The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2013 Chancellors Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for Chancellors Honor Roll recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellors Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Morgan D. Goddard, Adams, TN 37010, High Honors

Michael C. Martin, Woodlawn, TN 37191, Honors

UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.

http://www.10tv.com/

**UT-Martin to offer nursing degree at Parsons**

MARTIN, Tenn. (AP) — The University of Tennessee at Martin says it will offer a degree in nursing at its Decatur County location beginning next year.

The university says its Parsons Center location will offer a Bachelor of Science in nursing in the fall of 2014.

The center will have openings for up to 30 students annually, with 20 slots designated for traditional students and 10 slots for licensed practical nurses.

Program graduates will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses.

Initial funding for the program was included in this year's state budget. The $1 million appropriation will be used to build a 10,000-square-foot addition to the current facility.

The addition will include classrooms, a skills laboratory and a computerized simulation laboratory.
Maury County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

- Columbia — Sarah Marie James;
- Culleoka — Jordan Lee Thrasher;
- Santa Fe — Kelly Rose Burdett and Shelby Lyn Pruitt;
- Spring Hill — Scott Thomas Francis, Lucas T. Lacher and Micaiah Tyler Radcliffe;
- Williamsport — Allen William Foster.

The students receiving graduate degrees were:

- Santa Fe — Leslie Ann Johnson and Leslie Denise Baxter Rogers.

Two Maury County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2013–2014 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

- Tanna Norman, daughter of Monte and Tonya Norman of Williamsport, will be a freshman. She received the Leaders-In-Residence award.

- Dalton Smith, son of Steven and Stacy Smith of Spring Hill, will be a freshman. He received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship/Workship.

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2013 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.
To be eligible for Chancellor’s Honor Roll recognition, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor’s Honor Roll with honors (3.2–3.49), high honors (3.5–3.79) or highest honors (3.8–4.0).

The students are:

- Robert E. Myers, Columbia, High Honors
- Sierra L. Phillips, Columbia, Highest Honors
- Jacy E. Thrasher, Culleoka, High Honors
- Chelsea M. Greer, Martin, High Honors
- Hannah D. Wolters, Martin, High Honors
- Krista M. Shaw, Mt. Pleasant, Highest Honors
- Amber L. Stewart, Mt. Pleasant, High Honors
- Brittany L. Eddy, Spring Hill, Highest Honors
- Natalie B. Floyd, Spring Hill, Honors
- Rachel E. Morris, Spring Hill, High Honors
State higher ed systems join Coursera

Written by Tajuana Cheshier
Jun. 03

What to know

For more information or to sign up for Coursera, visit www.coursera.org.

The University of Tennessee system and the state Board of Regents are among 10 higher education systems across the nation joining Coursera to provide massive open online courses (MOOC) for students.

Coursera, a California-based company, will partner with higher education institutions using local faculty and course content for online instruction.

Katie High, vice president for academic affairs and student success for the UT system, said the partnership will be an 18-month pilot. It is set to launch in this fall.

"We will develop our own courses and put them on Coursera," High said. "We’ve asked our faculty to volunteer to participate. Instruction can be totally online or a blended model."

In a blended model, students take a portion of their classes online and the remaining instruction takes place in a traditional classroom setting.

High said the UT system, which has been offering online education since 1999, was motivated to explore if there was something it wasn’t doing.

"We wanted to know if there were facets that we weren’t taking advantage of," High said. "Coursera is able to offer instruction in 12-minute bites. We want to know if instruction in smaller bites is more effective than the traditional 50-minute lecture."

An additional difference that Coursera offers is immediate feedback on how students understand the course material.

"After the 12-minute instructionals, students take an assessment and they find out exactly how they’re doing," High said. "We can’t provide that kind of immediate feedback."

High said officials hope the new offering will have a positive impact on student retention and progression, and increase graduation numbers.

The piloted courses will be a music class offered by the University of Tennessee Martin’s campus and English at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga.
Students planning to attend a Tennessee Board of Regents school can take online courses through the Regents Online Degree Program.

High said students will not incur any additional expenses for taking a course from Coursera.

"We think the coming decade will see a transformation in the way education is delivered, where teachers and online content come together to better serve students on campus and beyond," said Daphne Koller in a news release.

Koller is the co-founder of Coursera.

"With this announcement, we take a step further in our goal to expand quality education to all," added Andrew Ng, co-founder of Coursera.
Newly-formed community band plays its first concert of the season

By ALEX JACOBI
Special to The Press
MARTIN — The newly-formed Martin Community Band performed its first concert Thursday in the UC Ballroom at 7 p.m., giving audience members a taste of the South with the theme, "Southern Hospitality."

Even though the ensemble, made up of both UT Martin students and faculty and community members, began this summer under the direction of UT Martin Director of Bands Dr. John Oelrich, the idea has been circling around for the past year.

"The concept had been discussed by others before my arrival to town. Seeing that there was not currently an ensemble here and meeting many interested musicians during the course of the year, I decided to get it started," Oelrich said.

He felt this ensemble would be beneficial for many different people, serving the needs of musicians and bringing community members together.

"There was a need for musicians to play and events like this bring a community together and give residents a fun and free summer activity. It also brings the kind of charm that small towns are known for," Oelrich said.

He also hoped to give many different types of musicians the chance to make music together.

"This ensemble's membership will draw from adult community musicians, local band directors, college students (both music majors and non-majors), and local high school and middle school musicians. In addition to being a great opportunity for adult community musicians to play, it is a fantastic opportunity for young musicians to perform in an ensemble with more mature players, thus accelerating their development as musicians," said Oelrich on the Martin Community Band website. SEE BAND, PAGE 6

Band
From Page 1
For this first concert, Oelrich chose a Southern theme, hoping to appeal to the audience members in their cultural roots.

"This being the first concert of a new ensemble, I wanted the music to be attractive to a wide audience," he said.

This is just one of many concerts that will take place this summer (June 13, June 27 and July 11), all with only two rehearsals before each show. Oelrich hopes to give audience members a taste of different types of music with each show.

"We will play almost all types of music. The basis will be music from the concert band repertoire, but the programs will feature marches, overtures, suites, Broadway medleys and folk songs. There will be something for every musical palate," said Oelrich on the Martin Community Band website.

Even though the weather hindered where this concert could take place, he also plans to host the concerts downtown at Festival Park (near the fountain), benefiting the Main Street businesses.

"It is our hope that our downtown businesses will benefit from the audiences in attendance at the performances," he said on the Martin Community Band website.

He is also still welcoming new musicians.

"If you are interested in playing in the Martin Community Band and missed the first concert, it's not too late. Musicians are still welcome to join the ensemble," Oelrich said.

In between the Community Band shows, Daniel Musgrave will be playing on Thursday and the House Band will be playing on June 20.

For more information on the Martin Community Band, visit www.utm.edu/departments/band/community_band.php.
Weekend weather causes some issues inside county

By JOE LOFARO
Special to The Press

The heavy rain, Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning, caused several problems in Weakley County, according to Jamison Peevyhouse, Weakley County's emergency management director.

"We had some flooding, but it was localized in Dresden," he said. "It was nothing major."

However, the flooding caused city officials to close Pikeview and West Main streets Saturday morning. "Those two streets are the low spots in Dresden," Peevyhouse said. The flooding is a result of Mud Creek, the main tributary in Dresden.

The heavy rain caused two accidents in Martin Thursday night. Martin Police have two complaint cards on file.

One complaint card states that a car driving south on McCombs Street, near the elementary school, was struck by a tree. No one was injured in the accident.

In an unrelated accident, but about the same time on University Street, near Skyhawk Parkway, three people were injured in a two-car accident.

The two drivers, listed as Ginger Victory and Sue Youngblood, are from Rives and Union City respectively. The third victim was not listed.

According to Martin Fire Chief Jamie Summers the vehicles involved were a Ford Focus and a Chevrolet Malibu.

Martin Police worked the accident, while UT Martin's Department of Public Safety was requested to file the report.

UT Martin's incident report indicates that all the power, including the traffic light at the intersection, in the vicinity of the accident was out.

The report also states that power outage was caused by the storm that came through Martin before the accident.

In addition to the heavy rain, the storm included strong rain.

Martin Police patrolman Aaron Carter and UT Martin Department of Public Safety Officer Nicholas Combs worked the accident.
College briefs

Danielle Fields Eaves of Martin was recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent.

Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements.

An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education.

The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.

In addition to being inducted, Mrs. Eaves graduated summa cum laude in May from UTM.

UTM grad wins angler award

Grayson Smith, who graduated this past semester from the University of Tennessee at Martin, wrapped up the coveted Bassmaster Angler of the Year honor when he won the 2013 Bass Pro Shops Southern Open #3, May 16-18, on Logan Martin Lake in Pell City, Ala.

Smith wrapped up the three-tournament trail with his first-place finish on Logan Martin Lake, a sixth-place finish on Douglas Lake in Dandridge and a 12th-place outing early in the year on Lake Tohopekaliga in Kissimmee, Fla.

Smith, from Clarksville, caught more than 61 pounds of fish and finished in the money in all three tournaments. He won a Triton boat, valued at $25,000, for his effort in the Bass Pro Shops Southern Open #3.

Smith’s recent success has him thinking more and more about a professional fishing career. “I started thinking about turning pro a year ago, but the recent success helps me,” he said.

“I am able to attract more sponsors with the recent wins.”

For now, Smith will keep his day job at DBS & Associates, an engineering firm in Clarksville. “I have to do both right now,” he said.

“Champions are able to consistently go out and make adjustments,” Smith said. “That’s what I am struggling with right now. When the fish are not biting I want to move to the next spot. The winners are not the ones that pull up on their first spots.”

Smith calls fishing a head game. “I need to learn how not to freak out when the fish aren’t biting.”

For the Rossview High School alumnus, fishing is all mental, even more so than golf, and Smith should know. He played golf all four years at Rossview High School.

Smith was back in the boat less than 10 days after winning the Southern Open with his partner Dylan Powley of Paris as the duo finished 31st in the Collegiate Bass Championship on Pickwick Lake in Florence, Ala.

However, Smith and Powley were just one of three UT Martin duos to compete in the tournament. Alex Derry of Bradford and Ryan Lackey of Parsons finished the two-day tournament in 18th place. Derry and Lackey caught five fish weighing in at 32.71 pounds.

Hayden Smith of Dickson and Zach Morphis of Cordova also competed in the tournament, which included 168 two-man teams.

The UT Martin bass fishing team is 10th in the current Cabela’s ACA School of the Year standings. The complete college standings can be found at http://www.collegiatebasschampionship.com.

Bass

FROM PAGE 1

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UTM Governor's School coming up

High school students attending the Tennessee Governor's School for the Humanities and Tennessee Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin will have the opportunity to earn six hours of college credit during the summer programs.

Students in the humanities program will be on campus June 2-28, while the agricultural sciences students arrived on campus May 26 and will remain at UT Martin through June 21.

The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities, located on the UT Martin campus since 1985, will host 54 students, and the 12th Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences – one of three in the nation – has 32 students. UT Martin faculty staffs the schools, with guest presenters from throughout the United States.

UT Martin will help introduce high school students to a myriad of agricultural careers at the school for the agricultural sciences. High school students from across the state will be involved in research, living laboratories and study opportunities. The students will expand their knowledge of food, genetics, agriculture, veterinary science, engineering and the sustainable use of renewable natural resources. They will be exposed to scientific and land stewardship concepts while sharpening their communication, problem-solving and leadership skills.

Also, students will be exposed to the manufacturing process for biofuels to include biodiesel and ethanol. Scholars will be able to manufacture the fuel in the biofuels laboratory from selected biomass materials and utilize the fuels in laboratory engines. Participants in the Governor’s School for Agricultural Sciences will again receive laptop computers to use while on campus.

“Agro-Science today is a fast-paced, high-tech industry that requires strong analytical skills to be successful,” said Dr. Joey Melilborn, TGSAS director and UT Martin professor of agricultural economics. “TGSAS helps foster those skills through a variety of experiential learning opportunities.”

See School, Page 6

SCHOOL FROM PAGE 1

A three-day field trip to St. Louis, Mo., is planned for this year’s class. Students will visit the Monsanto Research Center, the U.S. Soybean Board, Purina Mills, and have a tour of Busch Stadium.

The humanities immersion program includes high school juniors and seniors from across the state who have been selected to participate based on academic achievements, writing skills, school and community service, and the recommendations of high school principals, counselors and teachers. As part of the program, students explore subjects as diverse as philosophy, music and literature, develop their writing skills and participate in afternoon seminars specially designed to challenge some of the “best and brightest” students in Tennessee.

“We believe the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities is the most extraordinary academic experience you can have as a high school student, and our outstanding faculty do everything they can to create a rigorous, engaging environment in which the scholars can further develop intellectual abilities,” said Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs and governor’s school director.

VERDELL INDUCTED — Alex Verdell (center) of Gleason, was recently inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to UT Martin commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. The awards were presented by (from left) Dr. Ed Wheeler, Department of Engineering interim chair and Dr. Richard Helgeson, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean.
http://www.springfieldnewssun.com/

Posted: 7:01 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, 2013

**Urbana Class of 2013 graduates**

By Megan Gildow Anthony

Staff Writer

The Urbana High School Class of 2013 includes:


Scholarships

Recipients of scholarships of $5,000 or more include:

Cara Adams, daughter of Shelly Hall and Dwain Adams, will attend Mount Vernon Nazarene University. She accepted a total of $42,000 in scholarships from Mount Vernon Nazarene University and American Legion.

McKenzie Fannin, daughter of Laura and Barry Wolf and Jeff Fannin, will attend the Ohio State University. She accepted a total of $40,600 in scholarships from the Ohio State University.

Christy Finney, daughter of Kathy and Dave Finney, will attend Miami University in Oxford. She accepted a total of $16,000 in scholarships from Miami University.

Sam Harris, son of Dan and Deb Harris, will attend Indiana Tech. He accepted a total of $82,000 in scholarships from Indiana Tech.

Jason Holmes, son of Paul and Jackie Holmes, will attend University of Michigan. He accepted a total of $150,792 in scholarships from University of Michigan, Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, Elks National Foundation, Best Buy and Junior Achievement.

Rochelle Kincaid, daughter of Angel Smith and Nelson Smith II, will attend University of Toledo. She accepted a total of $18,000 in scholarships from University of Toledo and Johnson's Welded Products.

Trisha Lacy, daughter of Tim and Carmen Lacy will attend University of Tennessee at Martin. She accepted a total of $198,000 in scholarships from University of Tennessee at Martin.
Marilyn Grant Miller, daughter of Dave and Marilyn Miller, will attend Ohio Christian University. She accepted a total of $21,000 in scholarships from Ohio Christian University.

Samuel Molton, son of Steve and Cynthia Molton, will attend Wright State University. He accepted a total of $6,000 in scholarships from Wright State University.

Tyler Powell, son of David and Rebecca Powell, will attend Wittenberg University. He accepted a total of $108,000 in scholarships from Wittenberg University.

Charles Bishop Sanders, son of Jeff and Lisa Sanders, will attend Hiram College. He accepted a total of $50,000 in scholarships from Hiram College.

Tristan Singer, son of Brad and Heidi Singer, will attend Ohio State University. He accepted a total of $20,600 in scholarships from Ohio State University.

Amelia Smith, daughter of Thomas and Jill Smith will attend Ohio State University. She accepted a total of $20,000 in scholarships from Ohio State University.

Brian Walker, son of Richard and Katja Walker, will attend Wright State University. He accepted a total of $10,000 in scholarships from Wright State University.

Addey Yohn, daughter of Bruce and Elizabeth Yohn, will attend University of Findlay. She accepted a total of $64,000 in scholarships from University of Findlay.

Smith puts hook in award
Published: Tuesday, June 4, 2013 12:45 PM EDT

Grayson Smith, who graduated this past semester from the University of Tennessee at Martin, wrapped up the coveted Bassmaster Angler of the Year honor when he won the 2013 Bass Pro Shops Southern Open No. 3, May 16-18, on Logan Martin Lake in Pell City, Ala.

Smith wrapped up the three-tournament trail with his first-place finish on Logan Martin Lake, a sixth-place finish on Douglas Lake in Dandridge and a 12th-place outing early in the year on Lake Toho in Kissimmee, Fla.

Smith, a graduate of Rossview High School in Clarksville, caught more than 65 pounds of fish and finished in the money in all three tournaments. He won a Triton boat, valued at $25,000, for his effort in the Bass Pro Shops Southern Open No. 3.

Smith was back in the boat less than 10 days after winning the Southern Open with his partner Dylan Powley of Paris as the duo finished 31st in the Collegiate Bass Championship on Pickwick Lake in Florence, Ala.
The Associate Dean of SIU Carbondale's College of Agricultural Sciences has accepted a new position.

Todd Winters is leaving SIUC to become the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences at the University of Tennessee Martin. University of Tennessee Martin officials say a formal announcement will be coming soon. Winters will lead the College and its 1,100 students beginning July 1st.

