in the region becoming elected officials and spearheading important projects and filling other leadership roles.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary recently in Jackson, WestStar is the state’s oldest and largest regional leadership program and has 555 graduates. The anniversary celebration was attended by numerous graduates, family members and state and local officials.

Among those joining the celebration were Hollie Holt, of Martin, coordinator of UT Martin/REED Center and 2006 WestStar graduate; and Audrey Roberts, also of Martin, chairman of Martin Business Association and a 2002 WestStar graduate.
See the world via UT Martin travel-study trips

The University of Tennessee at Martin Center for International Education will offer 22 travel-study programs in 2010. Trips begin in October with a travel-study program to New Orleans led by Glen Byrd, instructor in the Intensive English Language Program. Next, there is a trip planned to the Amazon, Jan. 2-12.

Dr. Sue Byrd, professor of family and consumer sciences, Dr. Bradley Ray, assistant professor of fisheries, and Scott Pun, lecturer of health and human performance, will lead the trip. Also in January is a travel-study trip to Egypt. Set for Jan. 3-15, this trip will be led by Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, professor of finance.

A list of other trip dates, destinations and department faculty leaders includes: February—Los Angeles/Southwest, Dr. Donna Anderson, assistant professor of criminal justice; March—Italy—Venice/Florence/Rome, Stan Sieber, professor of history; and Dr. John Overby, Department of Management, Marketing, Computer Science and Information Systems chair; March 10-22—London/Orleans, Dr. Tom Payne, Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics and Political Science interim chair; March 10-22—London/Paris, Ruby Black, professor of nursing, and Linda Luther, assistant professor of nursing; March—Satillo, Mexico, Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, professor of agricultural economics, and Andrew Brown, International Initiatives assistant director; March—New York, Dr. Brian Donavant, assistant professor of criminal justice, and May 17-31—England/Ireland, Dr. Dan McDonough, professor of history, and Dr. Lionel Crews, assistant professor of physics.

The list also includes: May—Amsterdam, Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English; May 17-25—South Korea—JC Kim, assistant professor of health and human performance; May 17-31—Desert Southwest—Charles Bradshaw, associate professor of English and Dr. Eric Pelren, professor of wildlife biology; May—Germany, Dr. Chuck Hammond, assistant professor of German; May—Oregon, Scott Pun, lecturer of health and human performance; May 22-June 2—Paris/Normandy, Dr. Lucia Florido, associate professor of French; May—Washington, D.C., Darrell Simmons, Department of Public Safety police lieutenant; May—June—Germany, the Czech Republic and Poland (Holocaust), Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, professor of history; June—Japan, Kyoko Hammond, lecturer of Japanese; July—Switzerland—Austria—Germany, Stan Sieber, professor of history; Summer—Hawaii, Mike Sudzum, university travel consultant, and Lorrie Jackson, Center for International Education administrative assistant.

For more information, visit the Web site, at www.utm.edu/departments/globalstudies, or call the center at ext. 1023.

Recycle from Page 1

other scrap metal, eyeglasses, used clothing in good shape, cell phones, rechargeable batteries and ink cartridges.

New this year, the center will accept any electronic appliances except televisions. This includes computers and related hardware, stereos, vacuum cleaners, blend- ers, etc. Those dropping off food and beverage containers are asked to rinse them first. It is helpful if all material is sorted beforehand.

Partners and sponsors of UT Martin Recycles! include the American Democracy Project, the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts, the UT Martin Physical Plant, Sodexo, and UT Martin student organizations including the Agronomy Club, Tri-Beta and Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. For more information on the recycling efforts including business partnerships at UT Martin, contact Dennis Kosta, manager of custodial services, at 731-881-7640 or dkosta@utm.edu.

To learn how to join UT Martin Recycles! and/or volunteer at the Sept. 12 event, contact Dr. Angie Mackewn, assistant professor of psychology, at 731-881-7370 or amackewn@utm.edu.
Fun for all ages scheduled at Annual Soybean Festival

A talent show and musical contests, parade, street fair, pet show and carnival, all scheduled with children and youth in mind, are planned during the 16th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, Sept. 5-13, in Martin.

The fifth annual Miss Soybean Festival Pageant is slated for Sept. 5 at the University of Tennessee at Martin Student Life Center. The pageant begins at 10 a.m. and will include categories for ages 0 months to 19 years.

It is sponsored by UT Federal Credit Union. Call 731-587-2507 or 731-587-7333 for more information.

The fifth annual Soybean Festival Talent Contest, with categories for contestants ages 8 and younger, 9-12, 13-21 and 22 and older, will be Sept. 7, on the downtown stage.

The junior competition will be at 6 p.m. The competition serves as a Mid-South Fair Preliminary Contest for participants ages 13-21, who will compete at 7 p.m., along with those 22 and older. The contest is sponsored by the Westview Key Club and WCMT. Call Linda Ramsey, at 731-587-5549, for more information.

The Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade will begin at 6:30 p.m., Sept. 8, in the parking lot of Graham Stadium at UT Martin. The parade, with entry fee required and prizes awarded, is sponsored by First State Bank. Call Jeff Capps or Regina Vickers, at 731-587-9561, for more information.

Also popular with children and youth is the carnival with food, entertainment and craft vendors beginning at 5 p.m., Sept. 8, downtown, and continuing through Saturday night.

The School Children’s Street Fair will be sponsored by Union City Coca-Cola Bottling Company, and Volunteer Community Hospital will sponsor lunch. The event will take place from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Sept. 11, in downtown Martin.

From 9 a.m. until closing, the Friends of the Library Used Book Sale is scheduled at C.E. Weldon Library. Dippin’ Dots ice cream will be available for purchase. Roberta Peacock can be reached at 731-587-3148 for more information.

The Soybean Idol contest, sponsored by KF99 and KQ105, will have Saturday auditions and culminate with the final competition/performance, Sept. 8, on the downtown stage.

The winner will perform on stage at 8:30 p.m., prior to the Little Texas concert, Sept. 12. Call 731-885-1240 for more information.

Children and youth can participate in “The Singing Bee” live game show program, sponsored by WCMT and Oldies 95.1, at 7 p.m., Sept. 11, at Weldon Park. Call 731-587-9526 for more information.

Rounding out festival events and attractions that will attract children include Saturday’s lineup of the Soybean Festival 5K Road Race/1 Mile Fun Walk, sponsored by Martin Kiwanis Club, Ken-Tenn Sports, and The Sideline Physical Therapy and Fitness Center, at 7:30 a.m., at the Martin Recreation Complex (softball parking lot) and a pet show, sponsored by Weakley County Animal Clinic, with registration at 3 p.m. and the show at 4 p.m., at Weldon Park.

A sidewalk chalk art contest, with check-in at 9 a.m. at the Arts Co-op and drawing from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., downtown, requires preregistration. Reba Wade Music Studio will sponsor Performers in the Park from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Weldon Park stage. Contact numbers are as follows: road race/fun walk, Jim Scott, 731-587-9572; pet show, Sarah Baringer/Amy Mitchell, 731-587-5319; chalk art contest, Roberta Peacock, 731-587-3148; and performers in the park, Wade, 731-587-5893.

A bicycle rodeo is planned Sept. 13, with registration at 1:30 p.m. and events at 2 p.m., at the recreation complex. Sponsors are the Martin Optimist Club and the Martin Pilot Club. Call Steve Vantrease, 731-881-7766, for more information.

A host of other activities for all ages are featured at this year’s festival. Visit www.tnsoybeanfestival.org or call 731-588-2507 for more information.

Piano recital opens UTM concert series

The opening program in the 2009-2010 Concert Series at the University of Tennessee at Martin will be guest pianist Dr. Lauren Shack Clark, associate professor of piano at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

Clark’s recital is 3 p.m., Sept. 13, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center. She will perform Bach’s “Prelude and Fugue in Eb” from WTCII, six of Mendelssohn’s “Songs without Words,” Prokofiev’s “Sonata in A Minor,” and Schubert’s “Sonata in A Minor.”

In addition, she will perform three contemporary works from “Solar Terms” by Rosey Mei-Kuei Lee. There is no admission charge, and the recital is open to the public.

Clark holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from Boston University, a master’s in piano performance and pedagogy from Northwestern University, a graduate diploma from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Mass., and a Bachelor of Music from the Hartt School of Music. She was voted Teacher of the Year 2008 by the Arkansas State Music Teachers Association and Barney Smith Professor of the Year 2009 at ASU.

Clark’s solo CD was released by Centaur Records in February 2008, and contains piano music written by Boston composer Dr. Rosey Lee, faculty, Berklee College of Music.

She may also be heard on the recently released CD, “Wildfire: Music of Karen Griebling” on the Vienna Modern Masters label. Clark is the author of Keyboard Theory and Piano Technique recently published by Longbow Publishing.

For additional information, contact Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, at 731-881-7411 or elaineh@utm.edu.
Soybean Festival Art Exhibition 2009 set for September 9-12

The University of Tennessee at Martin Visual Arts Society will again sponsor the Soybean Festival Art Exhibition.

Co-sponsor is the Arts Co-op Gallery, located on Lindell Street in downtown Martin, where the exhibition will be housed from 2-9 p.m., Sept. 9-12.

The Soybean Festival Art Exhibition is a regular part of soybean festivities with cash awards sponsored by the Visual Arts Society, a student honor society that helps to promote the visual arts on the UT Martin campus and throughout the community.

UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts faculty will select pieces to be included in the exhibition.

During the festival individuals may submit their vote for first-, second- and third-place awards. Cash awards will be $100 for first, $75 for second, and $50 for third.

Announcements of awards will be made at 5:30 p.m., Sept. 11.

Entry forms are available at the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts, 217 Gooch Hall, the C.E. Weldon Public Library, the Apple Barrel and the Arts Co-op Gallery.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.
Soybean festival offers sweet summer sounds

By DAVE PHILLIPS
P-J Staff Writer

A quick trip to Martin in the coming days will provide a chance for folks of all ages to kick a little.

The Soybean Festival in downtown Martin begins this weekend and will continue through Sept. 13.

"There’s something for anybody, age zero to one hundred," said Kimberly Craddock, community development director for the City of Martin.

While that’s true, the main attractions are a pair of free concerts by bands that have found some mainstream popularity during their careers.

Sister Hazel, who had a big hit in 1997 with "All For You" on the album "Somewhere More Familiar," will play at the downtown stage at 8 p.m. Thursday.

Two nights later, the big names continue with Little Texas, a country band well-known for songs like "Kick A Little" and "God Bless Texas." They’ll take the downtown stage at 9 p.m.

"All of our concerts are free," Craddock said. "They’re all in downtown Martin. We keep it all downtown to get our downtown to thrive.

Saturday will be a big night for all in attendance, but it may be the thrill of a lifetime for one local artist.

The Soybean Idol semifinals will take place Saturday, and the top 40 contestants will advance to Tuesday’s finale on the main stage downtown.

They’re competing for a big prize.

"There will be one winner," Craddock said. "They get to open up for Little Texas, our big concert on Saturday night.

Saturday also will feature the Little Miss Soybean pageant for girls under the age of 19, and a talent contest will take place Monday beginning at 6 p.m. on the downtown stage.

That’s already an action-packed holiday weekend, but the festival kicks into high gear on Tuesday.

The mayor’s kickoff luncheon gets things under way just before noon Tuesday, and the carnival will open at 5 p.m. downtown.

"(Former Tennessee) Governor (Ned) McWherter will be a special guest, (at the kickoff luncheon)" Craddock said.

U.S. Rep. John Tanner, D-Union City, also is expected to attend.

At 6:30 p.m., a parade will take place on University Street, followed by the Soybean Idol finale on the main stage.

The snowball of events continues to gain momentum Wednesday. A prayer breakfast will start things off at 6:45 a.m. at Central Baptist Church.

Other Wednesday events include a taping of the WPSD television program "What’s It Worth?" plus games, a health fair and an art exhibit and competition. The carnival will again open at 5 p.m. and will remain open until midnight.