According to the U-T-M Provost Jerald Ogg the College of Agriculture's primary research is in beef cattle production and field crops. The college has 35 faculty members with programs in Agriculture, Geosciences, Natural Resources, Family and Consumer Science as well as a military science program.

Ogg says Deans at University of Tennessee Martin typically earn between $110,000 and $145,000 annually. UTM is located in the northwest corner of Tennessee. The campus’ Fall 2012 enrollment was 7,750 students.

During his tenure at SIU-C, Winters served as Interim Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences.

PARIS TN: Registration open for upcoming Kid College at Paris Elementary School in Paris, TN
Published Wednesday, June 5, 2013 1:05 PM CDT

Registration for Kid College at Paris Elementary School is now open for students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

The college is sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

Classes will be offered in Paris during the day from 9 a.m.-2:20 p.m. June 17 - 21.

Registration is $25 for each class. Some classes have an additional supply fee.

Students can register for as many as five classes online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/children.php.

Classes available include:

- All grade levels — Recorder Karate; Teaming Up for Team Sports; The Science of Cooking; and Fun on the Farm.

- Kindergarten-second grade — Beads, Beads and More Beads; Rock On; Junior, a beginning drum class; It's a Cheer Thing; Junior Space Camp;

Superb Storybooks; Science Sleuths; Take a Walk on the Color Side; Tumble Bugs; Hut Hut Hut Football; Music from Around the World; and Space Race.

- Third-fifth grades — Junior Patriot Football Camp; Sr. Space Camp; So You Wanna Be a Cheerleader; Fashion Design; Rock On; Flip for Gymnastics; Intro to Scrapbooking; Ultimate Space Academy; Lights, Camera, Action; and Mad Science.
Skyhawk hoops duo appear on Slam radar

UTM Sports Information

Jasmine Newsome and Heather Butler, the record-setting guards on the UT Martin women's basketball team, are highlighted in the July 2013 edition of SLAM Magazine.

The Skyhawk tandem is featured on page 27 under the "Picture Me Ballin': Under-the-Radar Players Who Demand Your Attention" section. SLAM writer Franklyn Calle.touts UT Martin as "one of the top mid-major programs in the country".

Both three-time All-Ohio Valley Conference first teamers, Newsome (22.6 points per game) and Butler (22.4) each ranked in the top-10 in the nation in scoring in 2012-13, ranking fifth and sixth, respectively. Newsome captured her second straight OVC Player of the Year honors en route to All-American honorable mention accolades last season. Butler set an NCAA record by making a three-pointer in 80 consecutive games and tallied 37 points in the Skyhawks' NCAA Tournament game against eventual Final Four participant Notre Dame – which ranked as the highest individual scoring game in the 2013 NCAA Tournament.

Together, Butler and Newsome are the program's top two scorers after only three seasons, as Butler has poured in 2,111 points and Newsome has accumulated 1,958 points. They have helped UT Martin to 63 victories and three consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances since 2010.

The magazine – which features Cleveland Cavaliers star Kyrie Irving on the cover – hit newsstands earlier this week and is on sale for $5.99.
STEMulation camp offered at UT Martin

A camp for rising sixth, seventh and eighth grade students interested in energy and the environment will be offered 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, June 17-21, at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

At STEMulation Camp, students will work in teams through a series of hands-on activities to prepare them for team challenges.

Team challenge activities such as bridge building, solar vehicle construction and mousetrap vehicle building will be part of the camp.

The cost for the camp is $180 and includes a camp T-shirt and all supplies. Students should bring their lunch.

The camp is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies. An exact location for the camp will be given upon registration. Advance registration is required. To register, contact ECOS at 731-881-7082, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/home.php.

Lego camps for children offered at UTM

Lego camps for children will be offered June 24-28 at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

“Early Simple Machines” is geared for children ages 5-7 and will run from 9-11 a.m. daily. Students will build fun and simple models like a seesaw, rolling vehicles, spinning tops and more.

“Simple and Powered Machines” is geared for children ages 8-12 and will run from 1-3 p.m. daily. Students will build and explore machines and mechanisms, investigate motorized machines, calibrate and capture wind and more.

“Advanced Simple and Powered Machines” is geared for children ages 8-12 and will run from 2:30-4:30 p.m. daily. Using the simple and motorized mechanism kits, children will be given a more in-depth understanding of simple machines, mechanisms and structure. The course is recommended for students who have completed “Simple and Powered Machines.”

The cost for each camp is $140 and includes a shirt. Advance registration is required.

Local explorer, sons visit 'The Last Wild Frontier'

By HOPE MONTGOMERY
Messenger Intern

Not many can say they've seen the glaciers of Antarctica or a penguin in its natural habitat. Not many can say they've worked more than 30 years with the University of Tennessee at Martin to give students a successful college experience.

But Dr. Nick Dunagan, former UTM chancellor, can say both.

He retired from the school in 2007 and last January spent two weeks in Antarctica with his sons, Stan and Cody. He was at the Union City Rotary Club meeting Friday, talking about his experience.

An avid traveler, the educator says he is always looking for somewhere new and exciting to go. In a National Geographic magazine he found an article titled "The Last Wild Frontier" about Antarctica, and his interest was immediately whetted.

Shortly after that, he mentioned the idea to his sons, and in early January, the three men started their journey on a cruise from Buenos Aires, Argentina. The two-week expedition to the South Pole originated in Toronto and was called G Adventures.

Dunagan and his sons were on board a 134-passenger ship with several people from other countries.

The most numerous group of travelers were Russians, followed by those from New Zealand, Australia, America and England. The cruise line hosted a younger crowd than is sometimes the case, with the average age of passengers being 45.

In January, Antarctica is experiencing its summer (See Page 8, Col. 3)

On shore, the trio saw many examples of wildlife that most people will see only in captivity or will read about only in books. "No polar bears in Antarctica," said Dunagan, but there was a plethora of other animals to fascinate and entertain the passengers.

Dunagan saw an assortment of penguins, seals, whales and birds and often had the opportunity to see how they interacted. He described the penguins as "awkward land animals, but majestic in the water."

Although tourists weren't allowed to approach the penguins any closer than 5 feet, the curious little creatures weren't shy and often ran over the feet of their observers.

His presentation to the Rotary Club included a slideshow of photos and video footage of these creatures and the sights he saw along the way.

The former chancellor and his sons didn't shy away from any adventure the trip could offer and even took a "polar plunge" in the chilling waters.

Antarctica, although largely unpopulated, still welcomes about 4,500 researchers in its summer months and more than 1,000 in the winter. It also plays host to about 36,000 tourists a year. That figure may surprise some, but it is not nearly so many as the number of travelers who visit other tourist centers around the world.

Antarctica has also been a port of call for whaling ships for years and the Dunagan men observed some of these. They also saw several research facilities.

Before and after each trip to land, the cruiseline offered an information seminar or a debriefing.

In these, Dunagan learned that although the interior of the continent shows no signs of global warming, the coasts and the peninsula are warming two to three times faster than the rest of the world. Kreef, the main food source for many whales, seals and penguins and the foundation of Antarctica's ecosystem, will die out if the temperature keeps rising.

Dunagan also found out 75 countries have signed a treaty to protect Antarctica on an environmental and resources level.

Though this presentation at the Rotary Club was a truly fascinating one, the actual experience was one only Dunagan and his sons may fully appreciate.

Editor's note: Hope Montgomery is a sophomore at Hendrix College in Conway, Ark. She is the daughter of Bob and Amy Montgomery of Union City.

TRAVELING SKYHAWKS — Dr. Nick Dunagan (center) took a trip to Antarctica in January with his sons, Cody (left) and Stan. Since his retirement as chancellor at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2007, Dunagan has enjoyed traveling.

While on the January trip, he and his sons took a moment to snap a picture in front of a colony of penguins and against the magnificent blue Antarctic backdrop with a Skyhawks flag.

Local... (Continued from Page 1)

(Continued from Page 1)

season. The lowest temperature the Dunagan men encountered was 25 degrees Fahrenheit and the highest was about 34 F.

Once they arrived at the large southern continent, the passengers took nine trips to land. Most of these were day trips onto the continent, but Dunagan and his sons took part in one overnight excursion. They were able to see their way clearly, since the sun never sets in Antarctica in January.

Only 99 people were allowed to land at a specific site at one time, so when one group was exploring the land mass, the other half was observing the magnificent ice sculptures and glaciers along the coast or riding Zodiacs, the rafts that transported the passengers from the boat to land.

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Though this presentation at the Rotary Club was a truly fascinating one, the actual experience was one only Dunagan and his sons may fully appreciate.

Editor's note: Hope Montgomery is a sophomore at Hendrix College in Conway, Ark. She is the daughter of Bob and Amy Montgomery of Union City.
JORDAN RECOGNIZED BY ROTC: Paul Jordan, of Dyersburg, recently received the Department of the Army Superior Cadet Decoration Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC awards ceremony. Presenting the award (right) is Lt. Col. Michael W. Johnson, professor of Military Science. The award is given by the Department of the Army to the outstanding ROTC cadet in each year of Military Science at UT Martin. To receive this award the cadet must be in the top 25 percent of his class, both militarily and scholastically, and have shown outstanding qualities of leadership.

HART RECOGNIZED BY ROTC: Mary Hart, of Dyersburg, recently received the American Legion Award for Military Excellence Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC awards ceremony. Presenting the award (right) is Lt. Col. Michael W. Johnson, professor of military science. The award is presented annually to the MS III or IV cadet for general military excellence. To receive the Military Excellence Award the cadet must be in the top 25 percent of his class. Hart also was given the Daughters of the American Colonists Award which is given to an outstanding female cadet who has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities, has a B or above in military science and participates actively in campus activities.
SINGLETON RECOGNIZED BY ROTC:
Micheal Singleton, of Dyersburg, recently received the Sons of the American Revolution Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin ROTC awards ceremony. Presenting the award (right) is Bill Dahnke. The award is given to a cadet in good standing militarily and scholastically, showing a high degree of merit and respect to leadership qualities, soldierly bearing and excellence.

VETERANS PARTICIPATE — Several area veterans were present recently at the 13th annual Memorial Day Commemoration at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Among those in attendance were (from left) James Copeland of Martin, who served in the U.S. Marines; Russell Whitlow of Greenfield, U.S. Marines; Justin Jones of Union City, U.S. Army; and Michael Cochran of Union City, U.S. Army. Cochran is president of the UT Martin Skyhawk Veterans Association.
Skyhawks down south:
Dr. Dunagan recalls trip to Antarctica

TRAVELING SKYHAWKS — Dr. Nick Dunagan (center) took a trip to Antarctica in January with his sons, Cody (left) and Stan. Since his retirement as chancellor at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2007, Dunagan has enjoyed traveling. While on the January trip, he and his sons took a moment to snap a picture in front of a colony of penguins and against the magnificent, blue Antarctic backdrop with a Skyhawks flag.

By HOPE MONTGOMERY
Special to The Press

Not many can say they've seen the glaciers of Antarctica or a penguin in its natural habitat. Not many can say they've worked more than 30 years with UT Martin to give students a successful college experience.

But Dr. Nick Dunagan, former UTM chancellor, can say both.

Dunagan retired from UTM in 2007 and last January spent two weeks in Antarctica with his sons, Stan and Cody. He was at the Union City Rotary Club meeting Friday, talking about his experience.

An avid traveller, the educator says he is always looking for somewhere new and exciting to go. In a National Geographic magazine he found an article titled “The Last Wild Frontier” about Antarctica, and his interest was immediately whetted.

Shortly after that, he mentioned the idea to his sons, and in early January 2013 the three men started their journey on a cruise from Buenos Aires, Argentina. The two-week expedition to the South Pole originated in Toronto and was called G Adventures.

Dunagan and his sons were on board a 134-passenger ship with several people from other countries. The most numerous group of travelers were Russians, followed by those from New Zealand, Australia, America and England. The cruise line hosted a younger crowd than is sometimes the case, with the average age of passengers being 45.

In January, Antarctica is experiencing its summer season. The lowest temperature the Dunagan men encountered was 25 degrees Fahrenheit and the highest was about 34 F.

Once they arrived at the large southern continent, the passengers took nine trips to land. Most of these were day trips onto the continent, but Dunagan and his sons took part in one overnight excursion. They were able to see their way clearly, since the sun never sets in Antarctica in January.

Only 99 people were allowed to land at a specific site at one time, so when one group was exploring the land mass, the other half was observing the magnificent ice sculptures and glaciers along the coast or riding Zodias, the rafts that transported the passengers from the boat to land.

On shore, the trio saw many examples of wildlife that most people will see Dunagan, Page 5
see only in captivity or will read about only in books. "No polar bears in Antarctica," says Dunagan, but there was a plethora of other animals to fascinate and entertain the passengers.

Dunagan saw an assortment of penguins, seals, whales and birds and often had the opportunity to see how they interacted. He described the penguins as "awkward land animals, but majestic in the water." Although tourists weren't allowed to approach the penguins any closer than 5 feet, the curious little creatures weren't shy and often ran over the feet of their observers.

His presentation to the Rotary Club included a slideshow of photos and video footage of these creatures and the sights he saw along the way.

The former chancellor and his sons didn't shy away from any adventure the trip could offer and even took a "polar plunge" in the chilling waters.

Antarctica, although largely unpopulated, still welcomes about 4,500 researchers in its summer months and more than 1,000 in the winter. It also plays host to about 36,000 tourists a year. That figure may surprise some, but it is not nearly as many as the number of travelers who visit other tourist centers around the world.

Antarctica has also been a port of call for whaling ships for years and the Dunagan men observed some of these. They also saw several research facilities.

Before and after each trip to land, the cruiseline offered an information seminar or a debriefing.

In these, Dunagan learned that although the interior of the continent shows no signs of global warming, the coasts and the peninsula are warming two to three times faster than the rest of the world. Krel, the main food source for many whales, seals and penguins and the foundation of Antarctica's ecosystem, will die out if the temperature keeps rising.

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Course to be offered

A beginner's course in QuickBooks, an accounting software for small businesses, will be taught from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on June 20 at UT-Martin REED Center. There will be a break for lunch.

Participants will learn how to set up their small business with the QuickBooks program, define and understand basic accounting terms, work with bank accounts, and record sales, bills and vendor charges.

Computers with the QuickBooks software will be provided. The class is limited to the first 10 participants.

The course is sponsored by the Tennessee Business Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin REED Center.

The UT-Martin REED Center located at 406 South Lindell Street in Martin.

Registration is $75, paid at the time of registration.

To reserve a seat, contact Landy Fuqua at the REED Center at 731-587-7333, or by email at reed@utm.edu.
UT Martin hosts two Governor’s Schools

Topics humanities, agricultural science

The Jackson Sun

High school students who attend the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities and Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin will have the opportunity to earn six hours of college credit during the summer programs, according to a news release from the university.

Students in both programs are on campus this month.

The humanities program has been hosted by UT Martin since 1985 and includes 54 students. The 12th agricultural sciences program is one of three in the nation and includes 32 students.

UT Martin faculty staffs the schools, with guest presenters from throughout the country.

UT Martin will help introduce the students to myriad agricultural careers. Students from across the state will be involved in research, laboratories and study opportunities.

The students will study food, genetics, agriculture, veterinary science, engineering and the sustainable use of renewable natural resources. They will be exposed to scientific and land stewardship concepts while sharpening their communication, problem-solving and leadership skills.

Students will be exposed to the manufacturing process for biofuels and will be able to manufacture fuel in the biofuels laboratory and use the fuels in laboratory engines.

“Agriculture today is a face-paced, high-tech industry that requires strong analytical skills to be successful,” Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, director of the agricultural sciences Governor’s School and a UT Martin professor of agricultural economics, said in the news release. The Governor’s School “helps foster those skills through a variety of experiential learning opportunities,” he said.

The humanities program includes high school juniors and seniors from across the state who have been selected to participate based on academic achievements, writing skills, school and community service, and the recommendations of high school principals, counselors and teachers.

As part of the program, students explore subjects such as philosophy, music and literature; develop their writing skills; and participate in seminars.

“We believe the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities is the most extraordinary academic experience you can have as a high school student, and our outstanding faculty do everything they can to create a rigorous, engaging environment in which the scholars can further develop intellectual abilities,” Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs and Governor’s School director, said in the news release.

UTM grad wins Bassmaster Angler of the Year award

Looking to turn professional on the bass pro circuit, Grayson Smith is off to a great start.

The May graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin won the Bassmaster Angler of the Year and the Bass Pro Shop Southern Open.

He picked up both awards after winning the 2013 Southern Open on Logan Martin Lake in Pell City, Ala.

A sixth-place finish on Douglas Lake in Dandridge and a 12th place finish on Lake Tohopekaliga in Kissimmee, Fla., helped Grayson to the overall title.

From Clarksville, Grayson caught 24 pounds and one ounce of fish. He won a Triton boat, valued at $25,000, for his effort in the Bass Pro Shops Southern Open on Logan Martin Lake.

Outdoors

Continued from Page D1

“IT was awesome,” Grayson said of the awards. “I’ve been trying to catch a break for my career, and I think that tournament will help me take the next step and join the big leagues.”

UT Martin graduate Grayson Smith was named Bass Angler of the Year.
Dyer County School System honors retiring teachers

VANESSA CAIN
vcain@statetagesite.com

The Dyer County School System bid farewell to nine educators with a total of 142 years teaching experience at its annual Teacher Appreciation Dinner on Tuesday, May 14.

The event, traditionally held at Abe's Ribeye Barn, is one way Dyer County Schools honors the best of their best. Presentations are made to both educators ending their careers and those named Teacher of the Year for each school in the system.

Educators earning Teacher of the Year status include Mandy Leonard of Finley Elementary School, Chloe Garner of Newbern Elementary School, Mandy Cogdill of Trimble Elementary School, Lori Walker of Holice Powell Elementary School, Britni Singleteary of Fifth Consolidated Elementary School, Betty Hicks of Northview Middle School, Patty Rogers of Three Oaks Middle School and Wendi Roberson and Barry Baker, both of Dyer County High School. Of those, Singleteary, Hicks and Roberson moved up to represent Dyer County Schools on the district level.

Teachers retiring from the Dyer County School System at the end of the 2012-2013 academic year include:

Nine educators — with a total of 142 years total teaching experience — were honored at Dyer County School System's annual Teacher Appreciation Dinner at Abe's Ribeye Barn on Tuesday, May 14. Dyer County educators retiring at the end of the 2012-2013 academic year, from left, Jim Kugler, Rosemary Fulwood, Cindy Cooper, Shawn Dickerson, Donna Uitendall, Shella Fesmire, Kaye Ross and Suzanne Montgomery. Not pictured, Patty Via.

Continued from Page 1

School, Lori Walker of Holice Powell Elementary School, Britni Singleteary of Fifth Consolidated Elementary School, Betty Hicks of Northview Middle School, Patty Rogers of Three Oaks Middle School and Wendi Roberson and Barry Baker, both of Dyer County High School. Of those, Singleteary, Hicks and Roberson moved up to represent Dyer County Schools on the district level.

Teachers retiring from the Dyer County School System at the end of the 2012-2013 academic year include:
Shawn Dickerson of Northview Middle School
Born Oct. 25, 1951, Shawn Dickerson graduated from Dyersburg High School in 1969 and from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1973.
Dickerson married Dianne Hunt in 1979.
He received his master's degree in education from Martin in 1983.
A teacher for 40 years, he was elected Teacher of the Year twice in the 1980s and was reported by the State Gazette as one of the most interesting people in Dyersburg in 2005.

"(Shawn's) future plans include taking an Alaskan cruise," said Dyer County 6-8 Supervisor Dr. Larry Lusk. "And (to) drink coffee and spend time with other old geezers at McDonald's."
Dickerson's twin sister, Cindy Cooper, who teaches at Newbern Elementary School will also retire this year.

Patty Via of Holice Powell Elementary School
Patty Via earned both her bachelor's degree and master's degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin. She began her employment with the Dyer County School System in 1981 and has spent most of her career in education teaching fifth grade at Holice Powell.
"I had the pleasure of getting to know Patty when I began my position as an instructional coach at Holice Powell," said Harrington. "I always knew I could count on Patty to have something special in her filing cabinet if another teacher was looking for a good teaching idea. Patty is a very passionate teacher and we will certainly miss her experience at Holice Powell.

"One of our new teachers had the privilege to work with Patty this year," continued Harrington. "This is her quote about Miss Patty: 'I have been blessed to work alongside Miss Patty this year. I feel like I have been a sponge absorbing her wisdom and experience.'"

Kaye Ross of Newbern Elementary School
Kaye Ross graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin and began her teaching career with Dyer County in 1974. She is a Career Level 3 teacher and has taught nearly every grade level in elementary.
"The majority of her teaching career was spent in third and fourth grade at Newbern Elementary with Suzanne and me," said Harrington. "I soaked up every bit of wisdom, every teaching strategy and idea that I could during my time teaching alongside Kaye. Kaye definitely has a passion for teaching and I know everyone will miss seeing her at school."
**Montgomery**

- Suzanne Montgomery of Newbern Elementary School

Suzanne Montgomery graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin and began her teaching career with Dyer County in 1972. She has taught just about every grade level in elementary, but the majority of her career in education was spent in the third- and fourth-grade classroom.

"Suzanne was my survival source during my first year as a third-grade teacher at Newbern Elementary," said Harrington. "I got to teach for 18 years alongside Suzanne and I can honestly say I enjoyed every day that we taught together. Suzanne, you will truly be missed."

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**Fesmire**

- Shelia Fesmire of Dyer County High School

Shelia Fesmire received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin. She joined the Dyer County family in 1973 and taught at DCHS for 39 years.

"She is a wonderful chemistry and physics teacher," said Mathis. "Teaching high school for that long has made her tough. Most of you know that she broke her hip at a basketball game this year (No, not playing basketball, but playing with a toddler!) Who would have ever thought that she would come back, full time, in just a few short weeks? You have to be tough to do that."

"Seriously, Shelia is so dedicated to student success (that) she often gives her phone number to students as they go to college in case they need help with science," continued Mathis. "I believe that she has had a few take her up on the offer. Shelia, we appreciate all that you have done for the Dyer County School System. We wish you a very happy retirement!"

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**Kuglar**

- Jim Kuglar of Dyer County High School

Jim Kuglar holds his master’s degree plus 30 additional hours from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He served in the military from 1971 to 1975, and has also spent time teaching in the Gibson County and Trenton school systems.

He began his journey with Dyer County in 1999 when he took the position of guidance counselor at DCHS.

He has a total of 43 years in teaching.

"Jim is an avid tennis player," said Mathis. "In the words of Billie Jean King, ‘Champions keep playing until they get it right.’ Jim definitely mastered his roles of scheduling and coordinating state testing at DCHS. He must have decided that all of the changes at the state department lately were like a tennis ball – bouncing back and forth. So he decided, why watch when you can have more fun playing?"

"Jim, we hope that you are already enjoying your retirement," continued Mathis. "And that you have many more good years ahead of you."
TROY INDUCTEE — Justin Preuett (center) of Troy was inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to the recent University of Tennessee at Martin commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. The awards were presented by Dr. Ed Wheeler (left), Department of Engineering interim chair, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean.

STUDENT INDUCTED — Ben Wright (center) of Union City was recently inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to commencement at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. The awards were presented by Dr. Ed Wheeler (left), Department of Engineering interim chair, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean.

GRADUATES — Tommy Gossett, a 2006 graduate of Union City High School and a 2010 honors graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, recently graduated with high honors from the University of Tennessee College of Law in Knoxville. He has accepted a job with the law firm of Bass, Berry and Sims in Nashville. He is the son of Lorraine and Dr. Steve Beachum of Union City and Tom and Heather Gossett of Massillon, Ohio.
UT Martin offers Kid College in Jackson

Children entering kindergarten through fifth grade in 2013 are invited to attend Kid College from 8:30 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. June 17-21 at Jackson Christian School, according to a news release from the University of Tennessee Martin.

A sample of classes includes the following:

» "Let's Experiment" will offer children an opportunity to find out how bouncy balls are made and how to make a lava lamp.

» "Color Me Healthy" will allow children to create a rainbow of colorful snacks and learn about food safety and table manners.

» "Reading Comes to Life" will let children make puppets and then perform their favorite stories.

The cost for Kid College is $125 per student and includes a Kid College T-shirt and all supplies. Children will be divided into small groups according to grade and will rotate through a series of classes each day. Advance registration is required.

Kid College is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

For complete course descriptions and online registration, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/children.php.

Digital photography course to be offered

A course for people wanting to be more creative with their digital photography skills is being offered from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays from June 20 through July 18 at the University of Tennessee at Martin Jackson Center.

The course will teach participants various imaging techniques such as landscape and close-up photography, according to a news release from UT Martin. Participants also will participate in low-light and nighttime photography.

The course will be taught by Roger Hughes, a 30-year veteran criminal investigator of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. Hughes later studied at the University of Tennessee and the Rocky Mountain School of Photography under the mentorship of three acclaimed wildlife photographers. A sample of his works can be found at nwtpc.org.

The course fee is $125. Participants will need a digital camera, instruction manual and a tripod. There will be no class July 4.

The course is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies and will be held at the UT Martin Jackson Center, located at 3031 U.S. 45 Bypass in Jackson.

To register, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/home.php.

Briefly

Continued from Page B1

See BRIEFLY, Page B3
Quickbooks course offered

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Participants will learn how to set up their small business with the QuickBooks program, define and understand basic accounting terms, work with bank accounts, record sales, bills and vendor charges.

Computers with the QuickBooks software will be provided. Registration is $75, and advance registration is required. Space is limited to 10 people for the course.

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

For more information or to register, contact Landy Fuqua at (731) 587-7333 or by email at reed@utm.edu.

UTM ag department names dean

Dr. Todd A. Winters has accepted an appointment as dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, effective July 1 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Dr. Gerald Ogg, vice chancellor of academic affairs and provost, made the announcement June 6.

Winters, a professor and associate dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, earned his Ph.D. in endocrinology/reproductive physiology (biochemistry) from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and his master's degree in animal science from Purdue University.

His bachelor's degree in animal science is from Washington State University, and he served as a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Virginia Health Sciences Center in Charlottesville from 1992-94.

"I am looking forward to leading a college that is already moving in a positive direction," Winters said. "Deans (Jerry) Gresham and (Jim) Bynum should be proud of their accomplishments. The College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences is well positioned to train the workforce and provide assistance through research and outreach to help solve important societal issues related to food production and security; environmental stewardship and climate change; nutrition and family wellness; and food safety."

Dr. Wes Totten, UT Martin associate professor of plant and soil science, chaired the search committee. Other members of the search committee included Dr. Lisa LeBlanc, UT Martin professor of family and consumer sciences education; Maj. Christopher McDaniel, UT Martin assistant professor of military science; Dr. Ben West, UT Martin natural resources management graduate, and director, UT Extension Western Region; and Marcus Woods, UT Martin agriculture graduate and media professional in Jackson.

"This ended up being a particularly complex search, but the committee did a superb job recruiting an impressive group of interviewees," Ogg said.

Winters succeeds Gresham, who is retiring June 30.
Clarksville’s Kenwood High School Dance Team takes Honors

June 11, 2013

Clarksville, TN – Kenwood High School Varsity 2013/2014 Dance team attended The Universal Dance Association Dance Camp this past week at UT Martin.

The dance team was awarded numerous Drill Down Ribbons for military drill & field commands, a Superior Rating on their home routine and superior ratings on all of their A B and C camp dances taught by The Universal Dance Association Staff with the head instructor from UT Knoxville where she is a member of UT’s Dance National Team.

2013 Kenwood High School Dance Team

The team was awarded a spirit stick for having good energy and good work attitudes. The big honor for the team was when they were chosen as the Most Improved Dance team of the camp by the Universal Dance Association Staff.

Rachel Rittenberry, Faith Rittenberry, Izzy Gonzales, Brooke Schauer, Brittnye Adkins, Ciara White and Ashleigh Glidewell make up the new team.

They are sponsored by Lisa Dunn with Co. sponsor Susan Rittenberry and the Sanders.

The team will be presenting Kenwood High School with their trophy-ribbons school resumes in August.

The girls would like to thank everyone that helped make camp possible.
Student wins FFA scholarship

The National FFA Organization (formerly Future Farmers of America) awarded a $1,000 Tractor Supply—Growing Scholars scholarship to Christy Chicas of the Station Camp FFA. The scholarship is sponsored by Tractor Supply Company as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. Chicas plans to use the funds to pursue a degree at University of Tennessee-Martin.

This scholarship is one of 1,645 awarded through the National FFA Organization's scholarship program this year. Currently, 127 sponsors contribute more than $2.1 million to support scholarships for students.

For 29 years, scholarships have been made available through funding secured by the National FFA Foundation. This funding comes from individuals, businesses and corporate sponsors to encourage excellence and enable students to pursue their educational goals.

The 2013 scholarship recipients were selected from 6,116 applicants from across the country. Selections were based on the applicant's leadership, academic record, FFA and other school and community activities, supervised agricultural or work experience in agricultural education and future goals.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 557,318 student members in grades seven through 12 who belong to one of 7,498 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

— For the Gallatin News Examiner
UT Martin gets $1M to expand nursing program

The West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation has committed $1 million to the expansion of the registered nursing program at the University of Tennessee at Martin's Parsons Center.

UT-Martin offers West Tennessee's only basic baccalaureate program in nursing at a public institution outside of the Memphis area, and construction on a 10,000-square-foot addition to the school's current nursing facility is expected to begin this summer. The addition will include classrooms, a skills laboratory and a high-fidelity computerized simulation laboratory.

The Jackson-based West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation focuses on healthcare, educational and quality of life programs.

When the facility is completed, the Parsons Center will have openings for 30 students annually for the program. Twenty of those slots will be designated for traditional students and 10 slots will be used for licensed nurses. The funding was included in Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam's budget, which was approved by the Tennessee General Assembly in May. The gift will comprise a combination of cash contributions in the first two years and a $714,000 nursing endowment that will provide scholarships for nursing students at the Parsons Center.

"This collaboration has been a dream of many," Frank McMeen, president of the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation, said in a statement. "Producing more nurses from rural counties in West Tennessee will improve the quality of life and enhance the economic development of our area. We are bringing greater opportunities for nurse education closer to home."
LASHLEE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP - T.O. Lashlee (right) awards Bailey Alexander with the T.O. Lashlee Family Scholarship. The scholarship is through a trust for student attending the University of Tennessee at Martin. Alexander is enrolled for classes this fall at UTM but has yet decided on her major. Also attending the presentation is HHS counselor, Ellen Holl.
Record number graduate from UT Martin, Dr. Rhoda gives commencement address

A record 707 students graduated spring semester from the University of Tennessee at Martin. This total topped the previous record of 661 students who graduated from the university in spring semester 2012. The UT Martin Office of Academic Records reports official graduation numbers. Spring commencement was held May 4 in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. UT Martin conducts commencement exercises annually in May and December.

A live commencement webcast, streamed for the first time over the OVC Digital Network, attracted more than 1,100 views. The Ohio Valley Conference, the UT Martin Office of Intercollegiate Athletics and the UT Martin Department of Communications made the webcast possible.

Dr. Richard Rhoda, executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, addressed the May graduates.

A capacity crowd in Skyhawk Arena celebrated with the large graduating class as Dr. Rhoda delivered the commencement address.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, welcomed the crowd and introduced Rhoda, who has served as THEC executive director since 1997. The commission was created in 1967 by the Tennessee General Assembly to coordinate and support the efforts of Tennessee post-secondary institutions.

Rhoda first acknowledged the parents, families and friends of the graduates and then issued two challenges to the graduating class.

"First, I want to challenge you to recognize the value of what you have just accomplished, in terms of what it means to you personally and in terms of what it means to our state and nation," he said.

"And, second, I want to challenge you to rise to this monumental occasion and seize, without worry or concern, the responsibilities now afforded to you as a new college graduate."

He first addressed the value of earning a college degree, noting that some might question the value of pursuing a college education. "You did the right thing by coming here and completing your degree, even in this time of economic uncertainty," he said, noting that rewards await those who earn a college degree.

"Unlike previous generations, today's knowledge-based economy requires skills and abilities beyond what you learned in high school," he said.

"For you to have more opportunities, better options in life, a life of greater independence, and a more stable and fulfilling career, a college education is an absolute necessity."

He reported that persons who hold a bachelor's degree earn $1 million more in lifetime earnings. "Your degree offers you protection from facing extended periods of unemployment," he said.

"Those with bachelor's degrees are far more likely to be employed than those without (a degree), and this is true even in the most recent recession."

Rhoda then spoke of a higher calling for those about to benefit from their academic achievements. By earning a college degree, he told the class that they have "an opportunity to play a central role in this state's new public policy agenda."

He spoke of Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam's announcement earlier this year of a goal for 55 percent of Tennessee adults to earn a college credential by the year 2025. The reason is, Rhoda said, "because that's the percentage of jobs in our knowledge-based economy that will require skills and credentials beyond high school in 2025."

Reaching this goal will require cooperation at all educational levels, he said.

"And communities will need to promote 'college going' to their citizens as a way to a better life, not just for individuals, but for everyone.""New technologies will continue to be extremely helpful in the pursuit of this goal," he said. "Online courses will change the way students interact with professors and other students. Massive Open Online Courses will bring free college-level coursework to everyone with an Internet connection."

"But these new delivery methods won't be enough. Reaching that 'Big Goal' is going to mean bringing more people into and successfully through the college pipeline. And that's where you come in."