That all leads up to faith and community night, during which a free community dinner will take place downtown at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Performing at the downtown stage will be gospel quartet The Lesters at 5:45 p.m., followed by Christian comedian Dennis Swanner at 6:30 p.m.

The C.E. Weldon Library will be a busy place Thursday, hosting literary reading, a Friends of the Library used book sale and a family tree and genealogy workshop.

A citywide merchant sidewalk sale will kickoff Thursday and last through Saturday, and a golf tournament will begin at 11 a.m. at Persimmon Hills golf course in Sharon.

The end of the work week pumps even more energy and activity into the festival.

A breakfast and bake sale, school children’s street fair and Cancer Crash Car Bash will all occur Friday, and the carnival, used book sale, art exhibit and family tree workshop will again take place.

Quilt lovers will want to make it to the First Baptist Church Ministry Building sometime between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. for a free quilt show, during which quilting techniques will be demonstrated.

The concerts get an earlier start Saturday, as Dan Knowles and His Hot Band take the Weldon Park stage at 4:30 p.m. He’ll be followed on that stage at 7 p.m. by WCMT’s Singing Bee, while the band Mainline will perform from 5-10 p.m. at the Lindell Gap.

Craddock said the setting at The Gap makes for an interesting atmosphere.

"There’s dancing and whatever people want to do," she said. "It’s pretty neat. We started doing it last year.

That’s not all for Friday’s music choices in Martin. Peacemakers will take the downtown stage at 7 p.m., and they’ll be followed by Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band Second Helping at 9 p.m.

Friday’s events also feature the 16th annual Chicken Crazy, Hog Wild Barbecue Cookoff beginning at 5 p.m. at Weldon Park. Categories include backyard variety, best booth and backyard bird, and free barbecue chicken will be available at designated areas.

"That’s our biggest event," Craddock said. "It’s free food. Everybody in the woodwork comes out for that.

As if that weren’t enough entertainment, the Martin Westview High School football squad will entertain Camden at 7:30 p.m. at Graham Stadium on the UT Martin campus.

All of that action is sure to work up a large appetite, and Saturday’s festivities kick off with the perfect cure in the form of the American Legion Ladies’ Auxiliary pancake breakfast. The event will take place from 6:30-10:30 a.m. at American Legion Post 55 on Central Street.

A good breakfast is essential, because there’s plenty to do on the last full day of festival events.

Saturday also will feature a road race and fun walk, a sidewalk chalk art contest, a car and bike show and a bikers for books poker run.

A free walk-n-roll for children with special needs also will take place Saturday, as will the awards presentation for the barbecue cookoff.

Also Saturday, an all-youth horse show, a quilt show and a pet show will be held. Once again, the carnival, book sale and sidewalk sale will take place.

Music will once again be the main attraction Saturday.

The tunes get started early, as Performers in the Park: Reba Wade Music Studio High Variety will perform at the Weldon Park stage at 10 a.m.

Jimmy Buffet tribute band Margarita Beach will take the stage at the Lindell Gap at 5 p.m., and Eagles tribute band 7 Bridges will appear at the downtown stage at 7 p.m.

That will set the stage for the Soybean Idol winner and Little Texas, who will perform at 9 p.m.

Those who can’t get enough of the festival will have two more chances to get their fill Sunday.

The Sodexho Sunday brunch will be held at the Skyhawk Cafe on the UTM campus, and a bicycle rodeo will begin at 2 p.m. at the Martin Recreation Complex.

For more information about the Soybean Festival, visit tsosoybeanfestival.org.
Little Texas, Sister Hazel headline festival

Little Texas and Sister Hazel will headline the 16th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival. The festival is today through Sept. 13 in Martin.

Musical entertainment, a car and bike show, pageants, talent contest, parade, barbecue cook-off and educational programs highlight this year's event.

The festival will include “The Return: A Beatles Tribute” concert; Faith and Community Night, sponsored by the Martin Ministerial Alliance, with The Lesters concert and Dennis Swanberg, “America’s Minister of Encouragement;” Main Line, Peacemakers and Second Helping, a Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band; and Margarita Beach and 7 Bridges, an Eagles Tribute band. All concerts are free. Information is posted at tnsoybeanfestival.org. Call Kimberly Craddock at (731) 588-2507, or email mcd@martin.tennessee.org for more information.

Little Texas will headline this year’s Soybean Festival in Martin. The country group, known for songs like “Kick A Little,” “God Blessed Texas” and “First Time For Everything,” will perform at 9 p.m. Sept. 12 on the downtown stage.
The 2009 Tennessee Soybean Festival began Saturday and continues through Sunday. A list of events is below.

**Today**
- 5th annual Soybean Festival Talent Contest beginning at 6 p.m. on the downtown stage.

**Tuesday**
- Soybean Bingo for all ages from 1 to 3 p.m. Free to play.
- “Salute to Our Heroes” breakfast for Martin police and fire department, 7:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church. By invitation only.
- Mayor’s kickoff luncheon, 11:30 a.m. in the Duncan Ballroom of the Boiling University Center.

**Wednesday**
- Carnival rides from 5 p.m. to midnight downtown Martin.
- Soybean Festival Parade, 6:30 p.m. on University Street.
- Soybean Idol Contest Finale, following the parade on the downtown stage. The winner will receive $1,000.

**Soybean Festival**

Continued from 3A

- The Crossroads Luncheon: A Celebration of Civic Organizations & Philanthropy, 12 to 1 p.m. on downtown stage. Lunch fee is $5 per person.
- Carnival rides, 5 p.m. to midnight downtown Martin.
- Lions Club Health Fair, 5:30 p.m. at street fair downtown.
- Community dinner & service organization fair, 5:30 p.m. downtown. Free food will be available.
- Free concert from The Lesters at 5:45 p.m. on downtown stage.
- Dennis Swanger, whose been called “America’s Minister of Encouragement,” will speak at 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday**
- Soybean Festival Farmers’ Breakfast, 6:30 a.m. at Tennessee Tractor (former Vincent Implements Building). Speaker will be Donnie Winter, president of Farm Credit Services of Mid-America.
- Citywide merchant sidewalk sale (Thursday, Friday and Saturday).
- Literary Reading from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at C.E. Weldon Library on Main Street in Martin. Bring a bag lunch.
- Friends of the Library used book sale begins at 5 p.m. at C.E. Weldon Library.

**Friday**
- Senior Adult Center breakfast and bake sale, 6 to 10 a.m. at Martin Senior Adult Center. All ages are invited. Breakfast plate costs $4.
- School children’s street fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. downtown Martin.
- Quilt show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at First Baptist Church ministry building (Friday and Saturday).
- 16th annual BBQ cookoff, Weldon Park.
- The Peacemakers, 7 p.m., downtown stage.
- Lynyard Skydine Tribute, 9 p.m., downtown stage.

**Saturday**
- American Legion Ladies’ Auxiliary Pancake Breakfast, 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. at American Legion Post 55 on Central Street. Cost is $5 for attendees ages 7 and older and $3 for those 6 and younger.
- Soybean Festival 5K Road Race/1-mile Fun Walk. Kids’ run starts at 7:30 a.m., and adults will begin 5K or 1-mile Fun Walk at 8:15 a.m. at Martin Recreation Complex.
- Soybean Festival Art Contest from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pre-registration required between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. at Arts Co-Op center. Winners will be announced at 5 p.m.
- Free concert featuring the music group Sister Hazel, 8 p.m. on downtown stage.

**Sunday**
- Sodaexbo Sunday Brunch, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Skylark Cafe in UT Martin Boiling University Center. Costs $8.95 per person and $3.95 for children 10 and younger.
- Free concert featuring the music group Sister Hazel, 8 p.m. on downtown stage.
- Free concert featuring 7 Bridges, an Eagles tribute band, 7 p.m.
- Soybean Idol contest winner performance, 8:30 p.m. main stage downtown.
- Free concert featuring Little Texas, 9 p.m., downtown stage.

**On the Net:**
- nssoybeansfestival.org
- Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.
**UT Martin well positioned for opportunities, challenges**

University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes sees plenty of opportunities amid challenging times. Rakes told those attending this week’s fall faculty meeting, “Our future is bright because we are well-positioned and balanced. I could not be more proud of where we are at this point in time.”

Confident of the process and outcome of budget decisions made last fall, Rakes said, “There are challenges ahead, but, … we have many positives to cheer.”

Rakes said that the university as a whole is adjusting to changes in operations, instructional offerings, delivery modes and overall campus-wide resources. He also pointed to stimulus funds as a means to acquire scientific, communications, musical and technology-related equipment and support for other university initiatives and programs that will serve the university well for many years.

The chancellor cited effective faculty leadership as one of the university’s strengths and thanked those who have served through the years. He also pointed to increased internship opportunities, strong showings in assessments and comparative measurements, such as continuing increases in ACT scores of incoming students, steady enrollment growth and higher graduation rates, as positives. “We measure up very well,” he said.

Playing an important role in student access are the online bachelor’s and master’s programs, extended campuses in Jackson, Selmer, Ripley and Parsons and the dual-enrollment program — the latter two representing nearly 11 percent of the total university enrollment, he said.

Rakes included successful development efforts — exceeding $11 million in giving this year — research, grant and scholarly activity along with ongoing and recently completed capital-building projects as examples of capacity-building efforts for the future.

Finally, he mentioned community-service projects carried out by students, faculty and staff that benefit the community and surrounding area. “Here, service to other people counts,” he said.

Looking ahead to the new school year, he said the university would be called upon to be more inclusive, diverse with an “expanded view of the individuals and world around us.”

In closing, he also asked the faculty to focus on perceptions and highlighted how powerful perceptions about the university can be. He added that the statements made on and off campus and observations to someone in the community and to each other, have a direct bearing on how the university is viewed. “What we benefit from are solution-finding, capacity-building comments. We can be as good as we want to be.”

Rakes thanked faculty members for their service to the university and added, “I really feel blessed to work here with you.”

The university’s new promotional video capturing academics, service learning, diversity, quality of life and other strengths Rakes highlighted, capped the meeting.

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**New faculty introduced at annual fall meeting**

A number of lecturers, instructors, assistant professors and associate professors have been appointed to the faculty at the University of Tennessee at Martin for the fall semester. They were introduced at the annual fall faculty meeting. Classes begin Aug. 31.

“One of the highlights of my job is interviewing faculty candidates, and this year’s new faculty will be outstanding additions to the instructional team,” said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs.

“Hires like this would not happen without the efforts of the faculty, department chairs and deans who worked so diligently to recruit these exceptional teacher-scholar-servants. Our folks understand how critical this process is, and the results bode well for our continued ability to offer a top-notch educational experience,” Ogg added.

Among faculty members recognized at the meeting were: Dr. Todd H. Albert, assistant professor of meteorology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Andrew M. Bliss, lecturer of music, Department of Music; Dr. John M. Cochran, assistant professor mathematics and statistics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Capt. William J. Crawford, assistant professor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Texas E. Culver, lecturer of education, Department of Educational Studies; Dr. Stuart M. Currie, lecturer of health and human performance, Department of Health and Human Performance; Dr. David C. Dietrich, lecturer of counseling, Department of Educational Studies; Mary F. Geddie, assistant professor of accounting, Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance, and International Business; Melvin G. Hill, assistant professor of English, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; Dr. Colin W. Key, assistant professor of psychology, Department of Behavioral Sciences; Master Sgt. James E. Harbin, senior instructor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Dr. Jeffrey S. Longacre, assistant professor of English, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; and Alicia E. Maya, assistant professor of social work, Department of Behavioral Sciences.