He then challenged graduates "to be a mentor to someone else." This might include assisting someone to complete a college application or financial aid paperwork. Even explaining to someone the skills needed for certain occupations can encourage the pursuit of higher education.

"And a third group, graduates, if you know someone who is just a few hours shy of completing a college degree or certificate, and has been away from higher education for a while, convince them to come back," he said. "Convince them the benefits of earning that credential. Be their mentor, and see them through the process."

Rhoda closed by urging graduates "to be to others what that special person was to you on your way through the journey that led you across the finish line and to your graduation today."

"I assure you that the benefits and opportunities that are now available to you will mean more to you when you take responsibility for this greater good," he said. "Just as a college education is a means to bettering your life, it also is a means for you to better the lives of others."
Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series Receives Gift

Tennessee Congressman Ed Jones made many contributions to agriculture during his lifetime. Now his legacy will continue with a leadership gift by Farm Credit Mid-America to fund the Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The $12,500 gift announcement was made June 6 in the Paul Meck Library's Corbett Special Collections, which houses a replica of the late congressman's office and holds his congressional papers.

The original Ed Jones Distinguished Lecturer Series began in 1989 as Tennessee Sen. Al Gore Jr. participated as the first lecturer. Jones actively supported the series until it ended in 1995. The lead gift from Farm Credit is the first step toward endowing the lecture series, which will now also carry his late wife's name.

"Ed Jones was always trying to help agriculture, both the people and the industry, adapt to and change with the times," said Dr. Jim Culver, president, VWC Exploration, Inc., and a former congressional aide to Jones.

"That is what he focused on with his speaker series at UT. My hope is that we can continue that legacy."

Tim Williams, Farm Credit Mid-America regional vice president, made the gift announcement to an audience that included John Tanner, former U.S. representative for Tennessee's 8th congressional district and who succeeded Jones when he retired, and Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

"Farm Credit has a stewardship plan every year to invest money in the communities," said Williams. "We try to focus on education, and we see this distinguished lecture series as being an opportunity to educate not only people on the campus, but also the community as a whole."

Jones, a Yorkville, Tenn., native, earned a two-year degree in 1932 from UT Junior College, predecessor to UT Martin, and a bachelor's degree in 1934 from UT Knoxville. During his career, he served as a state dairy inspector, an agricultural agent for the Illinois Central Railroad, a farm radio host and was appointed Tennessee commissioner of agriculture under Gov. Gordon Browning.

He is probably best known for his service to the nation as U.S. representative, and he remained active in his family's farm throughout his career.

While in Congress, Jones was a senior member of the House Committee on Agriculture during a time of change in the agriculture industry and the institutions that supported it. Notable events that occurred during his career were the Farm Strike and Tractorcade to Washington, D.C., in the late 1970s, the financial struggles of the Farm Credit System, the regulation of the futures market, and the transition of the soil and water conservation programs.

Jones was selected in 2011 to become only the 13th member of the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame. The hall collection is maintained by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at the Tennessee Agricultural Museum in Nashville.

*DRESDEN ENTERPRISE, Dresden, Tennessee*

**Wednesday, June 12, 2013 --**

**Business advice available at UT Martin REED Center**

Landy Fuqua, University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneur and Economic Development Center and Tennessee Small Business Development Center certified business counselor, will help aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners with business advice at the UT Martin REED Center, located at 406 South Lindell Street in Martin.

Appointments can be made by contacting the UT Martin REED Center/TSBDC at 731-587-7333. For additional services offered by the TSBDC, visit www.tsbdc.org.

**UT Martin hosting two Governor’s Schools**

High school students attending the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities and Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin will have the opportunity to earn six hours of college credit during the summer programs.

Students in the humanities program will be on campus June 2-28, while the agricultural sciences students arrived on campus May 26 and will remain at UT Martin through June 21.

The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities, located on the UT Martin campus since 1985, will host 54 students, and the 12th Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences - one of three in the nation - has 32 students. UT Martin faculty staffs the schools, with guest presenters from throughout the United States.

UT Martin will help introduce high school students to a myriad of agricultural careers at the school for the agricultural sciences. High school students from across the state will be involved in research, living laboratories and study opportunities.

The students will expand their knowledge of food, genetics, agriculture, veterinary science, engineering and the sustainable use of renewable natural resources. They will be exposed to scientific and land stewardship concepts while sharpening their communication, problem-solving and leadership skills.

Also, students will be exposed to the manufacturing process for biofuels to include biodiesel and ethanol. Scholars will be able to manufacture the fuel in the biofuels laboratory from selected biomass materials and utilize the fuels in laboratory engines. Participants in the Governor’s School for Agricultural Sciences will again receive laptop computers to use while on campus.

"Agriculture today is a face-paced, high-tech industry that requires strong analytical skills to be successful," said Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, TGSAS director and UT Martin professor of agricultural economics. "TGSAS helps foster these skills through a variety of experiential learning opportunities." A three-day field trip to St. Louis, Mo., is planned for this year's class. Students will visit the Monsanto Research Center, the U.S. Soybean Board, Purina Mills, and have a turf tour at Busch Stadium.

The humanities immersion program includes high school juniors and seniors from across the state who have been selected to participate based on academic achievements, writing skills, and the recommendations of high school principals, counselors and teachers. As part of the program, students explore subjects as diverse as philosophy, music and literature, develop their writing skills and participate in afternoon seminars specially designed to challenge some of the "best and brightest" students in Tennessee.

"We believe the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities is the most extraordinary academic experience you can have as a high school student, and our outstanding faculty do everything they can to create a rigorous, engaging environment in which the scholars can further develop intellectual abilities," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs and governor’s school director.
AWARD WINNING MUSICIAN - Brooke Ashlee Howard, daughter of Brooks and Lana Howard of Clarksville, is a recent winner of the John Philip Sousa Band Award, honoring the top student in a high school band for superior musicianship and outstanding dedication. She attended Rossville High School and will attend UTM in the fall, majoring in music. She is the granddaughter of Justus and Doris Willet, Water Valley, the late Paul Howard, Kathy Carney of South Fulton, the late Gene Carney and the great-granddaughter of Virginia Redden of Fulton.

Junior camp planned at UTM

A camp for rising sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students interested in energy and the environment will be offered 8:50 a.m.-2:50 p.m. daily Monday through June 21 at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

At STEMulation Camp, students will work in teams through a series of hands-on activities to prepare them for team challenges. Team challenge activities such as bridge building, solar vehicle construction and mousetrap vehicle building will be part of the camp.

The cost for the camp is $180 and includes a camp T-shirt and all supplies. Students should bring their lunch.

The camp is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

An exact location for the camp will be given upon registration.

Advance registration is required.

To register, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/home.php.

Griffin to intern at Youth Villages

Heather Griffin of Martin was selected for an internship at Youth Villages, a private nonprofit organization dedicated to helping children and families live successfully.

Youth Villages provides a wide variety of programs to help children who may have suffered abuse or neglect, or who may have emotional and behavioral issues. Griffin is interning at Youth Villages' Dogwood Campus, helping children in residential treatment learn more positive behavior patterns and deal with past trauma.

Griffin is a senior at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

She is double majoring in psychology and family and consumer studies. She is graduate of Gibson County High School.

Headquartered in Memphis, Youth Villages this year will help more than 20,000 children and families in 11 states and Washington, D.C., through a wide array of programs, including intensive in-home services, residential treatment, foster care and adoption, transitional living services, mentoring and crisis services.

For more information about Youth Villages, visit www.youthvillages.org.
BLAZING A TRAIL — Bettye Giles (center) is recognized as a Title IX pioneer at the UT Martin/Morehead State women's basketball game on Jan. 19. Also attending with Giles were Lin Dunn (left) and Amy Underwood Veazey. In honor of the 40th anniversary of the groundbreaking Title IX law, which opened up opportunities for women in athletics at all levels, the OVC recently honored one pioneer from each member school.

**UTM’s Giles among Title IX pioneers**

The Ohio Valley Conference celebrated the 40th anniversary of Title IX Thursday with a luncheon at the DoubleTree Hotel in Nashville.

Each of the OVC’s 12-member institutions identified a pioneer in women’s athletics from their school to be honored during the year and celebrated at a home athletic event on their campus with Bettye Giles earning the distinction as UT Martin’s Title IX representative.

Giles was a primary force in beginning the women’s athletic programs at UT Martin, spending 43 years with the school before retiring in 1995.

She held joint appointments as an associate professor in the department of physical education and as director of women’s athletics. She also served as the university’s cheerleaders sponsor from 1952-73 and started the women’s tennis program in 1952, serving as coach for eight years.

Giles was instrumental in the development of athletic opportunities for women in Tennessee and the surrounding states.

A fixture at many UT Martin home sporting events, Giles’ presence is still very much evident across Skyhawk athletics. UT Martin’s softball field is named after the innovator and each year the school’s top female athlete is presented an award in Giles’ honor.

Last year, a statue of Giles — along with UT Martin female pioneers Nadine Gearin and Pat Head Summitt — was unveiled outside of the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Also attending the event were OVC pioneers Teresa Phillips of Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech’s Marynell Meadors, Belmont’s Betty Wiseman, Southeast Missouri’s Dr. Kala Stroup, Morehead State’s Laradean Brown, Murray State’s Margaret Simmons and Austin Peay’s Cheryl Holt.

“The OVC has a rich history of women’s athletics along with a bright future thanks to the commitment, passion and contribution of the trailblazers the conference is honoring as part of its Title IX celebration,” OVC Commissioner Beth DeBauche said. “It is important to take time to appreciate the progress that has been made on the playing fields and in the classrooms as a result of the adoption of Title IX and commitment to ensuring students of either gender are not subject to any sort of discrimination under any education program or activity.”

Title IX, which was enacted by the United States Congress on June 23, 1972, states that “no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”
UT Martin gets $1M to expand nursing program

The West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation has committed $1 million to the expansion of the registered nursing program at the University of Tennessee at Martin's Parsons Center.

UT-Martin offers West Tennessee's only basic baccalaureate program in nursing at a public institution outside of the Memphis area, and construction on a 10,000-square-foot addition to the school's current nursing facility is expected to begin this summer. The addition will include classrooms, a skills laboratory and a high-fidelity computerized simulation laboratory.

The Jackson-based West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation focuses on healthcare, educational and quality of life programs.

When the facility is completed, the Parsons Center will have openings for 30 students annually for the program. Twenty of those slots will be designated for traditional students and 10 slots will be used for licensed nurses. The funding was included in Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam's budget, which was approved by the Tennessee General Assembly in May. The gift will comprise a combination of cash contributions in the first two years and a $714,000 nursing endowment that will provide scholarships for nursing students at the Parsons Center.

"This collaboration has been a dream of many," Frank McMeen, president of the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation, said in a statement. "Producing more nurses from rural counties in West Tennessee will improve the quality of life and enhance the economic development of our area. We are bringing greater opportunities for nurse education closer to home."
West Tenn. Healthcare Foundation commits $1 million to UTM nursing program in Parsons
Jun. 13

The West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation has announced a $1 million commitment to the expansion of UT Martin's nursing program in Parsons, according to a news release.

UT Martin officials announced in May that the school's four-year bachelor of science nursing degree would be extended to the Parsons campus beginning in fall 2014. The expansion was made possible by Gov. Bill Haslam, who included $1 million for the project in his budget. The General Assembly approved the budget before adjourning in May.

Officials say more registered nurses are needed to supply the demand by health care providers across the state.

Foundation officials said the gift will comprise a combination of cash contributions in the first two years and a $714,000 nursing endowment that will provide scholarships for nursing students at the Parsons Center.

The gift marks the largest financial commitment by the Foundation outside of its work with West Tennessee Healthcare.

Construction on a 10,000-square-foot addition to the current facility is expected to begin this summer. The addition will include classrooms, a skills laboratory and a high-fidelity computerized simulation laboratory.

UT Martin Parsons Center will have openings for up to 30 students annually for the program, with 20 slots designated for traditional students and 10 slots for licensed practical nurses (LPNs). Graduates of the BSN program will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses and obtain licensure as registered nurses.
STEMulation registration

Registration remains open for STEMulation Camp 2013 – Environment and Energy, offered from 8:50 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. Monday through June 21 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The camp is for rising sixth, seventh and eighth-grade students interested in science related to energy and the environment.

Students will work in teams through a series of hands-on activities in preparation for team challenges.

Team-challenge activities such as bridge building, solar vehicle construction, solid-fuel rocket building, mousetrap vehicle building and video game design will be offered.

The cost for the camp is $180 and includes a camp T-shirt and all supplies. Students should bring their lunch.

The UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies sponsors the camp.

Advance registration is required. To register, contact ECOS at 731-881-7082, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

LOCAL DAD — This dad, Jeff Longacre, was caught on the front lawn spending some time with his two daughters, Taylor and Blake. When Jeff isn’t lecturing university students at UTM, he’s spending time with his girls, going to soccer practice or gymnastic classes. Jeff loves his girls and they adore their father, because fathers matter most to little girls.
Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series receives gift

Tennessee Congressman Ed Jones made many contributions to agriculture during his lifetime. Now his legacy will continue with a leadership gift by Farm Credit Mid-America to fund the Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecturer Series at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The $12,500 gift announcement was made June 6 in the Paul Meek Library's Corbitt Special Collections, which houses a replica of the late congressman's office and holds his congressional papers.

The original Ed Jones Distinguished Lecturer Series began in 1989 as Tennessee Sen. Al Gore Jr. participated as the first lecturer. Jones actively supported the series until it ended in 1995. The lead gift from Farm Credit is the first step toward endowing the lecture series, which will now also carry his late wife's name.

"Ed Jones was always trying to help agriculture, both the people and the industry, adapt to and change with the times," said Dr. Jim Culver, president, VVC Exploration, Inc., and a former congressional aide to Jones. "That is what he focused on with his speaker series at UTM. My hope is that we can continue that legacy."

Tim Williams, Farm Credit Mid-America regional vice president, made the gift announcement to an audience that included John Tanner, former U.S. representative for Tennessee's 8th congressional district and who succeeded Jones when he retired, and Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

"Farm Credit has a stewardship plan every year to invest money in the communities," said Williams. "We try to focus on education, and we see this distinguished lecture series as being an opportunity to educate not only people on the campus at UT Martin, but also the community as whole."

Jones, a Yorkville native, earned a two-year degree in 1932 from UT Junior College, predecessor to UT Martin and a bachelor's degree in 1934 from UT Knoxville. During his career, he served as a state dairy inspector, an agricultural agent for the Illinois Central Railroad, a farm radio host and was appointed Tennessee commissioner of agriculture under Gov. Gordon Browning. He is probably best known for his service from 1969-89 as U.S. representative, and he remained active in his family's farm throughout his career.

In Congress, Jones was a senior member of the House Committee on Agriculture during a time of change in the agriculture industry and the institutions that supported it.

‘MISS ANN’ RETIRES — Ann Hall (center) retired after 25 years as a preschool teacher for the Margaret N. Perry Children’s Center at UT Martin. Center alumni taught by “Miss Ann” recently returned for a reception held in her honor. Pictured are (front row-left to right) Libbi Verdell, Tatum Hall (center alum and Ann’s granddaughter) and Marisa Rubio; (back row-left to right) Rachel Butler, Hall and Logan Wright.
UTM’s Jones lecture series benefits from leadership gift

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Tim Williams, Farm Credit Mid-America regional vice president, made the gift announcement to an audience that included John Tanner, former U.S. Representative for Tennessee’s 8th Congressional District and Jones’ successor when he retired, and Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

Jones, a Yorkville native, earned a two-year degree in 1932 from UT Junior College, predecessor to UT Martin, and a bachelor’s degree in 1934 from UT Knoxville.

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While in Congress, Jones was a senior member of the House Committee on Agriculture during a time of change in the agriculture industry and the institutions that supported it. Notable events that occurred during his career were the Farm Strike and Tractorcade to Washington, D.C., in the late 1970s, the financial struggles of the Farm Credit System, the regulation of the futures market and the transition of the soil and water conservation programs.

Jones was selected in 2011 to become only the 13th member of the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame. The hall collection is maintained by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at the Tennessee Agricultural Museum in Nashville.

Gifts to the lecture series fund may be made online at www.utm.edu or by calling the UT Martin Office of Development at (731) 881-7620.
UTM Parsons gets $1M for nursing

West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation provides grant for expanded program

The Jackson Sun

The recently announced expansion of a registered nursing program at UT Martin Parsons Center got another significant boost with a $1 million commitment from the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation, officials announced Wednesday.

"It is with great pleasure that the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation is joining UT Martin and the Ayers Foundation to provide funding to increase the number of nurses in rural West Tennessee," said Robert Caldwell, chairman of West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation trustees, in a news release.

UT Martin officials announced in May that the school's four-year bachelor of science nursing degree would be extended to the Parsons campus beginning in fall 2014.

Officials say more registered nurses are needed to supply the demand by healthcare providers across the state.