Others recognized were: Sandy A. Mehlhorn, lecturer of agricultural engineering technology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Thomas A. DePriest, lecturer of geology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Neena W. Patterson, assistant professor of nursing, Department of Nursing; Capt. 1st Class Joshua D. Spaulding, instructor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Tammie T. Patterson, lecturer of education, Department of Educational Studies; Dr. Karoline P. Null, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Dr. Jason F. Roberts, assistant professor of animal science, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Margaret A. Spires, lecturer of Spanish, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; Dr. Isaac A. Stayton, lecturer of chemistry, Department of Chemistry and Physics; Jason T. Stout, lecturer of art, Department of Visual and Theatre Arts; Tara L. Tansil-Gentry, lecturer of health and human performance, Department of Health and Human Performance; Capt. Joseph A. Spillings, assistant professor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Dr. Eric R. Walker, assistant professor of plant science, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Floyd L. Wiseman, lecturer of chemistry, Department of Chemistry and Physics; Jennifer R. Head, lecturer of library science, Paul Meek Library.
Constitution week begins with 2nd amendment panel

The U.S. Constitution will be at the center of several events slated at the University of Tennessee at Martin, during Constitution Week this month. The UT Martin Institute for Civic Engagement will sponsor the programs for the week. These events are free and open to the public.

The observance will begin with a panel discussion on the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution beginning at 7 p.m., Sept. 14, in the Boling University Center Duncan Ballroom.

The two panelists representing the National Rifle Association will be Glen Caroline and Kevin Teets. Representing the opposing side will be members of the Brady Campaign against Gun Violence, Paul Helmke and Adam Dread.

Caroline serves as Director of the NRA-ILA Grassroots Division where he develops and implements the political and legislative grassroots programs for the NRA.

Caroline has also served as a federal liaison for the NRA, where he lobbied nine congressional delegations. He has been an employee of the NRA since 1991.

Teets is a 2006 graduate from UT Martin where he studied political science, public relations and news editorial journalism. Teets has since completed his masters in public administration and his juris doctorate from Drake University. Teets has worked for two years as a licensed student prosecutor at the Polk County Attorney's Office in Iowa. He is a member of the National Rifle Association.

Since July 2006, Helmke has served as president of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, the nation's largest national, non-partisan, grassroots organization leading the fight to prevent gun violence. Prior to working with the Brady Campaign, Helmke was a lawyer in Fort Wayne, Ind., where he served as mayor from 1988-2000.

Dread is a partner in the law firm Durham & Dread, PLC, in Nashville, Tenn. Dread concentrates his practice in many areas including restaurant and liquor issues. He has represented most Tennessee plaintiffs in the Menu Pet Food recall, as well as the plaintiffs in the internationally covered “guns in bars” lawsuit.

The movie, "Bowling for Columbine," will be shown at 4:30-7:30 p.m. on Sept. 17, in Watkins Auditorium. After the movie, Student Government Association President Phillip Masengill and a panel of students will discuss the use of guns and violence that occur in the movie.

For more information, contact Dr. Mike McCullough, American Democracy Project director, at 731-881-7325 or mceulou@utm.edu, or Dr. Heidi Huse, assistant professor of English, at 731-881-7280 or hhuse@utm.edu.
Celebration of WestStar program

UT Martin's WestStar Leadership Program recently marked its 20th anniversary. Among those attending were (from left) Robert Hagewood, Covington Electric System general manager; John Etheridge, Paris Board of Public Utilities general manager; Mary Lodge, Paris-Henry County Arts Council executive director; and Arthur Lodge. WestStar participants learn new leadership skills and develop strategies to assist communities in solving problems and maximizing potential.

—UT Martin photo

UT Martin to hold high school band face-off

Featuring 25-30 high school marching bands from Tennessee, Mississippi and Kentucky, bands of all sizes will face off in competition before a panel of experts at University of Tennessee Martin's Graham Stadium on Sept. 19.

The event is set to start at 1:30 p.m. and to conclude at approximately 10 p.m. A variety of music styles will be performed, including everything from classical music and original compositions to Broadway musicals and rock and roll. There will also be exhibition performances by the UT Martin Skyhawk Marching Band and the UT Martin Steel Drum Band.

Admission will be $8 for audience members ages 12 and older (includes contest program). Admission is $4 for children ages 5-11, and children 4 and younger will be admitted for free. Concessions will be available at the stadium throughout this event.

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

THE FULTON LEADER, SEPTEMBER 9, 2009
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For more information, contact Dr. Heidi Huse, assistant professor of English, at 731-881-7280 or hhuse@utm.edu.

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., Sept. 22, in Room 206, Gooch Hall, 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 and 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 seven-minute motivational video that is shown as part of every program; a one-hour self-defense training session that will certify trainers from public safety agencies to facilitate the two-hour “S.A.F.E.” class for adult and teen girls and women as a community service program. The two-hour “S.A.F.E.” class is facilitated as a community service for various community organizations.

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

Skyhawks to host Marching Band Invitational

Featuring 25-30 high school marching bands from Tennessee, Mississippi and Kentucky, bands of all sizes will face off in competition before a panel of experts at University of Tennessee Martin's Graham Stadium on September 19.

The event is set to start at 1:30 p.m. and to conclude at approximately 10 p.m. A variety of music styles will be performed, including everything from classical music and original compositions to Broadway musicals and rock and roll. There will also be a student-organized program as a separate event.

For more information, contact Dr. Bradley Coker, assistant professor of music, at 731-881-7401.
$189,573 grant to UTM will enhance law enforcement training

Rural West Tennessee law enforcement officials will have the opportunity to get the training they need free and at a convenient location. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs recently awarded a $189,573 grant to the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

The two-year American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Justice Assistance Grant will provide criminal justice professional enhancement training within an approximate 30-mile radius of targeted agencies in 19 West Tennessee counties along with Stewart, Houston, Humphreys, Perry, Wayne, Lawrence, Hickman and Lewis counties. Project title is "Technology to Commit and Technology to Convict (TC2)."

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The bill includes more than $2.76 billion for state and local law enforcement and for other criminal justice activities that prevent and control crime and improve the criminal justice system. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs in Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration was designated as the state agency responsible for administering a portion of these criminal justice system funds through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

A needs analysis determined that the following topics of training would benefit local law enforcement agencies: Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST), defusing confrontations, interview and interrogation, report writing, legal update and recent court decisions, search and seizure and child sexual abuse.

Combating Crime in Rural West Tennessee, a 24-hour course, has been designed to better prepare rural law enforcement officers to meet today's challenges in law enforcement, to increase officers' knowledge of the technology used in the commission and investigation of crimes and to protect the communities they serve. This course will include two days of intense training. Participants will reconvene approximately 60 days later to review lessons learned, problems encountered and develop strategies to encounter service demands.

Instruction will be provided by Training Services Group, Inc. (TSG). TSG lead instructors are Jimmie V. Leach and Dennis Mays. Leach is a 20-plus-year law enforcement professional who has served as a police officer, state trooper, special agent and special agent in charge with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and finally as the director of criminal investigations for the Tennessee Department of Safety. Mays is a 33-year law enforcement professional. In his last assignment, he commanded the patrol division and the Special Operations Units of Jackson Police Department from 1998-2009. He also served as the department's Aviation Unit commander, Critical Incident commander, liaison with the U.S. Secret Service, a member of the interagency counterterrorism-working group and legal adviser.

Upcoming training dates and locations are as follows: Lexington Police Department - September 23-24, November 3; Martin Police Department - September 23-29, December 8; Medina Police Department - October 1-2, December 7; Henry County Sheriff Office - October 5-6, December 9; Henderson Police Department -October 7-8, December 8.

Anyone who would like to attend one of the seminars or if a law enforcement department is interested in hosting one of the seminars, contact Dennis Joyner, IPD Law Enforcement Training Specialists, at 901-831-0036 or dejoyner@comcast.net.

Money Tips for College Students: How to Make It, Use It and Save It

Early planning could help cut the cost of getting a college education, according to The Student Loan People.

One of the biggest college expenses is tuition. You can save on tuition at many colleges by taking more classes each semester. That's because many schools charge a flat rate if you're a full-time student, whether you're taking 12 credit hours or 18 credit hours. If you need 120 hours to graduate and only take 12 hours a semester, it will take you 10 semesters to finish. But if you take 18 hours each semester, you can finish in seven semesters. And the cost of tuition hasn't been going down lately. Some colleges charge by the credit hour but offer discounts to students who take bigger loads.

If you're still in high school, check into Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and dual-credit courses. You may be able to start college with enough credit hours to knock off a semester of classes.

Books are also expensive. You can save on textbooks by buying used copies whenever possible. Other ways to cut on book costs is to rent a textbook if your school has a rental program, or to check books out of the library. Some colleges have book exchanges where students sell to each other. The seller usually gets more than a bookstore would pay, and the buyer generally pays less than a bookstore would charge.

You can save money by keeping low-cost snacks in your room instead of going out for fast food all the time. Buying supplies like pens, pencils, and notebooks on sale or in bulk may also help out.

These tips are brought to you by The Student Loan People, a public, nonprofit corporation that provides education loans for students and parents through the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP). For more information about student loans, visit www.studentloancalculator.com; write The Student Loan People, P.O. Box 24328, Louisville, KY 40224-0328; or call (888) 678-4625.
Ferrell Receives Chancellor’s Award for Excellence

Johnnie Ferrell, originally from Dresden, was one of four professors and two professional staff members from the State University of New York at Geneseo who were the recipients of Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence for the 2008-2009 academic year. The awards are SUNY system-level honors conferred to acknowledge and provide system-wide recognition for consistently superior professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence. Johnnie, an associate professor of theatre and technical director in Geneseo’s School of the Arts, received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service.

Johnnie is a 1976 Dresden High School graduate; he received his B.S. degree from The University of Tennessee-Martin in 1981, and his M.F.A. from Memphis State in 1986. Johnnie’s parents, T.J. and Dot Ferrell live in Dresden.

Legacy Luncheon held at UTM

University of Tennessee alumni and their children who are enrolled at the university for the fall semester were invited to the annual Legacy Luncheon recently hosted as the students moved in their residence halls. Among those attending the luncheon at the Paul Meek Library were Denise Jones and Katie Nichols, of Greenfield.

SAFE Instructor Training Available

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

The program will be offered 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 22 in Room 206 of Gooch Hall at UT Martin. The registration fee is $185 per person.

To register, call the institute at (731) 881-7081. Enrollment is limited.

The eight-hour instructor training and certification program prepares instructors to teach the SAFE Program, a two-hour education program, 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, and to educate women about realistic options that will help them avoid, escape and survive assaults if they do occur.

SAFE 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 90-minute familiarization with what physical self-defense is about; and instructor training to train and certify trainers from public safety departments, colleges/universities, schools and victim services agencies to facilitate the two-hour SAFE class for adult and teenage women as a community service. The two-hour SAFE class is facilitated as a community service for various community organizations.

For more information, call the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7081.
Pianist to perform as opener in series of concerts

The opening program in the 2009-10 Concert Series at the University of Tennessee at Martin will be guest pianist Dr. Lauren Shack Clark, associate professor of piano at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. Clark’s recital is at 3 p.m. Sunday in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

She will perform Bach’s “Prelude and Fugue in Eb” from WTCII, six of Mendelssohn’s “Songs Without Words,” Prokofiev’s “Sonata in A Minor,” and Schubert’s “Sonata in A Minor.”

In addition, she will perform three contemporary works from “Solar Terms” by Rosey Meikuei Lee.

There is no admission charge and the recital is open to the public.

Clark holds a doctor of musical arts from Boston University, a master’s in piano performance and pedagogy from Northwestern University, a graduate diploma from the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Mass., and a bachelor of music from the Hartt School of Music.

She was vocal Teacher of the Year 2008 by the Arkansas State Music Teachers Association and Barney Smith Professor of the Year 2009 at ASU.

Clark’s solo CD was released by Centaur Records in February 2008 and contains piano music written by Boston composer Dr. Rosey Lee, faculty at the Berklee College of Music.

She may also be heard on the recently-released CD “Wildfire: Music of Karen Griebling” on the Vienna Modern Masters label.

Clark is the author of “Keyboard Theory and Piano Technique,” recently published by Longbow Publishing.

For additional information about Sunday afternoon’s recital, contact Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, at (731) 881-7411 or elaineh@utm.edu.

UT Martin kicks off observance with Second Amendment event

The U.S. Constitution will be at the center of several events slated at the University of Tennessee at Martin during Constitution Week this month.

The UT Martin Institute for Civic Engagement will sponsor the programs for the week. The events are free and open to the public.

The observance will begin with a panel discussion on the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution beginning at 7 p.m. Monday in the Boling University Center Duncan Ballroom. The two panelists representing the National Rifle Association will be Glen Caroline and Kevin Teets. Representing the opposing side will be members of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Paul Helmke and Adam Dread.

Caroline serves as director of the NRA-ILA Grassroots Division, where he develops and implements the political and legislative grassroots programs for the NRA. He has also served as a federal liaison for the NRA, for which he lobbied nine congressional delegations. He has been an employee of the NRA since 1991.

Teets is a 2006 graduate of UT Martin, where he studied political science, public relations and news editorial journalism. He has since completed his master’s degree in public administration and his juris doctorate from Drake University. Teets has worked for two years as a licensed student prosecutor at the Polk County Attorney’s Office in Iowa. He is a member of the National Rifle Association.

Since July 2006, Helmke has served as president of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, the nation’s largest national, non-partisan, grassroots organization leading the fight to prevent gun violence. Prior to working with the Brady Campaign, he was a lawyer in Fort Wayne, Ind., where he served as mayor from 1988-2000.

Dread is a partner in the law firm Durham & Dread, PLC, in Nashville. He concentrates his practice in many areas, including restaurant and liquor issues. He has represented most Tennessee plaintiffs in the Menu Pet Food recall, as well as the plaintiffs in the internationally-covered “guns in bars” lawsuit.

The movie “Bowling for Columbine” will be shown from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Sept. 17 in Watkins Auditorium. After the movie, Student Government Association president Phillip Mann, law and a panel of students will discuss the use of guns and violence that occur in the movie.

For more information, contact Dr. Mike McCullough, American Democracy Project director, at (731) 881-7325 or mcculou@utm.edu; or Dr. Heidi Huse, assistant professor of English, at (731) 881-7280 or hhuse@utm.edu.

Area Phi Kappa Phi chapter honored

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi recently recognized the University of Tennessee at Martin chapter as a Chapter of Merit.

This award, in its first year, is given to chapters that not only comply with the society’s national standards, but also demonstrate an active commitment to excellence.

By receiving the Chapter of Merit distinction, UT Martin’s Phi Kappa Phi chapter, organized in 1971, is being recognized as a thriving organization that meets frequently, holds annual initiations and applies frequently for Phi Kappa Phi’s select scholarships, grants and fellowships.

The Chapter of Merit Award includes a citation from the society president, a commendation letter sent to chapter officers and campus administration, special recognition on Society website, publications and at Phi Kappa Phi’s National Convention, specially designed logo for use in chapter communications and a $100 award.

Founded in 1897 and headquartered in Baton Rouge, La., Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society. Phi Kappa Phi inducts annually approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni.

The society has chapters on more than 300 select colleges and universities in North America and the Philippines. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify.

Since its founding, more than one million members have been initiated. Some of the organization’s more notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, NASA Astronaut Wendy Lawrence, writer John Grisham, opera singer Renee Fleming, journalist and broadcaster Deborah Norville and Netscape founder James Barksdale.

The society has awarded about $13 million since the inception of its awards program in 1932.

Today, more than $800,000 is awarded annually to qualifying members and non-members through graduate fellowships, undergraduate study abroad scholarships, member and chapter awards and grants for local and national literacy initiatives.

The society’s mission is, “To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.”
LASTING 'LEGACY' — University of Tennessee alumni and their children who are enrolled at the university for the fall semester were invited to the annual Legacy Luncheon recently hosted as the students moved into their residence halls at UT Martin. Among those attending the luncheon at Paul Meek Library were (from left) Holden McConnell and his parents, Babette and Ty McConnell of South Fulton.

AT LEGACY LUNCHEON — Anna Seratt and her father, Chuck Seratt of South Fulton, were among those who attended the recent Legacy Luncheon in the Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Alumni and their children who are enrolled at the university for the fall semester were invited to the annual Legacy Luncheon, hosted as the students moved into their residence halls.
Tennessee’s colleges see rise in students

By LUCAS L. JOHNSON II
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE (AP) — Preliminary enrollment figures from the Tennessee Board of Regents show an increase in the number of students attending state community colleges and universities this fall.

Regents spokeswoman Mary Morgan said enrollment at the community colleges increased about 18 percent, from 76,582 in 2008 to 90,483 this year. At the universities, the number of students increased about 6 percent, from 83,319 to 88,143.

“Even though these are preliminary numbers, I think we will see an overall increase in enrollment,” said Morgan, adding that such increases usually occur in a “down economy.”

“What this suggests is that we have a lot of people wanting to go back to school to retrain, to get different jobs or better jobs,” she said.

Still, the increases in enrollment are occurring amid tuition hikes resulting from the poor economy. In June, the Board of Regents — which oversees six universities, 13 two-year colleges and 26 technology centers — approved tuition increases between 6 and 9 percent for full-time university students.

A similar tuition increase took effect this fall at the five-campus, 47,000-student University of Tennessee.

Tuition rose 7 percent at UT-Martin and UT-Chattanooga and 9 percent at UT-Knoxville, the UT College of Law at Knoxville and the UT Space Institute at Tullahoma. That means a $490 increase in undergraduate tuition at UT-Knoxville to $5,918; a $296 increase to $4,506 at UT-Chattanooga; and a $308 increase to $4,708 at UT-Martin.

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

Associated Press writer Duncan Mansfield in Knoxville contributed to this report.

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20th anniversary

In a 20-year history, the University of Tennessee at Martin has had a special role in developing leaders in West Tennessee’s 21 counties through the WestStar Leadership Program. Participants learn new leadership skills and develop strategies to assist communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Numerous class members have utilized their WestStar skills to work in the region becoming elected officials and spearheading important projects and filling other leadership roles. Celebrating its 20th anniversary recently in Jackson, WestStar is the state’s oldest and largest regional leadership program and has 555 graduates. The anniversary celebration was attended by numerous graduates, family members and state and local officials. Among those joining the celebration were (upper photo) Garry Welch, Savannah city manager and 2007 WestStar graduate; Charley Deal, WestStar executive director; and Tony Burrell, Trenton mayor and 2008 WestStar graduate, and (lower photo) Allyson Horner of Trenton, Gibson County Utility District financial manager and 2007 WestStar graduate. She is pictured with Julie Riley, also of Trenton, and Jan Boud, of Jackson, West Tennessee Healthcare vice president of communication and human resources and 1998 WestStar graduate.
University of Tennessee at Martin 20th Anniversary Celebration of WestStar Leadership Program

JACKSON FAIRGROUNDS, AUGUST 20, 2009

"WestStar, Our Town, USA," was the theme for the Aug. 20, 2009, 20th Anniversary celebration of the University of Tennessee at Martin WestStar leadership program -- the largest and oldest regional leadership group program in the state -- which serves West Tennessee’s 21 counties. Hosted at the Jackson Fairgrounds, the event attracted the group’s founders and more than 200 WestStar graduates, board members, friends, state and local officials. In a 20-year history, UT Martin has had a special role in developing leaders in West Tennessee through WestStar. Participants learn new leadership skills and develop strategies to assist communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Numerous class members have utilized their WestStar skills to work in the region becoming elected officials and spearheading important projects and filling other leadership roles.

Providing entertainment for the evening were the new WestStar All-Star Band, from left, Bill Kee, Garry Welch, Lisha Tuck, Pat Riley, Tony Burriss, Allan Hester, Bill VanSant and David Pierce.

Virginia Grimes and Rep. Jimmy Eldridge

Minnie Bommer and Dr. Bob Smith

Bobby Dyer, Mayor of Lexington and Jeff Becker

Tom Rakes talks with Dr. Randy Perry, Dr. Margaret Perry, center, and Audrey Roberts
Charley Deal, left, WestStar’s new executive director, moderated a brief town hall-type segment at the celebration. With him are former WestStar executive directors, David Belote, assistant vice chancellor and Student Life director; Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor-emeritus; and Dr. Bob Smith, right, former UT Martin dean of arts and sciences and now president of Slippery Rock (Pa.) University. Dunagan and Smith co-founded WestStar and served as executive directors.

Hassell to seek Miss Tennessee USA title

A Paris woman has been selected to compete in the 2010 Miss Tennessee USA pageant Oct. 1-3 in Clarksville.

Amanda Hassell, daughter of David Hassell and Lynn Henderson, is a senior nursing student at the University of Tennessee at Martin and is currently employed as a nurse intern at Henry County Medical Center.

She hopes to eventually attend Vanderbilt University and become a nurse midwife.

The reigning West Tennessee Strawberry Festival Territorial Review Queen, Hassell was also the 2008 Henry County Fairest of the Fair and was selected fourth maid of the 2009 State Fair court. She was also the 2005 World’s Biggest Fish Fry Hostess Princess.

The pageant will be held at Austin Peay State University. Hassell will compete as Miss Henry County USA in swimsuit, evening gown and personal interview competitions.

The pageant winner will go on to represent the state in the 2010 Miss USA pageant; the winner there will go on to compete in the Miss Universe pageant.
20TH ANNIVERSARY — In a 20-year history, the University of Tennessee at Martin has had a special role in developing leaders in West Tennessee's 21 counties through the WestStar Leadership Program. Participants learn new leadership skills and develop strategies to assist communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Numerous class members have utilized their WestStar skills to work in the region becoming elected officials and spearheading important projects and filling other leadership roles. Celebrating its 20th anniversary recently in Jackson, WestStar is the state's oldest and largest regional leadership program and has 555 graduates. The anniversary celebration was attended by numerous graduates, family members and state and local officials. Among those joining the celebration were WestStar founding board member Dan Weber (right) of Union City and Ted Moore of Selmer, McNairy County Economic Development Committee executive director and 2001 WestStar graduate.

Seminar to focus on criteria for loans

Participants can learn the ins and outs of starting their own business and various sources of financing, as well as the criteria required to obtain a small business loan, at a seminar Oct. 6.

There is no fee for the seminar that will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon at the REED Center, located at 406 South Lindell St. in Martin. Seating is limited.

The seminar is being offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Tennessee Small Business Development Center and the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center. The instructor will be Sandra Jackson, U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) senior area manager.

Participants may register at http://www.utm.edu/departments/reed/register.php or by calling (731) 587-7333.

The seminar is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Additional funding is provided by the Tennessee Board of Regents and the State of Tennessee.

UT Martin to offer self-defense certification

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., Sept. 22, in Room 206, Gooch Hall, at UT Martin. The registration fee is $185 per person. 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 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.

For more information, call 731-881-7081.
New faces plentiful at UTM meeting

A number of lecturers, instructors, assistant professors and associate professors have been appointed to the faculty at the University of Tennessee at Martin for the fall semester.

They were introduced at the annual fall faculty meeting. Classes began Aug. 31.

"One of the highlights of my job is interviewing faculty candidates, and this year’s new faculty will be outstanding additions to the instructional team," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs. "They understand our mission, and they are committed to making a difference in the educational lives of our students.

"Hires like this would not happen without the efforts of the faculty, department chairs and deans who worked so diligently to recruit these exceptional teacher-scholar-servants. Our folks understand how critical this process is, and the results bode well for our continued ability to offer a top-notch educational experience," he added.