"West Tennessee has a great need for more nurses," said Harbert Alexander, vice chairman of the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation board of trustees. "Our partnership with UT Martin will greatly enhance the quality of care in hospitals and facilities that care for children and the elderly. What a wonderful opportunity for the WTH Foundation to assist in funding scholarships and provide funds for the enhancement of the training facility in Parsons."

UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes expressed his gratitude for the gift.

"We are all deeply grateful to West Tennessee Healthcare and the foundation for this support," Rakes said. "I am looking forward to welcoming the first class of students for the program at Parsons in the fall of 2014."

Foundation officials said the gift will comprise a combination of cash contributions in the first two years and a $714,000 nursing endowment that will provide scholarships for nursing students at the Parsons Center.

The gift marks the largest financial commitment by the foundation outside of its work with West Tennessee Healthcare, the release said.

"This collaboration has been a dream of many," said Frank McMeen, president of the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation.

"Producing more nurses from rural counties in West Tennessee will improve the quality of life and enhance the economic development of our area. We are bringing greater opportunities for nurse education closer to home."

Construction on a 10,000-square-foot addition to the current facility is expected to begin this summer. The addition will include classrooms, a skills laboratory and a high-fidelity computerized simulation laboratory.

UT Martin Parsons Center will have openings for up to 30 students annually for the program, with 20 slots designated for traditional students and 10 slots for licensed practical nurses. Graduates of the BSN program will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Exam for Registered Nurses and obtain licensure as registered nurses.

For more information, contact Parsons Center nursing program coordinator Jeannie Walker at (731) 847-3880 or jwalke98@utm.edu, or Dr. Kelli Deere, Parsons Center director, at (731) 847-3880 or kdeere@utm.edu.

See GRANT, Page B2
MISS TENNESSEE CONTESTANTS 2013

Miss UT Martin
Name: Jordan Gunn
Talent: Vocal, “Time to Say Goodbye”; Age: 21
Platform: Bullying Awareness
Education: UT Martin, B.S. in geoscience with a concentration in meteorology, senior

Miss Tennessee
Name: Madison Hardy
Talent: Vocal, “Sunday Kind of Love”; Age: 24
Platform: Tennessee: Get Up & Go!
Education: Belmont University, bachelor of business administration, music business

Miss Tennessee Valley
Name: Hannah Robison
Talent: Piano, “El Cumbanchero”; Age: 19
Platform: Student Advocacy for Underprivileged Children
Education: UT Martin, chemistry, junior
Birthday shoutout: Pat Summitt

Pat Summit, the legendary women's basketball coach at University of Tennessee, turns 61 years old today.

She won 1,088 games, with a winning percentage of .841, and her teams won eight national championships. Her Lady Vols teams played in every NCAA Tournament and only missed the Sweet 16 once. She was co-captain of the first U.S. Olympic team in 1976, and coach of the first U.S. team to win the gold medal (1984).

They are great numbers, record-setting and landmark numbers. But they only form the backdrop to the larger story of a woman who has defined women's basketball and women's athletics for several generations in the U.S.

She started at UT-Martin in the years before Title IX, and she became head coach at Tennessee at age 22. She was paid $250 per month, and her duties included laundering the team's uniforms (which had been purchased with the proceeds from selling doughnuts).

She developed the team into one of the first great national powerhouses, developing a long rivalry with the equally prominent program at Old Dominion. As her program grew, she worked hard to make sure that the sport grew with it. In 1990, when Knoxville was hosting the Final Four, Tennessee lost in overtime to Virginia in the regional final - but the heartbroken Summitt relentlessly promoted the Final Four in her hometown.

Almost two dozen of her former players have gone on to become college coaches, and her son Tyler is an assistant coach at Marquette.

In August 2011, Summitt announced to the world that she had been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's Disease. She coached one more season, working in a smaller role while gradually handing the program over to her longtime assistant Holly Warlick. Summitt currently holds the title of head coach emeritus. It seems very likely that her Pat Summitt Foundation will become as much a part of her lifelong legacy as Jim Valvano's cancer foundation.

Last year she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Click here to watch an ESPN retrospective on her career, narrated by one of her former players, Kara Lawson.
UT-Martin’s Luthi “National Coach of the Year”

June 17th, 2013 - By Charles Choate

UT-Martin rodeo coach John Luthi has been named National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association “Coach of the Year” at the 65th annual College National Finals Rodeo.

It was certainly a banner year for Coach Luthi in 2013.

The UT Martin men’s team accumulated 7,465 points in a span of 10 rodeos entering the postseason. They won their 12th Ozark Region championship and qualified for their 40th straight CNFR appearance in 2013.

Luthi brought home regional “Coach of the Year” honors, one of seven championship awards that UT Martin received from the Ozark Region.

He also presided over the 45th annual Spring College Rodeo at UT Martin, which was named the Ozark’s “Rodeo of the Year” for the eighth straight season.

The UT-Martin men’s team finished 10th in the nation at the CNFR, the fifth time since 2005 that the team has closed out the year in the top-10.

UT Martin Rodeo Coach Honored

Story Updated: Jun 17, 2013

MARTIN, Tenn.-Congratulations for the University of Tennessee at Martin rodeo coach.

John Luthi was named national Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Coach of the Year this week at the 65th annual College National Finals Rodeo.

The award was voted on by the board of directors, made up of the regional and student directors.
UT Martin's Taylor Selected as OVC Nominee for NCAA Woman of the Year Award

* NCAA Woman of the Year Website

UT Martin's Leah Taylor have been selected as the Ohio Valley Conference's nominee for the NCAA Woman of the Year award. The award will be announced at the Woman of the Year Awards Dinner in Indianapolis on October 14.

Each conference nominates up to two women and from that group the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics (CWA) narrows it down to the top 10 per division which will be announced in August. In September, the CWA will select the top 3 per division.

The NCAA Woman of the Year Award honors graduating student-athletes who have distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate careers in the areas of academic achievement, athletics excellence, service and leadership. Student-athletes are nominated only once in their career by their institution.

The NCAA CWA manages the nomination process and selections. In the past five years, 676 student-athletes were nominated by their conference or independent institutions, representing multiple conferences and all NCAA-sponsored sports within Divisions I, II and III. In 2012 alone, 429 student-athletes were nominated by their institutions. From 1996 through 2005, an average of 410 females student-athletes per year were nominated for the award, and since the program's inception in 1991 2629 women have been recognized as state or conference honorees.

Taylor, a marketing major with an impressive 3.97 GPA, was recently named a CoSIDA Academic All-American, marking the second year in a row she has been honored with that award. She has also been a multi-time selection to the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll as well as being an OVC Medal of Honor recipient and being tabbed an NFCA All-America Scholar-Athlete. She is a member of the UT Martin Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SACC), the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society and Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

She has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and Hoops for Heroes as well as participating with numerous elementary school events.

On the field, Taylor has been nothing short of remarkable. This past season, she became the UT Martin all-time career leader in runs scored (162), steals (110) and triples (18). The Brownsville, Tenn. native led the OVC in steals (36) and is tied for such in the nation in that category. Taylor will go down as the first player in OVC history to record over 25 career home runs and 100 stolen bases.

The 2012 OVC Player of the Year, Taylor finished this season hitting .296 batting average while posting a career-high 10 home runs and driving in 30 runs on the season. She continued to leave her mark in the UTM single-game record books as well, hitting two home runs against Jacksonville State, tallying four hits against Middle Tennessee State and swiping four bases against Southern Illinois.

Taylor will continue her work within the athletic department at UT Martin as she pursues Master's in Business Administration. She will use what she has learned in the classroom as a graduate assistant with Skyhawk Marketing and Development.
University of Tennessee at Martin lecturer and author of “The Knowers,” Merry Brown’s latest work of YA fiction, “Gold Manor Ghost House,” was released.

Merry drew from her love of YA lit and philosophy to develop this story. “I like looking at the world in new ways,” she said. “Imagining another universe is a great way to examine our own lives and choices.”

“Gold Manor Ghost House” follows Anna Rose Ellington, who is 16 and living in Hollywood, hoping to be a star. Anna just landed a major role on Ghost House, TeenTV’s new fall drama. A show promising to be so hot, Meg Sweet (the reigning teenage diva), signed on for the lead, and Adam Lewis (international rock sensation) is a principal player.

Her dreams are falling into place until she gets on set and begins questioning her sanity. It’s true she has an unusual dream life, where once in a while her dreams literally come true. On top of her dreams not staying put in her brain, including the guy she’d been dreaming of for years, the house they’re filming in, Gold Manor? It might actually be haunted. But that’s the least of her worries.

Merry Brown currently resides in Martin, Tennessee with her husband, three boys, and 1-1/2 cats. She teaches philosophy at the University of Tennessee at Martin. “Gold Manor Ghost House” is available in paperback and e-editions on Amazon.com. Visit her at merrymbrown.com or Twitter @merrymbrown.

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**Luthi honored as best**

CASPER, Wyo. — University of Tennessee at Martin rodeo coach John Luthi was named National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Coach of the Year at the 65th annual College National Finals Rodeo.

The award, was voted upon by the NIRA board of directors, made up of the regional and student directors.

“I am very honored to get this award,” Luthi said. “It’s a huge honor and I praise God for the opportunity. There are a lot of great coaches in the NIRA and I feel very blessed to be considered one of them.”

It was certainly a banner year for Luthi in 2013. The UT Martin men’s team accumulated 7,465 points in 10 rodeos entering the postseason. The men’s squad won the Ozark Region by a commanding 3,185 points and qualified for its 40th straight CNFR appearance in 2013. It was the program’s 12th Ozark Region championship under the guidance of Luthi and 28th Ozark title since 1976.

Luthi brought home regional Coach of the Year honors, one of seven championship awards that UT Martin received from the Ozark Region. He also presided over the 45th annual Spring College Rodeo at UT Martin, which was named the Ozark’s “Rodeo of the Year” for the eighth straight season.

Several UT Martin cowboys earned top-10 national rankings throughout the season thanks to the tutelage of Luthi, who took over as head coach in 1997.

The UT Martin men’s team finished 10th in the nation at the CNFR, the fifth time since 2005 that the team has closed out the year in the Top 10.

Tyler Waltz (bareback riding, sixth), John Alley/Clark Adcock (team roping, seventh) and Clay Mitchell/Lane Mitchell (team roping, 10th) also all rounded out the 2013 season ranked in the top-10 in their respective events.
UTM pioneer Giles lauded

The Ohio Valley Conference celebrated the 40th anniversary of Title IX recently with a luncheon at the DoubleTree Hotel in Nashville.

Each of the OVC's 12-member institutions identified a pioneer in women's athletics from their school to be honored during the year and celebrated at a home athletic event on their campus with Betty Giles earning the distinction as UT Martin's Title IX representative.

Giles was a primary force in beginning the women's athletic programs at UTM, spending 43 years there before retiring in 1995.

She held joint appointments as an associate professor in the department of physical education and as director of women's athletics. She also served as the University's cheerleaders sponsor from 1952-73 and started the women's tennis program in 1952, serving as coach for eight years.

Giles was instrumental in the development of athletic opportunities for women in Tennessee.

A fixture at many UTM events, Giles' presence is still evident across Skyhawk athletics. UT Martin's softball field is named after the innovator and each year the school's top female athlete is presented an award in Giles' honor.

Last year, a statue of Giles — along with UT Martin female pioneers Nadine Gearin and Pat Head Summitt — was unveiled outside of the Elam Center.

Also attending the event was OVC pioneers Teresa Phillips of Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech's Marynell Meadors, Belmont's Betty Wiseman, SEMO's Missouri's Dr. Kala Stroup, Morehead State's LaRae Brown, Murray State's Margaret Simmons and Austin Peay's Cheryl Holt.

Miss UTM to compete

A University of Tennessee at Martin student will join contestants from across the state in the Miss Tennessee Pageant Wednesday through Saturday at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

Jordan Gunn of Dyersburg, 2013 Miss University of Tennessee at Martin, will compete, along with Madison Hardy of Nashville, 2013 Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival.

Miss Gunn is a senior geosciences major at UT Martin and Miss Hardy is a graduate of Belmont University.

"Madison and Jordan have been diligent this year in their preparations for this competition," said Hollie Holt, Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival director.

"The Miss America organization gives them the resources to grow in all aspects of their lives, helping them become strong, independent women while making a difference in our world through their own personal philanthropic platforms of bullying awareness and fighting obesity in Tennessee."

Miss Tennessee contestants compete in swimsuit, talent, eveningwear, interview and on-stage questions. During the competition, contestants will win more than $75,000 in scholarship funds. Miss Tennessee will compete for the title of Miss America in September 2013.

The final competition is scheduled for 7:45 p.m. Saturday.

Lego camps offered for children at UT Martin

MARTIN — Lego camps for children will be offered Monday-Friday, June 24-28, at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

"Early Simple Machines" is geared for children ages 5-7 and will run from 9-11 a.m. Students will build fun and simple models like a seesaw, rolling vehicles, spinning tops and more.

"Simple and Powered Machines" is geared for children ages 8-12 and will run from 1-3 p.m. Students will build and explore machines and mechanisms, investigate motorized machines, calibrate and capture wind and more.

"Advanced Simple and Powered Machines" is geared for children ages 8-12 and will run from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Using the simple and motorized machines, children are given a more in-depth understanding of simple machines, mechanisms and structure. This course is recommended for students who have completed the "Simple and Powered Machines" camp.

The cost for each camp is $140 and includes a T-shirt. Advance registration is required.

The camp is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies. To register, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non-degree/children.php.
New dean appointed in college at UTM

Dr. Todd A. Winters has accepted an appointment as dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, effective July 1, at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor of academic affairs and provost, made the announcement recently.

Winters, a professor and associate dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, earned his Ph.D. in endocrinology/reproductive physiology (biochemistry) from the University of Wisconsin at Madison and his master's degree in animal science from Purdue University.

His bachelor's degree in animal science is from Washington State University and he served as a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Virginia Health Sciences Center in Charlottesville from 1992-94.

"I am looking forward to leading a college that is already moving in a positive direction," Winters said.

"Deans (Jerry) Gresham and (Jim) Byford should be proud of their accomplishments. The College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences is well positioned to train the workforce, and provide assistance through research and outreach to help solve important societal issues related to food production and security, environmental stewardship and climate change, nutrition and family wellness, and food safety."

Dr. Wes Totten, UT Martin associate professor of plant and soil science, chaired the search committee. Other members of the search committee included Dr. Lisa LeBlu, UT Martin professor of family and consumer sciences education; Maj. Christopher McDaniell, UT Martin assistant professor of military science; Dr. Ben West, UT Martin natural resources management graduate, and director, UT Extension Western Region; and Marcus Wood, UT Martin agriculture graduate and media professional in Jackson.

"This ended up being a particularly complex search, but the committee did a superb job recruiting an impressive group of interviewees," Ogg said.

Winters succeeds Gresham, who is retiring June 30.

UTM's Taylor a candidate for NCAA award

(UTM Sports Information) — Leah Taylor, a Brownsville native who recently finished her UT Martin softball career, has been selected as the Ohio Valley Conference's nominee for the NCAA Woman of the Year award.

Taylor majored in Marketing and was an Academic All-American. She is the alltime UTM softball leader in runs scored, stolen bases and triples. She will soon study Business Administration as a Master's student at UTM.

The award will be announced at the Woman of the Year Awards Dinner in Indianapolis in October.

Each conference nominates up to two women and from that group the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics (CWA) narrows it down to the top 10 per division which will be announced in August. In September, the CWA will select the top 3 per division.

UT Martin's John Luthi named Rodeo Coach of the Year

CASPER, Wyo. (UTM Sports Information) — The University of Tennessee at Martin rodeo coach John Luthi was named National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Coach of the Year this week at the 65th annual College National Finals Rodeo.

The award, which was officially presented on Wednesday, June 12, was voted upon by the NIRCA Board of Directors, made up of the regional and student directors.

"I am very honored to get this award," Luthi said. "It's a huge honor and I praise God for the opportunity. There are a lot of great coaches in the NIRCA and I feel very blessed to be considered one of them."

The UT Martin men's team accumulated 7,465 points in a span of 10 rodeos entering the 2013 postseason. The men's squad won the Ozark Region by a commanding 3,185 points and qualified for its 40th straight CNFR appearance in 2013. It was the program's 12th Ozark Region championship under the guidance of Luthi and 28th Ozark title since 1976.
Jim Ayers is a blessing to our community

Who is Jim Ayers?
He is a crappie fisherman.
He is a duck hunter.
He is a first generation college student from a small town, in rural West Tennessee. That is the main thing Jim Ayers wants you to know about him. Someone who came from humble beginnings, and he is someone who will be very quick to tell you Decatur County is home.

Last year, as a part of a West Star Leadership program, I had the amazing opportunity to interview Jim at his office in Nashville. He has been blessed with a great career and many accolades along the way, but when you sit down to talk with him that is not the first thing he wants to talk about. For those of you that know me, I was perfectly content to talk about crappie fishing and duck hunting as long as he wanted.