Among faculty members recognized at the meeting were Dr. Todd H. Albert, assistant professor of meteorology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; Dr. Andrew M. Bliss, lecturer of music, Department of Music; Dr. John M. Cochran, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Capt. William J. Crawford, assistant professor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Texas E. Culver, lecturer of certification, Department of Educational Studies; Dr. Stuart M. Currie, lecturer of health and human performance, Department of Health and Human Performance; Dr. David C. Dietrich, lecturer of counseling, Department of Educational Studies; Mary F. Geddie, assistant professor of accounting, Department of Accounting, Economics, Finance and International Business; Melvin G. Hill, assistant professor of English, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; Dr. Colin W. Key, assistant professor of psychology, Department of Behavioral Sciences; Master Sgt. James E. Harbin, senior instructor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Dr. Jeffrey S. Longacre, assistant professor of English, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; and Alicia E. Maya, assistant professor of social work, Department of Behavioral Sciences.

Others recognized were Sandy A. Melhorn, lecturer of agricultural engineering technology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; Dr. Thomas A. DePriest, lecturer of geology, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; Neena W. Patterson, assistant professor of nursing, Department of Nursing; Sgt. 1st Class Joshua D. Spaulding, instructor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Tammie T. Patterson, lecturer of education, Department of Educational Studies; Dr. Karolene P. Null, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Dr. Jason F. Roberts, assistant professor of animal science, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; Dr. Margaret A. Spira, lecturer of Spanish, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; Dr. Isaac A. Stayton, lecturer of chemistry, Department of Chemistry and Physics; Jason T. Stout, lecturer of art, Department of Visual and Theatre Arts; Tara L. Tansil-Gentry, lecturer of health and human performance, Department of Health and Human Performance; Capt. Joseph A. Spellings, assistant professor of military science, Department of Military Science and Leadership; Dr. Eric R. Walker, assistant professor of plant science, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources; Dr. Floyd L. Wiseman, lecturer of chemistry, Department of Chemistry and Physics; and Jennifer R. Head, lecturer of library science, Paul Meek Library.

ANTHONY L. BROWN

Anthony L. Brown of Union City, a graduate of Union City High School, is the new assistant girls' and boys' basketball coach and is an educational assistant at OCCHS. He attended Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro and is continuing his studies at UTM, majoring in education and coaching.

He is the husband of Angela Brown and is the father of Amber Graves and Anthony L. Brown Jr.

He is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, where he served in the Presidential Honor Guard.

A Mason in Silver Trowel Lodge No. 2 in Union City, he is also a member of Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church.

He was previously employed with the Union City Police and Union City Fire departments.

ALLISON THERFORD

Allison Thetford of Rives is an educational assistant in the kindergarten through second grade inclusion program and the second, third and sixth-grade "pull out" program at Lake Road.

She is a graduate of Union City High School and the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she earned a bachelor of science degree in education.

She is the daughter of Randy and Anita Thetford and is a member of Exchange Street Church of Christ in Union City.

Miss Thetford has previously been employed at E.W. James & Sons Supermarket, at UTM in the physical plant and at Kare Bear Preschool in Union City.

HEATHER MAY

Heather May of Union City is an educational assistant in the special education preschool class at Hillcrest Elementary School in Troy.

She is a graduate of UCHS and UTM, where she earned a degree in communications, with a minor in political science.

She is the mother of Aspen, Hamilton and Vivian and attends Exchange Street Church of Christ.

She enjoys walking, swimming and reading.

KATIE CRESWELL

Katie Creswell of Union City is the new school nurse at Ridgeview near Union City.

She is a graduate of Jackson Central Merry High School and the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she received a bachelor of science degree in nursing.

She is married to Phillip Creswell and is a member of Union City First United Methodist Church. Junior Auxiliary of Obion County and the University of Tennessee Alumni Board for Obion County.

She has previously been employed at Baptist Memorial Hospital Union City.

CRESWELL
Sheila Turner of Martin is the new school nurse at Black Oak Elementary School in Hornbeak. She is a graduate of the former Martin High School and of UTM, where she earned an associate's degree in nursing and a bachelor of science degree in psychology. She is the mother of Lisa Shimanc Fagan and Jodie Michelle Morrison and also has five grandchildren. She is a member of Martin First Baptist Church.

Jeramie Cross of South Fulton is a new custodian at South Fulton Elementary School. He is a graduate of SFHS and holds a bachelor of science degree in computer science from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He is the son of Marvin and Mary Ann Cross and enjoys computer programming, repair and building.

Freshmen get acquainted with UTM

Katelyn Dennis, left, of Jackson, and Lauren Wilson, of Lexington, attended Summer Orientation and Registration at the University of Tennessee Martin. The Liberty Technology Magnet High School and Lexington High School graduates will attend UT Martin this fall. With them is Katelyn's father, Barry Dennis. Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and received information about First-Year Initiative, an orientation for first-year students the week before classes. Call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at (731) 881-7020 or (800) 829-UTM1.

How to start, finance small business seminar slated October 6

Learn the ins and outs of starting your own business and the various sources of financing as well as the criteria required to obtain a small business loan at a seminar Oct. 6.

Offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin, Tennessee Small Business Development Center and the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center, there is no fee for the seminar that will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon at the REED Center, 406 S. Lindell St., Martin. Seating is limited.

Instructor will be Saundra Jackson, U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) senior area manager. Register at http://www.utm.edu/departments/reed/register.php or by calling 731-587-7333.

The seminar is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Additional funding is provided by the Tennessee Board of Regents and the State of Tennessee. All SBA-funded programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact the TSBDC office at 731-587-7333 to make arrangements.
Martin celebrates 16th annual Soybean Festival

Miss Soybean Festival 2009 Hannah Wade Powell waves to an adoring crowd during this year’s Soybean Festival Parade in downtown Martin on Tuesday, September 8. (See more photos on page 16.)

Martin aldermen Terry Hankins (waving) and Danny Nanney wave to constituents during the Soybean Festival Parade.

Little Miss Soybean and Junior Miss Soybean wave to the crowd.

Jr. Miss Martin rides in the Soybean Festival Parade.

Martin aldermen Bill Harrison, Randy Edwards and David Belote throw candy to children as they ride in the Soybean Parade.

Mayor Randy Brundige and wife Sandy toss candy to youngsters during this year’s Soybean Festival Parade.
Miss University of Tennessee at Martin 2009 Katelin Turner waves to onlookers along the parade route during this year's Soybean Festival in Martin.

Miss Martin Britney Burress and her court ride in the 16th annual Soybean Festival Parade.

Little Miss Martin Heidi Craddock rides in a red convertible during the Soybean Parade.

Miss Sharon Royalty waves to a crowd of well-wishers along the parade route during the 16th annual Soybean Festival Parade.

Local beauty pageant winners wave to the crowd during the parade.

2009 Soybean Festival Parade Grand Marshal Audrey Roberts rides in the 16th annual Soybean Festival Parade in downtown Martin on Tuesday, September 8.

How to start, finance small business topic of seminar

Learn the ins and outs of starting your own business and the various sources of financing as well as the criteria required to obtain a small business loan at a seminar October 6.

Offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Tennessee Small Business Development Center and the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center, there is no fee for the seminar that will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon at the REED Center, 406 S. Lindell St., Martin. Seating is limited.

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Mein Bowl opens at UTM food court

A grand opening ceremony welcomed Mein Bowl to the University of Tennessee at Martin Food Court on September 8. Mein Bowl features authentic Asian cuisine and fresh Southern Tsunami sushi. Hours of operation are from 10:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday.

On hand for the ribbon-cutting ceremony were, from left, Al Hooten, vice chancellor for finance and administration; Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs; Yuichi Hanada, AFC Corp. assistant operations manager; Charles Thomas, Sodexo general manager; James Sun, Mein Bowl chef; Keith Royster, Sodexo operations manager; Mike Forsythe, Sodexo retail manager; Chancellor Tom Rakes; Martin Mayor Randy Brundige; and Weakley County Chamber of Commerce Director Barbara Virgin.

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi recently recognized the University of Tennessee at Martin chapter as a Chapter of Merit. This award, in its first year, is given to chapters that not only comply with the society’s national standards, but also demonstrate an active commitment to excellence. By receiving the Chapter of Merit distinction, UT Martin’s Phi Kappa Phi chapter, organized in 1971, is being recognized as a thriving organization that meets frequently, holds annual initiations and applies frequently for Phi Kappa Phi’s select scholarships, grants and fellowships.

The Chapter of Merit Award includes a citation from the Society president, a commendation letter sent to chapter officers and campus administration, special recognition on Society Web site, publications and at Phi Kappa Phi’s National Convention, especially designed logo for use in chapter communications and a $100 award.

Founded in 1897 and headquarted in Baton Rouge, La., Phi Kappa Phi is the Nation’s oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society. Phi Kappa Phi inducts annually approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni. The Society has chapters on more than 300 select colleges and universities in North America and the Philippines. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify.

Since its founding, more than 1 million members have been initiated. Some of the organization’s more notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, NASA Astronaut Wendy Lawrence, writer John Grisham, opera singer Renee Fleming, journalist and broadcaster Deborah Norville and Netscape founder James Barksdale.

The Society has awarded approximately $13 million since the inception of its awards program in 1932. Today, more than $800,000 is awarded annually to qualifying members and nonmembers through graduate fellowships, undergraduate study abroad scholarships, member and chapter awards, and grants for local and national literacy initiatives. The Society’s mission is “To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.”
LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP — Alex Parham, of Martin, recently received a $500 Legacy Scholarship during the 2009 Legacy Luncheon at UT Martin. The scholarships are made possible by gifts from alumni and friends to the university's Campus Fund. Presenting the award is Charley Deal, assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations.

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP — Jennifer Johnson, of Martin, recently received a $500 Legacy Scholarship during the 2009 Legacy Luncheon at UT Martin. The scholarships are made possible by gifts from alumni and friends to the university's Campus Fund. Presenting the award is Charley Deal, assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations.

WELCOMES NEW MEMBER — Danelle Fabianich (center) has joined the Martin Kiwanis Club. Her membership was sponsored by long-time Kiwanian, Bettye Giles (left). Fabianich is excited to become a member of the club and is looking forward to participating in service projects that help improve the lives of Martin Area residents. Ms. Fabianich works in the University of Tennessee at Martin Athletics Department and is welcomed to the club by President, Sue Lasky (right).

KIWANIS SPEAKER — (Picture at left) Sue Lasky, Martin Kiwanis Club president, welcomes UT Martin Football Coach Jason Simpson. Coach Simpson spoke to the club about the current sports season, his aspirations for his team and introduced several of his players to club members. The Martin Kiwanis Club meets each Wednesday for fun, fellowship and to discuss opportunities to help improve our community. For information about the Martin Kiwanis Club or to apply for membership, visit the website at www.martinkiwanisclub.org.
UTM senior euphonium recital planned for Oct. 4

Adam Laman, a senior music education major from Humboldt, will perform his senior euphonium recital at 3 p.m., Oct. 4, at the University of Tennessee at Martin Watkins Auditorium in the Boling University Center.

Laman will perform with UT Martin collaborative artist and lecturer of music, Delana Easley, on works by Herman Bellstedt, Neal Corwell, Brett Miller and others. Laman will also perform with Jonathan Byrd and Cory Bozard in the premiere of “Primitive Origins” by Brooke Pierson. 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.

University of Tennessee at Martin has had a special role in developing leaders in West Tennessee’s 21 counties through the WestStar Leadership Program. For 20 years, participants have learned new leadership skills and developed strategies to assist their communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Numerous class members have utilized their WestStar skills to work in the region by becoming elected officials, spearheading important projects and filling other leadership roles. WestStar is the state’s oldest and largest regional leadership program and has 555 graduates. The 20th anniversary celebration was attended by numerous graduates, family members and state and local officials. Among those joining the celebration were David Gordon (left), Covington mayor and 2002 WestStar graduate. He is pictured with Norm Spencer, 2002 WestStar graduate, and his wife, Mary Kay.
UT Martin tops 8,000 in 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 8,101 students are enrolled for the fall semester, an increase from 7,578 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 (See Page 11, Col. 4)

UT Martin...

(Continued from Page One)

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," Rakes said.

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, a 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 Edition. The New York City-based educational services company selected the school as one of 141 institutions it recommends in its "Best in the Southeast" section on its Web site feature, "2010 Best Colleges: Region by Region."

First of two preview days set for Oct. 3 at UT Martin

The first of two preview days is set for Oct. 3 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. A second day is planned Nov. 21.

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

Registration for the preview day, Oct. 3, will be from 9-9:30 a.m. in the Boling University Center, and Nov. 21, from 9-9:30 a.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., Nov. 21. Each student will receive a complimentary ticket for the game.

On each occasion, registration will be followed by a welcome and general information session, the university's academic fair, which will take place in the Duncan Ballroom in the university center, Oct. 3, and in the Elam Center, Nov. 21, 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-UTMI or 731-881-7020.

UTM offers class

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a pharmacy technician certification program course from 6-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Oct. 13 and continuing through Dec. 8 at Henry County High School. The class will not meet on Oct. 29 or Nov. 26. The cost is $999, including textbooks and lab supplies.

The 50-hour course prepares students to enter the pharmacy field and take the pharmacy technician certification board exam. Technicians work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings, working under supervision of a registered pharmacist.

The course will include medical terminology specific to the pharmacy, reading and interpreting prescriptions and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students will learn dosage calculations, intravenous flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing prescriptions, inventory control and billing and reimbursement.

For an information package, call the UTM office of extended campus and online studies at 1-731-881-7081.
$189,573 grant to UT Martin will enhance law enforcement training

Rural West Tennessee law enforcement officials will have the opportunity to get the training they need free and at a convenient location.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs recently awarded a $189,573 grant to the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

The two-year American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Justice Assistance Grant will provide criminal justice professional enhancement training within an approximate 30-mile radius of targeted agencies in 19 West Tennessee counties along with Stewart, Houston, Humphreys, Perry, Wayne, Lawrence, Hickman and Lewis counties. Project title is "Technology to Commit and Technology to Convict (TC2)."

On Feb. 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The bill includes more than $2.76 billion for state and local law enforcement and for other criminal justice activities that prevent and control crime and improve the criminal justice system.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs in Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration was designated as the state agency responsible for administering a portion of these criminal justice system funds through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

A needs analysis determined that the following topics of training would benefit local law enforcement agencies: Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST), deusifing confrontations, interview and interrogation, report writing, legal update and recent court decisions, search and seizure and child sexual abuse.

Combatting Crime in Rural West Tennessee, a 24-hour course, has been designed to better prepare rural law enforcement officers to meet today's challenges in law enforcement, to increase officers' knowledge of the technology used in the commission and investigation of crimes and to protect the communities they serve.

This course will include two days of intense training. Participants will reconvene approximately 60 days later to review lessons learned, problems encountered and develop strategies to encounter service demands.

Instruction will be provided by Training Services Group, Inc. (TSG). TSG lead instructors are Jimmie V. Leach and Dennis Mays.

Leach is a 20-plus-year law enforcement professional who has served as a police officer, state trooper, special agent and special agent in charge with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and finally as the director of criminal investigations for the Tennessee Department of Safety.

Mays is a 33-year law enforcement professional. In his last assignment, he commanded the patrol division and the Special Operations Units of Jackson Police Department from 1998-2009.

He also served as the department's Aviation Unit commander, Critical Incident commander, liaison with the U.S. Secret Service, a member of the inter-agency counterterrorism-working group and legal adviser.

Upcoming training dates and locations are as follows:

Anyone who would like to attend one of the seminars or if a law enforcement department is interested in hosting one of the seminars, contact Dennis Joyner, IPD Law Enforcement Training Specialists, at 901-831-0036 or dejoyer@comcast.net.

How to start, finance small business topic of seminar

Learn the ins and outs of starting your own business and the various sources of financing as well as the criteria required to obtain a small business loan at a seminar Oct. 6.

Offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Tennessee Small Business Development Center and the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center, there is no fee for the seminar that will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon at the REED Center, 406 S. Lindell St., Martin. Seating is limited.

Instructor will be Saundra Jackson, U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) senior area manager.

Register at http://www.utm.edu/departments/reed/register.php or by calling 731-587-7333.

The seminar is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Additional funding is provided by the Tennessee Board of Regents and the State of Tennessee.

All SBA-funded programs are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance.

Contact the TSBDC office at 731-587-7333 to make arrangements.
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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 Edition.

The New York City-based educational services company selected the school as one of 141 institutions it recommends in its "Best in the Southeast" section on its Web site feature, "2010 Best Colleges: Region by Region."

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Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Gutman first in academic speaker series at UTM

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Roy Gutman spoke at last night in the Watkins Auditorium at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He spoke on “Osama bin Laden, the Taliban, and the Hijacking of Afghanistan” as a part of the Academic Speakers Series sponsored by Honors Programs.

“Roy Gutman has a long and meritorious record as a foreign affairs journalist, as noted by his Pulitzer Prize.

His current study looks at the situation in Afghanistan, noting that the United States government has never had a clear understanding of that land and its people,” said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director.

“Neither the Clinton nor the Bush administrations, because of these misunderstandings, were ever able to construct an effective policy for this crucial area. Mr. Gutman will present a timely and important critique of American policy, as well as some suggestions to improve American policy in Afghanistan during this critical period.”

A graduate of Haverford College and the London School of Economics, Gutman has compiled a distinguished career as a journalist and author. For more than 40 years, he has served as a foreign affairs journalist, both abroad and in Washington, for Newsday, Reuters, United Press International and Newsweek.

He served as European Bureau Chief for both Reuters and Newsday, with stations in most of the European capitals, as well as Washington.

As European Bureau Chief for Newsday from 1989 to 1994, he reported on the collapse of the Communist regimes in Poland, East Germany, and Czechoslovakia, as well as the fall of the Berlin Wall and the unification of Germany.

He then reported on the disintegration of Yugoslavia and the conflict in Bosnia.

His reports on ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, including the first documented accounts of the Serbian concentration camps, were honored with several major awards, including the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting and a special Human Rights in the Media Award from the International League for Human Rights.

More recently, Gutman was named co-winner of the Edgar Allen Poe Award of the White House Correspondents’ Association in 2002 and received the National Headliners First Prize for Magazines and the Society of Publishers in Asia awards for excellence in magazines and reporting in 2003.


In 1993, he published “A Witness to Genocide,” detailing the Bosnian ethnic cleansing. His most recent book is “How We Missed the Story: Osama bin Laden, the Taliban, and the Hijacking of Afghanistan” (2008), the subject of this appearance.

In addition to his reporting, Gutman has been active in the study of the laws of war and currently serves as chairman of the Crimes of War Project, an association of reporters and legal scholars with a mission to increase awareness of the laws of war.

In association with this work, he has co-edited, with David Rieff and Anthony Dworkin, “Crimes of War: What the Public Should Know” (1999, 2007). For more information, call 731-881-7436.
Glaciers of the Andes, Greenland in Context of Climate Change' lecture topic

“Glaciers of the Andes and Greenland in the Context of Climate Change” is the topic of Dr. Todd Albert, assistant professor of geography at the University of Tennessee at Martin who will make a presentation on Sept. 29.

Set for 7 p.m., in the Dougherty Tennessee Room of the Holland McCombs Center, the lecture is open to public, students and faculty with interest in the environment.

It will be preceded by refreshments and a social time at 6:30 p.m.

Albert earned his master’s degree from Ohio State University and doctorate from Florida State University.

He has done extensive work in Greenland and Peru while at the University of Colorado.

Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, is sponsoring the event. It is an international honor society of scientists and engineers. Members are elected to membership based upon research potential or achievements. There are nearly 65,000 members in approximately 500 chapters in colleges, universities, industry and government.

These chapters provide a supportive environment for interdisciplinary research.

For more information, contact Dr. S.K. Airee, president of the UT Martin Sigma Xi chapter, at 731-881-7454.

UT Martin Pharmacy Technician Program Planned in Paris

MARTIN - Persons interested in beginning or changing to a career as a pharmacy technician can take advantage of a course at the Henry County High School in Paris. The Pharmacy Technician Certification Program will be offered from 8-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 13-December 8, excluding October 29 and November 26. The cost is $399 including textbooks and lab supplies.

This 30-hour course will prepare students to enter the pharmacy field and take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board’s exam. Technicians work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings, working under the supervision of a registered pharmacist.

Course content includes medical terminology specific to the pharmacy, reading and interpreting prescriptions specific and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students will learn dosage calculations, intravenous flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing of prescriptions, inventory control and billing and reimbursement.

To receive an information packet, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies (ECOS) at 731-881-7061. Register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/cece/coursesnowledge.php.

Local Student Receives Scholarship to Attend UT Martin

MARTIN - A local student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2009-2010 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Maylon Price, son of Gene and Trish Price of Gleason, is a junior. He received the West Tennessee Young Farmers Scholarship.

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

Dunagan, Chesteen author policy papers for TACIR ‘Forum on Tennessee’s Future’ Panel

Policy papers on the future of Tennessee, including papers by Dr. Nick Dunagan, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor emeritus, and Dr. Richard Chesteen, 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 Chesteen 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/special%20html%20Reports/forum_on_future.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 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.
New Madrid Seismic Zone topic of Academic Speakers Series

Dr. Roy Van Arsdale, professor of geology at the University of Memphis, will speak on “The Past and Possible Future of the New Madrid Seismic Zone” in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The presentation is slated for 7:30 p.m. Monday. Van Arsdale will appear as part of the Academic Speakers Series sponsored by Honors Programs.

Van Arsdale received a bachelor's degree in geology from Rutgers University, master's degree in geology from the University of Cincinnati and a doctorate in geology from the University of Utah. While pursuing his degrees, he worked as a geologist for several firms, including Standard Oil of California and the Union Carbide Corporation. He has served on the faculties of Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Arkansas and has served on the faculty of the University of Memphis since 1993.

A specialist in structural geology and geomorphology, Van Arsdale's research centers on active tectonics within plate interiors. In addition to the New Madrid seismic zone, he has conducted research in several other seismic areas, most notably in Arizona, Oklahoma and southeastern Australia.

He is the author of more than 50 refereed journal articles and more than 85 refereed abstract publications, many with an emphasis upon the Mississippi River Valley and the New Madrid seismic zone. His most recent publication, “Adventures Through Deep Time: the Central Mississippi River Valley and its Earthquakes,” appeared in the Geological Society of America Special Paper 455 in 2009. As a noted expert on the New Madrid zone, he has participated in several television documentaries, including programs developed by the National Geographic Society Channel and the History Channel.

Law enforcement training boosted by grant at UT Martin

Rural West Tennessee law enforcement officials will have the opportunity to get the training they need free and at a convenient location.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs recently awarded a $189,573 grant to the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

The two-year American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Justice Assistance Grant will provide criminal justice professional enhancement training within an approximate 30-mile radius of targeted agencies in 19 West Tennessee counties, along with Lawrence, Hickman and Lewis counties.

The project title is “Technology to Commit and Technology to Convict (TC2).”

On Feb. 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law H.R. 1, the America Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The bill includes more than $2.76 trillion for state and local law enforcement and for other criminal justice activities that prevent and control crime and improve the criminal justice system. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs in Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration was designated as the state agency responsible for administering a portion of these criminal justice system funds through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

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Participants will reconvene approximately 60 days later to review lessons learned, problems encountered and develop strategies to encounter service demands.

Instruction will be provided by Training Services Group, Inc. (TSG). TSG lead instructors are Jimmie V. Leach and Dennis Mays.

Leach is a 20-plus-year law enforcement professional who has served as a police officer, state trooper, special agent and special agent in charge with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and finally as the director of criminal investigations for the Tennessee Department of Safety. Mays is a 33-year law enforcement professional.

In his last assignment, he commanded the patrol division and the Special Operations Units of Jackson Police Department from 1998-2009. He also served as the department's Aviation Unit commander, Critical Incident commander, liaison with the U.S. Secret Service, a member of the interagency counterterrorism working group and legal adviser.