Jim serves as the Chairman and sole owner of FirstBank, the largest privately held bank in the state of Tennessee. His banking career began in 1984, when he and Steve White purchased Farmers State Bank in Scotts Hill. FirstBank has continued to grow over the years, with over 40 branch locations from Memphis to Knoxville.

One of the common themes you continuously hear from Jim is the focus and attention placed on people.

Outside of business, Ayers is one of the leading philanthropists in the region. This all began following a Foundation board meeting at Jackson State, where he continues to serve on the board today. He noticed how many scholarships were going unused, and how many kids from his hometown who were not going to college because...

See AYERS, Page B2

Ayers

Continued from Page B1

they thought they couldn't afford it. This led him to create the Ayers Foundation in 1999 to help kids in Decatur County realize their potential by going to college.

To date, 2,500 scholarships have been awarded and the program has been expanded to include several other counties. Yes, he was in a position to financially help, but it was his heart and the need which led him to pursue it.

In 2005, another investment was made in rural West Tennessee with a gift from Ayers to form the Ayers Children's Medical Center at the Jackson-Madison County General Hospital.

Every time Jim talks about this, you can tell he is emotionally shaken by the need. When he tells of parents who have a sick child but do not have the resources to get their child to Memphis or Nashville to see a doctor, you know he hurts with them. This investment allowed sick children to be treated right here in Jackson, where they would have previously had to be seen elsewhere.

According to reports, over 15,000 follow up visits were done here at home, saving families the stress and financial strain of having to travel to Memphis or Nashville.

What a blessing it is to have someone like Jim Ayers in our community. The most fascinating thing for me, from the time I spent with him, was the focus is on others and not on him.

We may not all have the ability to write large checks, but we do have the ability to identify needs and help as we are able. Will you take the challenge? To see the full interview, go to www.davebratcher.com and see how his dream for the Ayers Children's Medical Center continues to grow (Hint: Pay close attention to the last segment).

Dave Bratcher is the founder of www.davebratcher.com, speaker, teacher and trainer in the area of leadership and organizational development. He serves as the vice president of Financial Services for the West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation and can be contacted at dave@davebratcher.com.
UT ponders increases in fees, tuition

UTHSC could rise 5% under plan

By Richard Locker
locker@commercialappeal.com
615-255-4923

NASHVILLE — The University of Tennessee is proposing student tuition increases of 6 percent at its Knoxville and Chattanooga campuses and 5 percent at the Health Science Center in Memphis beginning this fall.

And steeper increases in mandatory fees will push the total bills even higher for most students.

Annual tuition (two semesters) for in-state undergraduates at UT-Knoxville would rise from $7,802 in 2012-13 to $8,270 in 2013-14. But mandatory fees paid by all full-time students will increase 9.6 percent, from $1,290 to $1,414, pushing tuition and fees from $9,092 to $9,684, a 6.5 percent rise.

The UT Board of Trustees will consider the increases in committee meetings Wednesday in Knoxville. If approved as expected, the full board will act on the recommendations Thursday. The increases would go into effect with the fall semester in August. UT's administrators posted the proposed tuition and fee increases on the university's website Tuesday evening.

At UT-Knoxville, students who live on campus also face a 6 percent increase in meal plans and a 4.7 percent increase in residence hall rates.

Students at UT-Chattanooga will see a 12.5 percent increase in parking rates, 4 percent hike in meal plans and 3.9 percent increase in some residence hall rates. UT-Martin students face 2.2 to 2.5 percent increases in residence hall rates. Students at UTHSC in Memphis face a 9.1 percent increase in student health insurance, which they must buy through the university if they don't have private health coverage.

If the proposals are approved, UT-Martin in-state undergraduates will pay total tuition and mandatory fees of $7,514 (excluding meals and residence halls) for the upcoming school year, up $458 or 6.5 percent from last year. Students at UT-Chattanooga will pay $7,555, up $343 or 4.8 percent from last year.

Tuition and fees at UTHSC vary widely by discipline. The board will also consider pay increases for the university's top administrators. System president Joseph DiPietro's base salary would increase by 10 percent, to $465,618 effective July 1. He also receives a $20,000 housing allowance and $12,000 expense allowance.

UTHSC chancellor Steven J. Schwab's base salary would increase 3 percent to $562,380. UT-Knoxville chancellor Jimmy Cheek's base salary would rise by 10 percent to $434,451.

Schwab and Cheek each receive a $20,000 housing allowance and $10,000 expense allowance.

UT-Martin chancellor Thomas Rakes would receive a 10 percent base salary increase to $247,360. He receives a housing allowance of $10,000 and $5,000 expense allowance.

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Wednesday, June 19, 2013

UTM's Taylor picked as national finalist

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Leah Taylor has been selected as the Ohio Valley Conference's nominee for the NCAA Woman of the Year award.

The award will be announced at the Woman of the Year Awards Dinner in Indianapolis on Oct. 14. Each conference nominates up to two women and from that group the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics narrows it down to the top 10 per division that will be announced in August. In September, the CWA will select the top 3 per division.

The NCAA Woman of the Year Award honors graduating student-athletes who have distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate careers in the areas of academic achievement, athletics excellence, service and leadership. Student-athletes are nominated only once in their career by their institution.

The NCAA CWA manages the nomination process and selections.
UT Martin’s Luthi is top rodeo mentor

UTM Sports Information
CASPER, Wyo. - The University of Tennessee at Martin rodeo coach John Luthi was named National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Coach of the Year at the 65th annual College National Finals Rodeo.

The award, which was officially presented on June 12 was voted upon by the NIRA Board of Directors, made up of the regional and student directors.

"I am very honored to get this award," Luthi said. "It's a huge honor and I praise God for the opportunity. There are a lot of great coaches in the NIRA and I feel very blessed to be considered one of them."

It was certainly a banner year for Luthi in 2013.

The UT Martin men’s team accumulated 7,465 points in a span of 10 rodeos entering the postseason. The men’s squad won the Ozark Region by a commanding 3,185 points and qualified for its 40th straight CNFR appearance in 2013.

It was the program’s 12th Ozark Region championship under the guidance of Luthi and 28th Ozark title since 1976.

Luthi brought home regional Coach of the Year honors, one of seven championship awards that UT Martin received from the Ozark Region. He also presided over the 45th annual Spring College Rodeo at UT Martin, which was named the Ozark’s Rodeo of the Year for the eighth straight season.

Weakley West Relay For Life raises over $56,000

Left Photo: Team members make their way around the track, lighted by luminaries, during the Weakley West Relay For Life event held Friday, June 14, on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin. Right Photo: A performer prepares to entertain the audience onstage. (See story and additional photos on page 3.)
Weakley West Relay For Life raises over $56,000

By David Fisher
Staff Reporter

According to American Cancer Society officials, this year's Weakley County West Relay for Life event, held June 14-15 at UT Martin, raised approximately $56,306 for the fight against cancer.

It is anticipated that an additional $10,000 in donations will be received this week, and contributions will continue to flow in through area fundraising events that will increase the amount even more.

According to Weakley County West Relay Coordinator Barbara Castleman, MTD, which has had a Relay team since 1998, is the largest contributor, having donated a total of approximately $550,000 over the past 15 years.

Castleman stated there were approximately 700 people in attendance during Friday night's Relay at UT Martin, which includes 52 survivors participating in the activities.

This was the second of three Relay events in the Weakley County area this month, which marks the 100th Anniversary of the American Cancer Society.

The Weakley Southwest County Relay For Life raised over $24,000; and the Weakley East Event is this Friday night starting at 5:00 p.m. at the Tater Town Raceway located on Highway 22 between Dresden and Gleason.

A group of participants at this year's Relay join in the fun by dressing up like their favorite superheroes. They include: Star Wars characters, Super-girl, Wonder Woman, Batman, and Batgirl.
A local band entertains an audience of approximately 700, during the Weakley County West Relay For Life Friday, June 14, on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Marguriet Frazier (front) joins with a Relay team in supporting Friday night's Relay For Life at UT Martin.

Randal and Dawn Walker with two-year-old daughter, Megan, attended Friday night's Relay For Life at UT Martin.

Kiwanis Speaker

UT Martin Head Football Coach Jason Simpson spoke to the Martin Kiwanis Club on Wednesday, May 15th, about the team's upcoming 2013 season.
The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2013 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for Chancellor’s Honor Roll recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor’s Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Local students on the Honor Roll include:

**Dresden** - James T. Adkins with high honors, Riley E. Auenshine with highest honors, Lisa C. Baskell with honors, Katherine N. Blaylock with honors, Marianne J. Brook with highest honors, Hannah M. Cooper with honors, Wynter L. Crowell with honors, Gregory R. Curd with highest honors, Donna M. Davidson with honors, Shannon E. Fisher with honors, Danielle N. Gallimore with high honors, Erica E. Gilson with honors, Jeffrey T. Goodlow with honors, Matthew T. Henderson with honors, John M. Herron with highest honors, Monica M. King with honors, Mindy I. McCullum with honors, Cari J. Moore with highest honors, Brittany D. Morgan with highest honors, Kristi L. Parsley with highest honors, Colleen Perkins with high honors, Jessica M. Phelps with honors, Hilerie D. Rickman with highest honors, Maegan M. Smith with honors, Zachary L. Terry with high honors, Abbie G. Turberville with honors, Adam S. Turberville with honors, Adam R. Vaughan with high honors, Cayde D. Wainscott with high honors, Ben M. Walker with highest honors, Benjamin R. Walker with honors, David A. Walker with high honors, Bethany A. Walters with honors, Danielle M. Wilkerson with highest honors, Amber N. Woods with highest honors.

**Dukedom** - Erin L. Bivens with high honors, Jennifer M. Mansfield with honors, Zackary S. Roberts with honors, Mayce R. Thompson with honors.

**Gleason** - Ryan W. Clark with highest honors, Rana F. Ducak with high honors, Preston D. Fraizer with highest honors, Kelly L. Hatley with high honors, Nicole M. Huisman with honors, Leah N. Mebane with honors, Riley E. Moran with high honors, Hunter C. Morse with honors, Evan J. Orr with high honors, Billy F. Reeves with highest honors, Katie L. Snider with high honors, Halsey A. Swafford with honors, Elizabeth D. Terrell with high honors, Trevor C. Torre with high honors, Hollie L. Townes with high honors, John M. Wilson with highest honors.

**Greenfield** - Dakota R. Betts with high honors, Karsee N. Cook with high honors, Heath A. Crouse with honors, Lea J. Gale with honors, Tyler N. Jones with highest honors, Katelin B. Raul with highest honors, Abbey T. McDaniel with highest honors, Natalie L. Medling with honors, James A. Morris with honors, Payton M. Page with high honors, Kelly D. Pence with high honors, Dalton L. Folds with highest honors, Hannah G. Rawls with highest honors, Stephanie D. Sellers with highest honors, Kaufman P. Simmons with honors, Andrea S. Smith with honors, Mary A. Straley with highest honors, Michael Thompson with highest honors, Carl R. Whitlow with high honors, Cody L. Worley with highest honors.

**Martinsville** - Laura E. Adams with honors, Dionna M. Alaba with high honors, Isaac C. Armstrong with high honors, Candice N. Baker with high honors, Olivia G. Baltz with high honors, Derek R. Barner with honors, Magen L. Beard with highest honors, Allison M. Beddington with highest honors, Aimee C. Bigler with honors, Chandra M. Blackburn with highest honors, Jacqueline D. Blackmon with high honors, Kimberly E. Boldt with highest honors, Larabeth A. Bondurant with honors, Matthew D. Borden with honors, Judi L. Bowers with honors, Kelsey B. Breland with high honors, Julia M. Brinkley with honors, Elizabeth R. Bukevich with highest honors, Megan N. Burnham with high honors, Jamie L. Burgess with honors, Diedre E. Butler with honors, Ashley E. Bynum with highest honors, Christopher E. Capua with high honors, Landon C. Coates with honors, Logan S. Coates with honors, Joseph D. Copeland with high honors, Amanda L. Crowe with honors, Steven W. Dalton with highest honors, Jenna K. Davis with honors, Robert L. Deveau with high honors, Jordan P. Dortch with highest honors, Lauren B. Dowdy with highest honors, Bryan J. Fisher with highest honors, David W. Fitzgerald with high honors, Brandon S. Fletcher with honors, Nicholas R. Frame with honors, Kevin J. Freeman with highest honors, Travis W. Garner with honors, Brandt M. Gibson with highest honors, Jennifer N. Gilbertson with honors, Victor S. Gossler with high honors, Matthew J. Granner with high honors, Ashley A. Grimes with high honors, Ashley M. Gross with high honors, Laura N. Guffey with high honors, Kristin D. Harrelson with highest honors, Kayla E. Hauke with highest honors, Casey L. Hoes with honors, Taia L. Holford with highest honors, James R. Holland with highest honors, Cassie M. Hood with honors, Kristin M. Howes with high honors, Alyssa D. Hubbard with high honors, Christopher D. Hutcherson with honors, Kathryn A. Imperiale with highest honors, Lyndsey B. Jackson with honors, Jennifer K. Johnson with highest honors, Joshua T. Johnson with high honors, Melissa A. Johnson with honors, Brentera M. Jones with high honors, Justin L. Jordan with honors, Kyoeongme Kim with highest honors, Hilary L. King with honors, Saychay Krittarath with highest honors, Caitlyn P. Landry with highest honors, Brian A. Lapierre with high honors, Christy L. Lee with honors, Colin M. Lester with highest honors, Thomas S. Logan with high honors, Chase G. Manley with highest honors, Katherine A. McKeel with highest honors, Shannon L. McMillin with honors, Alison L. Meacham with high honors, Kristen D. Mitchell with highest honors, James P. Moser with honors, Chase A. Moss with honors, Whitney B. Mount with honors, Ezra F. Nance with high honors, Ashley N. Newton with high honors, Jessi L. Ogg with highest honors, Orreen P. Ogg with highest honors, Amy B. Olsh with high honors, Andrew G. Oliver with honors, Jomane K. Owens with honors, Alexander W. Parham with highest honors, Jennifer L. Parrish with highest honors, Krishna V. Patel with highest honors, Saumil V. Patel with highest honors, Steven N. Pentecost with highest honors, Emily D. Petty with highest honors, Giovonnie R. Pierce with highest honors, Preston C. Pigg with honors, Breanna H. Pitcher with honors, Landon P. Prather with honors, William T. Price with high honors, Angela D. Reddick with high honors, Julie M. Reddick with highest honors, Michelle A. Richmond with high honors, Richard P. Ritz with highest honors, Amy L. ...
Roberts with high honors, Shiloh A. Robertson with honors, David K. Royster with high honors, Mercedes L. Rubion with high honors, Cynthia A. Runions with highest honors, Cory S. Sandefar with high honors, Olivia D. Smith with honors, Rachel E. Stegall with honors, Zoe E. Stringer with highest honors, Rory D. Stutzman with highest honors, Rose M. Sullivan with high honors, Taylor G. Swaim with honors, Eric R. Talley with high honors, Jonathan M. Travis with high honors, Carly R. Unger with high honors, James A. Verdell with highest honors, Libbi W. Verdell with highest honors, Resan J. Ward with honors, Zilharv H. Ward with highest honors, Shonton T. Watson with highest honors, Aaron M. White with honors, Sherry White with honors, Dustin A. Wiley with highest honors, Kelsey P. Wiley with highest honors, Charles E. Wilson with honors, Marcus K. Winston with honors, Lauren P. Witherspoon with high honors, Durant B. Wright with high honors, Sarah L. Yates with highest honors.

Palmersville - Jannie E. Reed with highest honors.
Sharon - Jason Ballard with high honors, Matthew C. Caldwell with high honors, Tonya M. Evans with highest honors, Kayla L. Heisler with honors, Nicole M. Hicks with high honors, James K. Klutts with honors, John H. Nanney with honors, Rebecca J. Norton with highest honors, Brianna A. Reaves with high honors, Ty J. Roberts with honors, Kayla B. White with honors, Matthew R. Wright with high honors.

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Lego camps for children ages 8-12 and will run from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Students will build and explore machines and mechanisms, investigate motorized machines, calibrate and capture wind, and more.

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The cost for each camp is $140 and includes a T-shirt. Advance registration is required.

The campus is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies. To register, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/ nondegree/children.php.
Local students honored by UT Martin Department of Communications

Kelly Hatley (right), of Gleason, recently received the University Relations Public Relations Workshop and Faculty PReps awards. The awards were presented at the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is pictured with Bud Grimes, (left) director of the Office of University Relations at UT Martin.

Tonya Evans (left), of Sharon, was awarded the Media Design Club Service Award and the Communications Department Excellence Award during the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is pictured with Dr. Tracy Rutledge, assistant professor of communications and Media Design Club adviser.

Aimee Bilger (right), of Martin, was recently honored with the Outstanding Non-Traditional Student Award during the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is pictured with Dr. Richard Robinson, assistant professor of communications.

Allison Beddingfield (right), of Martin, recently received the Information Design Excellence Award. The award was presented at the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is pictured with Dr. Tracy Rutledge, assistant professor of communications.
All Barros (right), of Martin, recently received the Sophomore Scholarship at the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications annual awards banquet. She is pictured with Dr. Arthur Hunt, associate professor of communications.

Stephanie Seabron (left), of Sharon, recently received the Nanney-Segebarth Scholarship. The award was presented at the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is pictured with Dr. Robert Nanney, chair of the Department of Communications.

Kimberly Yazvac, (right), of Martin, recently received one of two Duke Drumm awards. The awards were presented at the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications annual awards banquet. She is pictured with Paul Tinkle, owner of Thunderbolt Broadcasting (center); and Ashleigh Burton, of South Fulton, the other award recipient.
Police departments train in 'active shooter’ drill

Officers of the Martin and University of Tennessee at Martin police departments recently participated in training which has become extremely important to law enforcement across the United States.

Officers trained at all Martin area schools on the proper tactical methods in the event there is an active shooter on campus.

An active shooter is defined as "an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearm[s] and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

The exercise took place at the Martin Middle and Westview High schools on June 13 and Martin Primary and Martin Elementary Schools on June 14.

The training gave officers the opportunity to become familiar with the layout of each school and train on various shooting scenarios to prepare them for any incident that might occur.

Press reporter wins CoSIDA writing contest

Joe Lofaro, a reporter at the Weakley County Press, won two first-place accolades in the 2012-13 CoSIDA Fred Stabley Sr. Writing Contest. Lofaro won first-place honors in District 4, which includes writers in Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Ohio and Michigan. His story titled, "Former AD Leads Movement to Eliminate Pacifier: First Signee Understands How Monumental Title IX Was," won first place in coach/administrator profile and historical feature, while his story titled: "UT Martin Women's Basketball Team Not After Perfection, But Being the Best They Can Be," won first place in Season Preview/Recap.

The 2012-13 contest drew 525 total entries, nearly 200 more than last year, which was double the total from 2011. The General Feature category led the way with 119 stories submitted. Submissions were first judged at the district level with district winners advancing to a national committee.

The annual CoSIDA Fred Stabley Sr. Writing Contest is open to all dues-paying members of CoSIDA. It recognizes excellence in feature writing, historical features, administrator/coach profiles and event coverage writing.

CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America) was founded in 1957 and is a 2,800 member national organization comprised of the sports public relations, media relations and communications/information professionals throughout all levels of collegiate athletics in the United States and Canada.

Lofaro, who lives in Martin, served as the sports information director at UT Martin from February 2002 until March 5, 2013. In 2010, Lofaro won first place in the nation in event coverage.
Three with local ties competing for Miss Tennessee

By BRAD GASKINS
News Editor

Three young women with local ties are contestants in the Miss Tennessee Pageant.

The pageant began Wednesday evening and runs through Saturday night, when a new Miss Tennessee will be crowned at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

The local contestants are:

- Maggie Belew, a Greenville native and University of Tennessee student who was crowned Miss UT Knoxville in January.
- Dyersburg's Jordan Gunn, a senior geosciences major at the University of Tennessee at Martin who was crowned Miss UTM earlier this year.
- Madison Hardy, a graduate of Belmont University who was crowned earlier this year Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival.

"Madison and Jordan have been diligent this year in their preparations for this competition," said Hollie Holt, Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival director.

Miss Tennessee contestants compete in swimsuit, talent, eveningwear, interview and on-stage questions. During the competition, contestants will win more than $75,000 in scholarship funds. Miss Tennessee will compete for the title of Miss America in September.

The final competition is scheduled for 7:45 p.m. Saturday.

SLIGER SPEAKS —
Doug Sliger, emergency management coordinator at University of Tennessee at Martin, recently spoke to the Martin Kiwanis Club, giving an update on environmental safety. Learn more about the Martin Kiwanis Club at martinkiwanisclub.org or check out their Facebook page.
UTM alum helps keep Marlins moving on

By ELIZABETH A. DAVIS
Special to The Press

After the Star-Spangled Banner is sung and the first pitch barrels toward the lead-off batter, Manny Colon can relax. He might be the only one in the Miami Marlins organization whose down time lasts nine innings.

Colon, a 2001 graduate of UT Martin, is in his third season as the Marlins' traveling secretary, a front-office position that many teams are starting to call director of team travel. He arranges the air and ground travel for the players and coaches and makes sure their luggage gets to the hotel and the equipment makes it to the ballpark. He's in charge of handing out meal per diem to each player, arranging for rental cars and setting aside game tickets for family and friends. He is the personal travel agent for about 60 people who need to be on time, in a good mood and prepared for the 81 games they play on the road each season.

"When it's 7:05, it's the best time of the day because everyone is on the field," Colon says.

He began working for the Marlins in 2002 as an intern and got a full-time position as player relations assistant the next year — in time for the World Series and the Marlins' victory over the New York Yankees. He worked in player development before taking on team travel.

It has been reported Colon is the first Latino traveling secretary in the major leagues, but Colon doesn't know for sure.

"It is an honor if I am, and I hope it opens doors for other people," he says.

Colon's job is fitting for someone who moved frequently as a child and loves baseball, even though he doesn't like being away from wife, Joelle; 7-year-old daughter, Melanie; and 3-year-old son, Jason.

Colon grew up in Puerto Rico with his mother while his father was in the Army in South Korea. There were stops in Germany and Italy before his father was stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky. After high school, he thought about playing college baseball. After realizing "I'm not that good," he turned his sights to the front office.

At UT Martin, Colon worked in athletics and was Captain Skyhawk. He attended the baseball winter meetings in 1998 and got a six-month internship with the professional minor league New Jersey Cardinals. Back at UT Martin, he picked up a gig as the public address announcer for the baseball team.

At 33, Colon still has plenty of time to work his way up through the ranks in baseball.

"To be a little Latino boy raised in Clarksville and get where I am today, I've done pretty well so far," he says. "I think I could do more in the game. I'm not ready for it now but maybe five or 10 years from now."

Davis is the editor of Tennessee Alumnus, a magazine for alumni of the UT System, including campuses at Knoxville, Chattanooga, Martin and the Health Science Center in Memphis.
UTM alum helps keep Marlins moving on

By ELIZABETH A. DAVIS
Special to The Messenger

After the Star-Spangled Banner is sung and the first pitch barrels toward the lead-off batter, Manny Colon can relax. He might be the only one in the Miami Marlins organization whose down time lasts nine innings.

Colon, a 2001 graduate of UT Martin, is in his third season as the Marlins' traveling secretary, a front-office position that many teams are starting to call director of team travel. He arranges the air and ground travel for the players and coaches and makes sure their luggage gets to the hotel and the equipment makes it to the ballpark. He's in charge of handing out meals per diem to each player, arranging for rental cars and setting aside game tickets for family and friends. He is the personal travel agent for about 60 people who need to be on time, in a good mood and prepared for the 81 games they play on the road each season.

"When it's 7:05, it's the best time of the day because everyone is on the field," Colon says.

He began working for the Marlins in 2002 as an intern and got a full-time position as player relations assistant the next year — in time for the World Series and the Marlins’ victory over the New York Yankees. He worked in player development before taking on team travel.

It has been reported Colon is the first Latino traveling secretary in the major leagues, but Colon doesn't know for sure.

"It is an honor if I am, and I hope it opens doors for other people," he says.

Colon's job is fitting for someone who moved frequently as a child and loves baseball, even though he doesn't like being away from wife, Joelle; 7-year-old daughter, Melanie; and 3-year-old son, Jason.

Colon grew up in Puerto Rico with his mother while his father was in the Army in South Korea. There were stops in Germany and Italy before his father was stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky. After high school, he thought about playing college baseball. After realizing "I'm not that good," he turned his sights to the front office.

At UT Martin, Colon worked in athletics and was Captain Skyhawk. He attended the baseball winter meetings in 1998 and got a six-month internship with the professional minor league New Jersey Cardinals. Back at UT Martin, he picked up a gig as the public-address announcer for the baseball team.

At 33, Colon still has plenty of time to work his way up through the ranks in baseball.

"To be a little Latino boy raised in Clarksville and get where I am today, I've done pretty well so far," he says. "I think I could do more in the game. I'm not ready for it now but maybe five or 10 years from now."

Davis is the editor of Tennessee Alumnus, a magazine for alumni of the UT System, including campuses at Knoxville, Chattanooga, Martin and the Health Science Center in Memphis.
Farm Credit Mid-America sponsors Tennessee State FFA degree recipients

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The 85th annual Tennessee State FFA Convention, held in Gatlinburg March 24-27, attracted more than 2,000 FFA members from across the state. The convention offered various activities, including Career Development Event contests, motivational speakers, business sessions and opportunities for fellowship with other FFA members.

A highlight of the event was the presentation of over 500 State FFA Degrees. The State FFA Degree is awarded to students who demonstrate success in their extracurricular activities, agricultural experiences and classroom programs. FFA members Kaitlyn Crank, Heather Fair, Matthew Gray, Madelyn Howe, Caleb Walker, Kristen Williams, Clara Dycus, and Mary Evelyn Peckemponaug representing the Dyersburg Chapter and Zachary Burchfiel, Theron Gean, Anne Larrah Johnson, Beth Orr; and Addison Tyus representing the Dyer County chapter were among the group recognized.

On hand to present these awards were representatives from Farm Credit Mid-America, a perennial sponsor of the State FFA Degree program. “These students possess a level of skill and passion that is just remarkable to see,” said Tim Williams, regional vice president with Farm Credit in Ripley, Tennessee. “A huge part of our mission is developing the future of agriculture and I can’t think of any better way to demonstrate that commitment than supporting the State FFA Degree program.”

Farm Credit also supports Tennessee FFA through a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded to FFA members based on activities in their community, school and FFA chapters as well as their academic merit. This year, four students received $500 scholarships and were recognized during the convention.

* Elena Smith, Tipton County, now attending University of Tennessee at Knoxville
* Heath Smith, Cocke County, now attending Walters State Community College
* Jordynne Walker, Cumberland County, now attending University of Tennessee at Martin
* Sara Young, Rutherford County, now attending Middle Tennessee State University

About Farm Credit Mid-America
Farm Credit Mid-America is a $19.4 billion financial services cooperative serving more than 96,500 farmers, agribusinesses and rural residents in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. The association provides loans for all farm and rural living purposes including real estate, operating, equipment, housing and related services such as crop insurance, and vehicle, equipment and building leases. For more information about Farm Credit, call 1-800-444-FARM or visit them on the web at www.e-farmercredit.com.

http://www.whiotv.com/

Updated: 7:39 p.m. Thursday, June 20, 2013 | Posted: 7:38 p.m. Thursday, June 20, 2013

6 percent tuition increase approved by UT trustees

The Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Students in the University of Tennessee system will spend 6 percent more in tuition under a fiscal 2014 budget approved by the board of trustees.

The Knoxville News Sentinel reports (http://bit.ly/13WiBPe ) the nearly $2 billion budget approved Thursday in Knoxville includes a pay bump of 1.5 percent across the board for faculty and staff. Chancellors of UT Knoxville and UT Martin will both receive 10 percent pay increases and Joe DiPietro, the UT system president, will receive a 4.5 percent increase.

The tuition increases will mean UT Knoxville undergraduate students will pay $8,270 a year for in-state tuition, up $468. Graduate students from the state will pay $9,540, or $540 more a year. The undergraduate in-state tuition will increase by $343 and $358 at UT Chattanooga and UT Martin, respectively.

UT trustees approve nearly $2 billion budget that includes tuition raise, pay hikes

By News Sentinel staff
Posted June 20, 2013 at 6:11 p.m.

KNOXVILLE - Faculty and staff will get a pay bump, and students - or their families - will have to spend 6 percent more to cover tuition under a fiscal year 2014 budget approved today by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees.

The new system budget represents a nearly $2 billion spending plan.

Joe DiPietro, UT system president, cast an optimistic light on the $1.99 billion budget, welcoming a boost in state appropriations in the Legislature this year.

All campuses will see tuition increases.

Trustees meeting on the Agricultural campus today pondered a tuition hike below 6 percent before confirming the 6 percent level. Board members ultimately adopted a budget amendment calling on chancellors to identify ways to encourage summer school attendance that include tuition breaks.

Trustees will meet again in October.

Staff and faculty will see across-the-board pay boosts of 1.5 percent. Those making $40,000 or less will get $600.

UT Knoxville Chancellor Jimmy Cheek and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes received 10 percent pay increases. Cheek will now earn $434,452 and Rakes will make $247,361 in base pay.

DiPietro, the system president, received a 4.5 percent increase in his base salary. He will make $465,518 a year.

According to the university:

UT Knoxville undergraduate students from inside the state will pay $8,270 a year, up $468. Graduate students will pay $9,540, or $540 more a year.

UT Chattanooga undergraduates from Tennessee will pay $343 more a year, taking the total to $6,065. In-state graduate students will pay another $412 a year for a total of $7,272.

UT Martin undergrads from Tennessee will pay $356 more a year, for a total bill of $6,336 annually. In-state graduate students will pay $430 a year more for a total of $7,560.

More details as they develop online and in Friday's News Sentinel.
Trustees eye 6 percent tuition hike for UTC

by Tyler Jett

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga students may have to pay 6 percent more for tuition this fall.

The University of Tennessee System Board of Trustees will vote in Knoxville today on the 2014 fiscal year budget, which includes the tuition hike for students at UTC, UT Knoxville and UT Martin.

The tuition bump applies to all students, whether they come from Tennessee or out of state, and whether they are undergraduates or pursuing advanced degrees. For an in-state undergraduate student taking at least 12 credit hours, the annual tuition would increase from $5,722 to $6,065 beginning this fall.

For UTC, this tuition hike would generate about $3.4 million.

University spokesman Chuck Cantrell said the school needs the tuition increase to pay salaries.

The money can help support a 1.5 percent pay raise for university employees across the state. It also will allow UTC to hire new faculty, which Cantrell said the school needs.

Enrollment has grown at UTC each year since 2005. Last fall, 11,860 students attended the university — a 35 percent increase over seven years.

Cantrell said UT System schools agreed with the Tennessee Higher Education Committee and the governor's office not to ask for more than 6 percent.

"Six percent will work for us," he said.

Some UTC students also will pay new fees next year. The proposed budget calls for an "online access fee" of $56 per credit hour to take online courses.

This money will help the school maintain those programs. The online classes require administrators, operators, technicians and maintenance workers.

Statewide, the budget projects that UT System schools will get $55 million from tuition, compared with about $533 million in the current year.

Compared to last year, members of the UT System also expect to get about 9 percent more money from state appropriations, from $432 million in the current year to $470 million.

Still, this proposed budget reflects a continued trend. Universities get more money from students than they do from the state. This has been the case for the last three years.

In 2011, 48 percent of revenues came from the state, and 39 percent came from tuition. The next year, the figures flipped. Forty-seven percent of revenues came from tuition, and 38 percent came from the state.

Even with more money from the state, this year's ratio is almost the same as it was two years ago: 48 percent from tuition, 40 percent comes from state taxpayers.

Contact Tyler Jett at tjett@timesfreepress.com or 423-757-6476.
UT board of trustees approve budget
Pay raises, tuition bump get board’s OK

By Lydia X. McCoy

Thursday, June 20, 2013

The University of Tennessee board of trustees ended its two-day summer meeting by approving the system’s nearly $2 billion budget that includes a 6 percent tuition increase, some new student fees, and pay raises for faculty and staff.

But not without a lot of discussion and even some debate — especially about the proposed tuition increase.

Trustee Crawford Gallimore said he hopes the system is able to demonstrate to taxpayers that “raising tuition is the last resort ... and not as just a matter of course that we do every year.”

Student trustee Shalin Shah said he believed students would pay the increase if they understood the reasons for it.

“We have to make the message simple and we have to put it out there,” Shah said. “We’re the Twitter generation, we have to keep it to 42 words or less otherwise we’re not going to get it. That’s just the way it’s going to be.”

Trustee Doug Horne proposed a 3 percent tuition increase, saying the trustees should try to show that they “deserve” additional funds from the state.

“I personally feel like we should show a little bit more initiative here and not raise tuition this much,” he said. “I’ve expressed this to the president. I think we show the students first and the Legislature second that we’re putting our best foot forward to making a monumental effort to not raise tuition this much. I’d personally like to raise it none.”

But other board members said they had already agreed to the figure.

“The 6 percent is somewhat of a studied, evaluated and compromised number,” said Don Stansberry, the board’s vice chairman. “It was worked out in cooperation with the governor, Legislature, administration and university officials. It does weigh the interests of the students and it weighs the interests of the institutions.”