Upcoming training dates and locations are as follows:

Lexington Police Department, Sept. 23-24 and Nov. 3; Martin Police Department, Sept. 23-29 and Dec. 8; Medina Police Department, Oct. 5-6 and Dec. 9; and Henderson Police Department, Oct. 7-8 and Dec. 8.

Anyone who would like to attend one of the seminars or any law enforcement department interested in hosting one of the seminars is asked to contact Dennis Joyner, IPD Law Enforcement Training Specialists, at (901) 831-0036 or dejoyner@comcast.net.
Book drop added to university library

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 them in the appropriate slot. However, overdue items should be returned to the interior circulation desk.

Patrons are also reminded they can renew items by phone or at the library Web site.

Brooke Kane, daughter of R.K. and Kym Kane of South Fulton, has been awarded two scholarships for the 2009-10 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

A freshman, she received the Leaders-in-Residence Scholarship and the UT Martin Music Scholarship.

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Kane is UT-Martin scholarship recipient

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

Brooke Kane, daughter of R.K. and Kym Kane of South Fulton, is a freshman. She received the Leaders-in-Residence Scholarship and the UT Martin Music Scholarship.

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

Amy Sparkman, a junior biology major from Union City, is featured on the University of Tennessee at Martin's homepage at www.utm.edu.

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Registration for the preview day, Oct. 3, will be from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Boling University Center, and Nov. 21, from 9-9:30 a.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., Nov. 21. Each student will receive a complimentary ticket for the game.

One day prior to the UT Martin Skyhawks football game, UT Martin students and alumni are encouraged to attend the UT Martin vs. Austin Peay State football game.

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Three new members join WestStar Board of Trustees

Three area business people have been named to the WestStar Board of Trustees. Serving three-year terms through 2012 are Shannon Cotter, Harold Nance and Mike Philpot.

Cotter is a 1995 WestStar graduate from Fayette County. She resides in Rossville and works for SIC Project Management. Nance is president of Nance Investments, LLC, Alamo, and is a 2002 WestStar graduate from Crockett County. Philpot is West Tennessee Industrial Association executive director. He is a Madison County resident and a 1997 WestStar graduate.

They join 13 other trustees in shaping the future of WestStar at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Celebrating its 20th year, WestStar serves the 21 counties of West Tennessee and is the state's oldest and largest regional leadership development program.

For more information about WestStar, contact Virginia Grimes, coordinator, at 731-881-7298.

Shannon Cotter

Harold Nance

Mike Philpot

The Gazette, Trenton, Tennessee

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

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A second day is planned November 21.

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, October 3, will be from 9 to 9:30 a.m., in the Boling University Center, and November 21, from 9 to 9:30 a.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.

On each occasion, registration will be followed by a welcome and general information session, the university's academic fair, which will take place in the Duncan Ballroom in the university center, October 3, and in the Elam Center, November 21, 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.
UT Martin to hold preview days

The first of two preview days is set for Oct. 3 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. A second day is planned Nov. 21.

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For more information call the UT Martin admissions office at 1-800-829-UTM1 or 731-881-7020.

UT Martin adds CPA to faculty

The University of Tennessee at Martin has named a certified public accountant and internal auditor as the Alexander Thompson Arnold assistant professor of accounting, information systems and internal controls.

Mary F. Geddie, who has held positions in accounting and auditing, began teaching courses in spring 2009 and will enter her first full academic year at the university this fall.

"We're pleased to have someone with Mary's background and qualifications join our faculty," said Dr. Tom Payne, chairman of the department of accounting, finance, economics and political science. "We greatly appreciate Alexander Thompson Arnold for supporting this professorship. This is just one example of ATA's commitment to the future of our region and the accounting profession."

Geddie's previous positions include serving as an auditor with KPMG, a budget officer with an Oklahoma state agency and an internal auditor with the University of Illinois. She has written several academic journal articles. She earned a BBA in accounting from Baylor University and an MBA degree from Eastern Illinois University. She is currently completing her Ph.D. from the University of Houston.
CPA, internal auditor chosen for ATA professorship position

The University of Tennessee at Martin has named a certified public accountant and internal auditor as the Alexander Thompson Arnold (ATA) Assistant Professor of Accounting, Information Systems and Internal Controls. Mary F. Geddie, who has held positions in accounting and auditing, began teaching courses in the spring of 2009 and will enter her first full academic year at the university this fall.

"We’re pleased to have someone with Mary’s background and qualifications join our faculty," said Dr. Tom Payne, chair of the department of accounting, finance, economics and political science. "We greatly appreciate Alexander Thompson Arnold for supporting this professorship. This is just one example of ATA’s commitment to the future of our region and the accounting profession."

Ms. Geddie’s previous positions include serving as an auditor with KPMG, as a budget officer with an Oklahoma state agency and as an internal auditor with the University of Illinois. She has authored several academic journal articles and her professional credentials include a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting from Baylor University and a master of business administration degree from Eastern Illinois University. She is currently completing her Ph.D. from the University of Houston.

"Alexander Thompson Arnold CPAs is dedicated to excellence in accounting," said Art Sparks Jr., member/partner with ATA. "With this professorship, we are supporting a vital West Tennessee university and ensuring its students are receiving the highest quality education. ATA is extremely pleased to make this professorship possible."

"There are so many highly-qualified faculty members here working to produce ethical, financially literate graduates," said Ms. Geddie, who will teach financial accounting, auditing and accounting information systems at UT Martin. "Our students are being prepared to make a positive impact on the region’s economy. I hope to give students a picture of a well-controlled accounting function so that they can build their own businesses or assist their clients in doing so."

Alexander Thompson Arnold CPAs is one of the largest accounting and consulting firms in the Mid-South and was named the ninth largest accounting firm in the State of Tennessee by Business TN magazine in March 2007. It was also named in the top 25 of Tennessee’s Best Employers in 2009. Founded in 1946, ATA offers a comprehensive array of tax, audit, accounting, consulting and wealth management services and is a member of the BDO Seidman Alliance. Firm offices are located in Dyersburg, Fulton, Henderson, Jackson, Martin, McKenzie, Milan, Paris, Trenton and Union City.

Business advice to be available

One-on-one business consulting from Ron Acree, Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC) consultant, will be available Oct. 8 when he visits the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center. He will be available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners.

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

The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St. in Martin.

Arnold awarded scholarships

A Gibson County student has been awarded two scholarships for the 2009-10 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Emily Arnold, daughter of Glenda and Jimmy Arnold of Humboldt, is a graduate student. She received the Robert G. and Elizabeth Latimer Scholarship and the Jessie S. (Mutt) Parrish Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238. In-state residents call 800-829-UTM1; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.
Local recovery seems distant to job seekers

By NED B. HUNTER
nhunter@jacketsun.com

Tammy Woods’ smile hides the worry that destroys her nights and days.

Unemployed for nearly nine months, Woods said the urgency of finding a job never leaves her mind. She is afraid that mortgage payments, a car loan and other monthly bills will wipe out the savings she and her husband have struggled to build.

“It’s always there,” she said of the anguish. “It doesn’t go away.”

Woods, 47, lives in Jackson and was laid off from aluminum manufacturer Tennalum in February. The company laid off her husband in April. It is the second time since 2006 that an economic downturn pushed Woods into unemployment. The first was when she was forced to close her residential cleaning business because clients could no longer afford the services.

“By mid-2007, everything started to bottom out,” she said.

Woods’ fears were momentarily replaced by hope this month as she sat at a circular table inside the Tennessee Career Center at Jackson, filling out applications for three jobs. It was the fourth time since February she had visited the center.

“This is the most I have had to fill out over the months I’ve been unemployed,” she said.

Woods was not alone. There were 26 others inside the Career Center’s lobby waiting to see an employment counselor at 11:30 a.m. that Tuesday. Eight other people were in the center’s resource center to fill out applications, work on resumes or search the database for jobs.

Unemployment in Madison County has more than doubled in the past two years from 4.8 percent in August 2007 to 11 percent in August of this year, leaving 5,310 residents unemployed.

As subprime loans, excessive personal debt and other job losses caused the nation’s housing, automobile and retail markets to collapse, plant closings and layoffs increased.

“We built our economy on a house of cards that was, to some extent, an economy that was heated through home building and appliance sales,” Madison County Mayor Jimmy Harris said. “There was no way we could maintain that pace, and when credit collapsed, it brought everything down with it.”

From Jan. 1, 2008, to Sept. 9 of this year, employers in 14 West Tennessee counties eliminated at least 8,084 jobs, according to career center data, and 2,410 of those jobs were in Madison County.

Those job losses do not include layoffs or closings by small-business owners, or large companies that laid off less than one-third of their workforce.

“It is a very tough economy,” said Mark Chandler, manager of the Tennessee Career Center at Jackson.

Recovering or not?

Madison County’s unemployment rate is 2.3 percent less than its historic high of 13.3 percent, set in February 1983. At least one area economist thinks that high could be reached again.

Mahmoud Haddad, a professor of finance at the University of Tennessee Martin, said that unless the federal government extends its first-time homebuyer and other tax incentives past December, unemployment will increase throughout next year.

“The real estate industry has a lot to do with employment and the economy,” he said.

Even if Madison County’s unemployment rate doesn’t increase, a total recovery could be three to five years away, Harris said.

“There is a little light at the end of the tunnel,” Harris said, “but I don’t think we have hit bottom yet.”

Haddad said increased unemployment is a primary cause of area foreclosures. A total of 441 Madison County homes were foreclosed on in the first eight months of 2009, according to realtytrac.com. A total of 486 homes fell into foreclosure for the same period in 2008.

Haddad said prolonged unemployment will exacerbate the problems in the Jackson housing and other markets.

“The impact of the unemployment will cause more foreclosures on houses and more cars to be repossessed and cause the economy to slide further and further,” he said.

A small light

Aundraia Rhea, 27, lost her job as a medical assistant with the Joshi Clinic in Jackson on June 21. She said her days are now filled with sending out resumes and applications and wondering when she’ll get a job. She said about three weeks ago that she’d had only one interview.

“I would prefer a job in the medical field,” she said, “but with us being in a recession, I’ll take almost anything.”

That may be necessary as more companies continue to reduce their hiring, if they are hiring at all.

Companies requested 403 fewer workers from the Career Center in Jackson during the fiscal year July 1, 2008, to June 30 than in the previous fiscal year. They asked for 1,978 workers, according to data from the Career Center.

“There are very few companies hiring right now,” said Dave Montoya, veterans representative and job order taker for the Career Center. “A lot of people have been laid off.”

Mahmoud Haddad, a professor of finance at the University of Tennessee Martin
Those companies that are hiring are looking mostly for part-time workers, said Mark Barnes, branch manager for Labor Finders on Airways Boulevard.

"I am just now starting to get some requests for full-time workers," he said.

With more people out of work, fewer job openings compound the problem of finding a job.

From July 1 to Sept. 21, 905 people had applied for the few machine operator jobs available at Duro Bag in Jackson, said Chandler, the manager of the Tennessee Career Center at Jackson. Nearly 700 applied for about 35 operator positions at US Parathane in Jackson, he said.

Barnes said the number of people looking for work through his firm has increased about 35 percent over the past 12 months.

A Jackson native, Rhea said the pressures of unemployment ruin her days.

"You get discouraged. You feel helpless," she said, while searching for jobs in the Career Center's resource center. "You are wondering when the phone is going to ring. You are constantly waiting. You want to give up, but you can't."

US Parathane hired 38 people in August as orders for automobiles and trucks began to increase after Congress enacted the Cash for Clunkers program. The company wants to hire an additional six to eight people within the next few weeks, said Preston Miller, general manager of Parathane's Jackson plant. He said a few of the clients who use his company's auto parts have seen an increase in business.

Parathane also has picked up clients from other companies that the economy forced into bankruptcy, Miller said.

"Our volumes are up," he said. "We are running just about all Saturdays and some Sundays."

Duro Bag also is hiring, but a company representative could not be reached for comment.

Area workers are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Carlisle Tire, which is scheduled to close its purchase of the Whirlpool building on F.E. Wright Drive on Wednesday.

Company officials have said they will hire around 440 people within the next few years, depending on demand for Carlisle's tires, which are made for the agricultural industry.

"Someone asks us at least once a day, every day, about Carlisle," said Montoya, the veterans representative and job order taker for the Career Center.

Company President Fred Sutter said Thursday that Carlisle has begun hiring its management team, but is not yet accepting applications for assembly and other workers.

While Carlisle's arrival may help stabilize the area's economy, it will not revive it, said Haddad, the UTM professor. He said the area's economy will not fully recover until people no longer fear losing their jobs.

"If I don't know if I am going to have a job, it doesn't matter what the price of the asset or commodity is," he said. "I cannot afford it."

Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.
— Ned Hunter, 425-9641

BOOK DROP - 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 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.

GUTMAN OPENS SERIES — Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Roy Gutman opened the 2009-10 Academic Speaker Series at UT Martin, Sept. 21. His lecture was titled "Osama bin Laden, the Taliban, and the Hijacking of Afghanistan." Prior to the lecture, he met with Honors Programs students Eric Evans, of Dresden, a biology major; and Kiera Harvey, of Whiteville, an English major.
Learn and pursue new skills, interests or careers

Fall classes planned by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies offer area residents the opportunity to learn and pursue new skills, interests or careers. The courses get under way in October in Martin.

The Pharmacy Technician Program is a 50-hour course that will prepare students to enter the pharmacy field and take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board's exam. Technicians work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings, working under the supervision of a registered pharmacist.

Course content includes medical terminology specific to the pharmacy, reading and interpreting prescriptions and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students will learn dosage calculations, intravenous flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing of prescriptions, inventory control and billing and reimbursement.

The course will be offered from 6-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 13-Dec. 3. There will be no class on Nov. 26. The cost is $999 including textbooks and lab supplies.

The Phlebotomy Technician Program is a 90-hour course that prepares professionals to collect blood specimens from clients for the purpose of laboratory analysis.

Students will become familiar with all aspects related to blood collection and develop comprehensive skills to perform venipunctures completely and safely. Classroom and lab work includes terminology, anatomy and physiology, blood collection procedures and training in skills and techniques to perform puncture methods.

There is no outside externship rotation included with this program. The course will be offered from 6-9:30, Mondays and Wednesdays, Oct. 5-Dec. 16. There will be no class on Nov. 25. The cost is $1,599 including textbooks.

To receive an information packet on the Pharmacy or Phlebotomy Technician Program, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies (ECOS) at 731-881-7081. Register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/courses_nondegree.php.

Digital Photography Part II – Creative Photography and Advanced Skills will be taught by Dr. Tom Gallien, 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, Oct. 6-27. The fee is $75. This course is primarily designed as a follow-up to the Intro Part I course. However, it is open to anyone who is already thoroughly familiar with digital photography and is comfortable with and understands the manual operation of his or her digital camera.

Participants will develop greater camera skills by learning the more advanced capabilities of the equipment, as well as the creative use of filters, tripods, multiple lenses and flash photography. Wildlife, landscape, flower and fine art, as well as general digital photography will be presented. Participants will also delve into low-light, nighttime, high-dynamic range and panoramic digital photography.

A tripod is required for this class. The course will be limited to four evenings, each class 2.5 hours in length, either in the classroom or in the field. At least one off-campus field trip to a local site will be conducted during one of the regular classroom time periods.

Students need to bring their camera's instruction manual and a notebook to take notes.

A Concealed Handgun Carry Class, eight-hours, is planned 5-9 p.m., Oct. 29 and 30. The instructor will be Cecil Clements, state certified handgun instructor. The fee is $75. This handgun safety class will provide the student with the minimum requirements mandated by the state.

The use, operation and cleaning of the handgun will be covered. The first evening will be devoted to classroom instruction. The second evening will be the firing range instruction. The student must score 70 percent on the firing range qualification and 70 percent on the written exam.

The successful completion of this course will allow the student to apply for a concealed weapons permit from the state of Tennessee. Each student must be at least 21 years of age and provide a handgun, pen, pencil, paper, 50 rounds of ammunition for range instruction, safety glasses and hearing protection.

Intermediate Excel is planned 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Oct. 27 and 29. The instructor will be Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin analyst and programmer. The fee is $85. Participants can expand their knowledge of spreadsheets; work through complex functions and formulas; and use “if” statements and conditional formatting.

Students will receive information about using relative and absolute referencing.

They will create detailed examples and executive summaries; import data into a spreadsheet from an external source; and customize graphs. Students will also get the opportunity to work with Excel 2007 and Vista.

For more information, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies (ECOS) at 731-881-7081. Register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/courses_nondegree.php.
UT Martin preview days set for Oct. 3

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

The GCHS Marching Pioneers were successful at the recent UTM Marching Competition. The band claimed first place in Class AAA and the Color Guard was first in the large division. The Drum Majors placed first in their class and Percussion was second in class. Band Captains Katie McGill and Adonias Finch (upper photo) accept the Class AAA first place trophy at the UTM Marching Contest. Color Guard Captains Jessica Alexander, Becca Barnes and Katie Fair (lower photo) accept the Large Division first place trophy at the UTM Marching Contest. The GCHS Band Boosters will host their annual GC Marching Invitational October 3 at Yates Field beginning at 4 p.m. (photos by Lori Cathey)

UTM 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.

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.

A total of 8,101 students are enrolled for the fall semester, an increase from 7,578 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.

Based on final figures, this fall’s enrollment at UT Martin is a 6.9 percent increase over fall 2008.

The record enrollment also reflects 1,350 freshmen, the largest freshman class on the UT Martin
UT president looks forward

Jan Simek says future will be hard but bearable during visit to UT Martin

By TAJUANA CHESHER
chesher@jacksonsun.com

MARTIN — University of Tennessee Interim President Jan Simek on Tuesday said he’s optimistic about the future of the UT system.

Simek, 56, gave his message during his campus tour of University of Tennessee Martin on Tuesday afternoon.

He said universities must maximize effectiveness and efficiency and focus on student retention in order to survive.

Simek began serving as acting president of UT Martin in March when former UT President John Petersen announced his resignation. Simek’s first name is pronounced “Yan.”

Simek became interim president in July and could stay in the position for up to two years. He is a distinguished professor of science and taught anthropology at the University of Tennessee Knoxville before his appointment.

“...We need to provide student support organizations, make smaller communities for them.”

Jan Simek, interim president
University of Tennessee

Knoxville campus for one year.

Simek also discussed budget and the reorganization of higher education on Tuesday.

“We’re still not operating in the black,” Simek said. “Things are going to be financially difficult for awhile. These are tough times. We will be faced with additional reduction in force. We will likely have larger class sizes and offer fewer sections.”

Simek said the job reductions would be in non-academic areas.

“...I love to work with young people, to help them fulfill their dreams, whatever they may be.”

Simek has been with the UT system since 1984 in academic and administrative roles. He has served as interim chancellor for the

reasons, whether it’s social or academic, he said. “Then we need to provide student support organizations, make smaller communities for them.”

Ray Smith, of Huntingdon, asked Simek to talk about his goals while he serves as interim president. Smith is co-chairman of the capital campaign for UT.

“I wanted to know what he wanted to be remembered for,” said Smith following the meeting.

Simek told the group part of what he wanted to be remembered for was coming through a difficult budget time.

“And that we maintained student trajectory,” Simek said.

Visit jacksonsun.com to share your thoughts.

— Tajuana Chesher,
425-9643
REED Center makes it easy to get business advice you need

Take advantage of the next opportunity to get one-on-one business consulting from Ron Acree, Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC) consultant. Acree will be at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., October 8. He will be available to help aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners with advice on a business plan, financing options, marketing, customer service, cash flow and other issues.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise. The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 731-587-REED (7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin, TN 38237. For additional services offered by the REED Center, go to www.utm.edu/reed.

Maraca2 Percussion Duo has UT Martin on USA tour

Maraca2 Percussion Duo, Tim Palmer and Jason Huxtable, will perform at the University of Tennessee at Martin at 7:30 p.m., October 6, in the Norman Campbell Auditorium in the Holt Humanities Building.

The British percussionists have been praised for their musicality, intensity and technique. Together they have performed at some of the UK’s top venues, including Symphony Hall, Royal Northern College of Music and the National Indoor Arena, where they opened the 29th International European Indoor Athletics Championships. They have received standing ovations at the International Percussion Festival in Patagonia, Argentina, and when premiering Jacob ter Veldhuis’ double percussion concerto ‘Goldrush’ in the UK, it was a performance the composer described as “one of the best ever.”

Their forthcoming USA tour runs from September-November 2009 and includes two-day residencies at more than 15 university percussion departments stretching from Missouri to Mississippi, as well as several evening recitals.

For more information, contact Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music, at 731-881-7418.
UT Martin tops 8,000 in fall enrollment

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A total of 8,101 students are enrolled for the fall semester, an increase from 7,578 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 equivalency. 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 Edition. The New York City-based educational services company selected the school as one of 141 institutions it recommends in its “Best in the Southeast” section on its Web site feature, “2010 Best Colleges: Region by Region.”

Retirement honoree

LaVerne Turner Walker, Tennessee partner specialist for the U.S. Bureau of Census, is slated to present an information session from 3:00-4:00 p.m. on October 1, in the Seminary Room of Paul Meek Library and the University of Tennessee at Martin. This event is open and free to the public.

A partnership specialist for the 2010 Census, Walker is in charge of forming partnerships and helping create Complete Count Committees to promote the census in Tennessee. Walker is originally from Charleston, South Carolina, and earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Fisk University.

She will speak about the importance of the census and its impact on communities and residents. She will provide an overview on how the data collected in census benefits the communities, affects funding of various programs and helps inform leaders on how their communities are changing. Walker will also inform individuals attending how to participate in Census 2010.

For more information, please contact Ania Lasota, UT Martin government documents librarian, at 731-881-7073.

Weakley County student receives scholarship to attend UT Martin

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

* Maylon Price, son of Gene and Trish Price of Gleason, is a junior. He received the West Tennessee Young Farmers Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238. In-state residents telephone 800-829-UTM1; out-of-state residents should call (731) 881-7040.
First of two preview days set at UTM

The first of two preview days is set for October 3 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. A second day is planned Nov. 21.

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

UT interim president optimistic, but cautious about state budget

University of Tennessee Interim President Jan Simek brought his fall campus tour to UT Martin on Tuesday with words of praise for the university tempered with caution about the state's budget situation.

The stop at Martin was the first-to-last in a month-long tour that began Sept. 2 at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis and will end Tuesday 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 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

(See Page 12, Col. 5)

UT...

(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."

"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," he added.

Although Simek said the university's academic core remains intact, he predicted 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-tracked faculty that are the core of who we are, 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 steps could be taken with the higher-education systems in place to address this internally without major changes in the structure. He said 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 about 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 said.

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 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 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 he has no plans to remain as UT president after this interim appointment ends. He reported 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 even more. He also noted the university's record enrollment of 8,100 students and said that the enrollment increase can be linked in large part to improved retention of sophomores and juniors.

"We brought in a few more freshmen than usual, but the retention is what's boosted 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. Miss 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, she said.

Miss Turner plans to attend medical school after graduating from UT Martin.

Writing event set for children

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

Young Writers' Clubhouse is a day children write creatively, work with writing project teachers and share time with their friends. Each child needs to bring his or her lunch or they may purchase pizza by the slice. They may 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 at (731) 881-7081.

Additional Obion 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 590 students from the county currently attending UT Martin, up from 565 last fall. Total enrollment for fall 2009 was 8,101, compared to the fall 2008 total of 7,578 students.