The board approved the increase but with an amendment to have the system’s chancellors analyze potential incentives to encourage summer school attendance —
such as tuition discounts — and report those findings at the trustees' meeting in October.

Chancellor Jimmy Cheek said the Knoxville campus is looking at increasing the number of students who attend the summer term, while decreasing how much they pay.

"But we're for anything that we can do that isn't revenue negative to increase summer-term enrollment. So we'll come up with a proposal to do it and we'll also do some research to see if it's worked at other places," he said. "If it has, we'll move forward with the implementation of something. We just need to make sure that we're not spending more money in summer than we're currently spending."

In other business, the board also approved:

An across-the-board pay boost of 1.5 percent for staff and faculty. Those making $40,000 or less will get $600.

Ten percent pay increases for Cheek and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. Cheek will now earn $434,452 and Rakes will make $247,361 in base pay.

A 4.5 percent increase in the base salary of UT President Joe DiPietro, which brings his salary to $465,618.
UT OKs tuition and fee hikes, executives' pay

By Richard Locker
lokcr@commercialappeal.com
615-255-4923

NASHVILLE - The University of Tennessee board of trustees on Thursday approved student tuition increases averaging 6 percent at its Knoxville, Chattanooga and Martin campuses, and 5 percent at the Health Science Center in Memphis.

The board also approved increases in mandatory fees that will push most students' bills even higher.

Trustee Doug Horne of Knoxville argued for a lower, 3 percent increase in tuition and said the universities can cut about $10 million from its overall budget of more than $1 billion to make up the difference.

"The governor came through with an increase of Memphis also argued for the 6 percent hike. "I think we're debating a moot point. We decided years ago we wanted to become a Top 25 university."

The board also approved pay increases for top university administrators. System president Joseph DiPietro's base salary will increase by 4.5 percent to $465,618 effective July 1. He also receives a $20,000 housing allowance and $12,000 expense allowance.

UTHSC chancellor Steven J. Schwab's base salary increases 3 percent to $562,380. UT Knoxville chancellor Jimmy Cheek's base salary would rise by 10 percent to $434,451. Schwab and Cheek each receive a $20,000 housing allowance and $10,000 expense allowance.

UT Martin chancellor Thomas Rakes would receive a 10 percent base salary increase to $247,360. He receives a housing allowance of $10,000 and $5,000 expense allowance.

The Tennessee Board of Regents, which governs all of the state's public higher education institutions outside the UT system, meets Friday to set tuition and fees on its campuses.

**UT from 1B**

in operating funds of about $40 million. I feel like we ought to show a little more initiative and not raise tuition this much. Let's look at some costs we can cut," said Horne.

But his colleagues almost unanimously opposed his motion. Vice chairman Don Stansberry of Huntsville said 6 percent was "a compromise, and that's not only for the students but for the institutions as well. And tuition is still a great value."

Trustee George Cates of Huntsville also argued for the 6 percent hike. "I think we're debating a moot point. We decided years ago we wanted to become a Top 25 university."

Tuition and mandatory fees for two semesters for in-state undergraduates at UT-Knoxville would rise from $9,092 to $9,684, a 6.5 percent increase. The increases will go into effect with the fall semester in August after being approved Thursday by the UT board of trustees.

At UT-Knoxville, students who live on campus also face a 6 percent increase in meal plans and 4.7 percent increase in residence hall rates. Students at UT-Chattanooga will see 4 percent hike in meal plans and 3.9 percent increase in some residence hall rates. UT-Martin students face 2.2 to 2.5 percent increases in residence hall rates. Students at UTHSC in Memphis face a 9.1 percent increase in student health insurance, which they must buy through the university if they don't have private health coverage.

**RISING TUITION, FEES ON UT CAMPUSES**

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PARIS TN: Henry Countian Hannah Robison wins swimsuit competition at Miss Tennessee pageant

Published: Friday, June 21, 2013 11:29 AM CDT

Henry Countian Hannah Robison is off to a good start in the Miss Tennessee pageant, having won the swimsuit competition Thursday night.

Robison, a 2011 Henry County High School graduate, is the daughter of Rusty and Pam Robison of Springville.

She's a junior chemistry major at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She made it into the pageant by winning the Miss Tennessee Valley pageant in Chattanooga last October.

The pageant began Wednesday at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in downtown Jackson. It continues through Saturday, when Miss Tennessee will be crowned.

The pageant events begin at 8 p.m. today and 7:45 p.m. Saturday.

Robison is one of 36 contestants in the Miss Tennessee field. The winner will move on to the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City, N.J. Sept. 15.

Robison's past titles include Hostess Princess for the 2010 World's Biggest Fish Fry.

That was a rare instance of a mother-daughter tandem both winning the Hostess Princess crown. Hannah's mother, then known by her maiden name of Pam Williams, was Hostess Princess in 1970.

Also in 2010, Robison won Fairest of the Fair for the Henry County Fair, accomplishing the unusual distinction of winning Henry County's two biggest pageants in the same year. She was also state Fairest of the Fair in 2011.

Robison won the Miss Tennessee Teen All-American title in Lebanon in 2010 and advanced to national competition.

Miss Tennessee Valley Hannah Robison Captures Swimsuit Competition

Friday, June 21, 2013

Miss Tennessee Valley Hannah Robison stepped into the winners' circle at the Miss Tennessee Pageant on Thursday night when she won the second round preliminary swimsuit competition.

The 19-year-old junior at the University of Tennessee at Martin wore a black two-piece to capture the top award.

The final round of preliminaries take place Friday night and former Miss Chattanooga and Miss Tennessee 2012 Chandler Lawson will crown her successor late Saturday evening.

The pageant is being webstreamed on www.eplusv6.com beginning at 9 ET/8 CT

Thursday night's preliminary winners at the Miss Tennessee 2013 Scholarship Pageant: swimsuit winner, Hannah Robison, and talent winners, Kendal Covington and Elisabeth Oliphant.
Another Tuition Hike Set for UT System

MARTIN, Tenn- College is getting even more expensive for students in the UT systems, causing some to reconsider their education.

Dustan Swift, a second-year student at UT Martin, wants to be a veterinarian, but said if tuition keeps going up, he may be forced to reconsider.

"I'm paying bills on my own and looking at debt that's increasing since being in school," said Swift.

On Friday, the school announced a six percent tuition increase for all instate students, costing them an extra $265 a semester, starting this fall.

"If you break it down, it's not as expensive as it seems," said University Relations Director, Bud Grimes. "But it's certainly an added cost."

Grimes said the increase is due to the upkeep of campus facilities, rise of the price of supplies, and a 1.5 percent pay raise for teachers. He said school officials are left with few options.

"Our job is to help students with scholarships and anyway that we can," said Grimes.

Students like Swift, said they have to considering weighing if the expensive cost of college is worth the long-term debt.
Pam Strickland: Teacher programs fail in preparation

By Pam Strickland
Friday, June 21, 2013

The National Council on Teacher Quality made a splash earlier this week with the release of its first Teacher Prep Review, an evaluation of 1,100 colleges and universities that prepare the country's K-12 teachers for the classroom.

It is intended as a consumer tool to show which programs do the best and worst job and as a call for improvement in teacher preparation standards.

The study found that seven out of 10 programs did not adequately prepare candidates to teach reading. Nine out of 10 did a poor job preparing them to teach basic subjects such as English and math. Training in classroom management and the use of student data was lacking.

The study is endorsed by 21 state education commissioners, including Tennessee's Kevin Huffman. Funding was done by a number of private grants. Ratings were done of programs, not of the college or university, and were based on documentation ranging from university catalogues to course syllabi.

The graduate elementary programs at East Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville received a consumer warning. In both cases, the reported weaknesses included selection criteria for students in the program as well as teaching of early reading techniques, Common Core elementary mathematics, working with English language learners and with struggling learners.

Other big takeaways from Tennessee:

Undergraduate secondary programs at Austin Peay State University, Lipscomb University, Maryville College, Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee Technological University and Union University; undergraduate elementary and graduate secondary at the University of Memphis; graduate secondary at the University of Tennessee at Martin and Vanderbilt University are on the Teacher Prep Review's Honor Roll. Across the country, NCTQ identified 21 elementary programs and 84 secondary programs for the Honor Roll.

The Review found that only 13 percent of elementary and secondary programs in Tennessee restrict admissions to the top half of the college-going population, compared to 28 percent nationwide. Countries where students consistently outperform
the United States typically set a higher bar, with teacher prep programs recruiting from the top third of students.

Nationwide, 19 percent of evaluated elementary programs provide strong preparation to teach elementary mathematics, training that mirrors the practices of higher-performing nations. In Tennessee, only 11 percent of the evaluated elementary programs provide such training.

Of the evaluated elementary and secondary programs in Tennessee, 33 percent earn a perfect four stars for providing a high-quality student teaching experience, in which candidates are assigned only to highly skilled teachers and receive frequent concrete feedback, compared to just 7 percent of programs across the country. However, of the evaluated Tennessee programs, 40 percent completely fail this standard, compared to 71 percent of programs nationwide.

As I reviewed these numbers and what they mean, I learned that the state Board of Education is set to consider a proposal this afternoon that would collapse the state teacher’s minimum salary schedule from 21 steps to four and collapse the levels of advanced degrees from four to one. It would reduce the earning potential for veteran teachers and educators pursuing advanced degrees, thus making the desire for someone to enter one of these programs less likely, and the hopes for improving education slimmer than before.

6 percent tuition increase approved by UT trustees

KNOXVILLE (AP) — Students in the University of Tennessee system will spend 6 percent more in tuition under a fiscal 2014 budget approved by the board of trustees.

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State universities to see 6 percent increase in tuition

The Jackson Sun

The University of Tennessee at Martin and The University of Memphis, including the main campus, the Lambuth campus in Jackson and all satellite locations, will see a 6 percent tuition increase effective for the 2013 fall semester.

At UT Martin, in-state tuition and fees will cost undergraduate students an additional $229 per semester for a total of $3,757 or $7,514 for a full academic year, according to a news release.

Among the fees approved during Thursday's board meeting in Knoxville was a $50 per fall and spring semester increase in the facilities fee that all UT Martin students pay, totaling $100 for the academic year, the release said.

Other specialized course fees approved include a fee for art studio classes, a physical education activity class fee, a Reelfoot Lake Field Station fee and a student teaching placement fee.

Academic enrichment fees also were approved for the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences within the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and courses offered through the College of Business and Global Affairs, the release said.

Full-time undergraduate enrollment is a minimum of 12 hours. Fall semester classes begin Aug. 26 for the main campus and UT Martin centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley and Selmer.

Tuition for the University of Memphis main campus, the Lambuth campus in Jackson and all satellite locations will cost in-state undergraduate students taking a full academic course load of 12 hours $4,151 per semester. In-state graduate students taking a full course load of 10 hours will pay $5,242 per semester under the new plan.

For out-of-state students, undergraduates will pay $11,507 per semester for a full course load, while graduate students taking a full load will pay $11,452 per semester, a news release said.

In-state students at the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law who are full time (12 hours) will pay $8,810 per semester while out-of-state law students will pay $19,746 a semester. The law school has been recognized by PreLaw Magazine as one of the top five "best value" law schools in the nation, the release said.

"Adequate funding is necessary for the University of Memphis to continue to meet its primary goals of providing a high-quality education and graduating students in a timely manner," said Shirley Raines, president of the University of Memphis.

"Still, it is unfortunate that our students must continue to close the gap in state funding by paying more tuition."

Raines, who recently announced she will retire June 30, said while the university has worked for the last several years to create efficiencies in its operations, the fee increase will be used to help with initiatives to further its Complete College Tennessee Act goals, the release said.
Memorial Village Police Commission Chairman Paul Soanes, has notified the three cities that are served by the Memorial Village Police Department (Bunker Hill Village, Hunters Creek Village, and Piney Point Village) that the commission has completed an exhaustive search for a new chief of police for the Memorial Village Police Department.

Joseph David “J.D.” Sanders was select from an extraordinary and highly qualified pool of candidates of over 120 applicants from all over the country. Chief Sanders’ appointment is effective July 1.

Sanders received his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from the University of Tennessee-Martin. In addition Sanders attended the FBI National Academy and the Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar in Quantico, Va. He continued his education at the National Center for Rural Law Enforcement’s Rural Executive Management Institute. Sanders also attended Law Enforcement Training Academies in Tennessee, Mississippi and New Mexico.

He has continued to interact with the law enforcement education community by acting as an instructor and facilitator for the University of Tennessee Law Enforcement Innovation Center. Sanders directs promotional assessment centers and has assessed the management practices of numerous police agencies as a consultant.

The new chief of the MVPD comes with an impressive background in law enforcement. Most recently, Sanders was the chief of police in Hobbs, N.M. Prior to that he served as deputy chief of police in Franklin, Tenn., chief of the Columbus (Miss.) Police Department and chief of the Martin (Tenn.) police department. He began his career in the University of Tennessee-Martin police department as a patrolman and dispatcher.

“We are extremely fortunate to have J.D. join our department as chief,” said Soanes. “He is a pragmatic professional that has a background in assessing and implementing strategic plans for departments similar in size to the Memorial Village Police Department. Our citizens expect and deserve a professional of this caliber.”

The police commission would also like to thank interim Chief Roy Osborne for his service to the community the past six months and wish him well as he resumes his retirement.
PARIS TN: Henry Countian Hannah Robison second runner-up in the 2013 Miss Tennessee pageant

Published: Monday, June 24, 2013 11:49 AM CDT

Henry Countian Hannah Robison was named second runner-up in the 2013 Miss Tennessee pageant during the weekend.

As second runner-up, Robison was awarded a $5,500 scholarship.

Named as Miss Tennessee was Shelby Thompson of Brentwood, who had won the Miss Capital City crown in a preliminary pageant.

Thompson was awarded a $13,000 scholarship and will move on to represent the state in the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City, N.J., in September.

Robison was among a field of 36 contestants who participated in the pageant at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

During the pageant, Robison won Thursday's swimsuit competition.

She was selected as one of the top 15 contenders on Saturday then went on to compete in the final swimsuit competition which pared the field down to 12 contestants.

The field was again shrunk as two girls were eliminated following the talent competition. Robison played the piano during the talent portion of the pageant.

Robison and the other nine semi-finalists participated in an evening gown competition before the field was narrowed to five finalists.

Those five finalists were required to answer questions about current events and issues before Thompson was named Miss Tennessee.

Robison became eligible for the pageant by winning the Miss Tennessee Valley title in Chattanooga last October.

A 2011 graduate of Henry County High School, she is a chemistry major at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

She is the daughter of Rusty and Pam Robison of Springville.
Rodeo goes off without a hitch 2nd time around

By Seth Burkett
The Decatur Daily

ATHENS — Johnathan Garrett learned how to rope a steer Sunday at the Limestone County Sheriff's Special Needs Rodeo.

As the 9-year-old threw his lasso around the plastic cow's head stuck atop a bale of hay, his cousin, Cody Inman, 19, a volunteer at the event, gave pointers.

"He can be a rodeo star," said Inman, who attends the University of Tennessee at Martin on a rodeo scholarship.

Intent on showing the bull who was boss, Johnathan wrenched the plastic head from the bale and ran away with it. Inman retrieved the head, but Johnathan came after him with the lasso. Inman laughed as Johnathan pulled the rope tight around his ankles and tugged him to the ground.

Johnathan, accompanied by his father, John Garrett, of Athens, was one of about 100 special needs children and adults who attended the rodeo, which initially had been set for May 17 but was canceled because of rain. Rain wasn't a problem Sunday afternoon, but the summer heat kept many people taking breaks in the shade between activities, which included buggy rides, train rides, hay rides, horse rides and a petting zoo.

Sheriff Mike Blakely said about 300 had been registered for the rodeo, and he was happy to get about a third of that number at the make-up event, which was coordinated by his daughter-in-law, Dawn Blakely.

Some attendees said the rescheduled date worked better for them.

West Limestone resident Joel Taylor typically participates in wheelchair races at the State Special Olympics, the same weekend as the rodeo, and had never attended the rodeo before.
Taylor took a ride on a mule-drawn wagon and even got to take a turn driving the mule while his parents Jerry and Sue Taylor watched. Sue Taylor caught the ride on video.

"I got them every time they came by," she said.

Mary Pruett, of Athens, said it also was the first time for her daughter, Angela, who competes in long jump and softball throw at the Special Olympics. They petted farm animals at a petting zoo, rode a fake bull and took a ride on a horse and buggy — Angela’s favorite.

Jeremy Crowe, of Athens, dressed for the event, complete with shades and a cowboy hat.

"He's ridden the horse and watched the dog do tricks and had a good lunch," his mother, Susan Crowe, said.

Creekside Elementary student Devin Howell, 10, was all smiles as he got off the train and was helped back to his wheelchair by his parents, Viryonka and Andre Howell, of Madison, and volunteers.

Blakely said he was thankful for the volunteers who put their time and effort into the event. "I don't know who gets more out of it, our special needs clients or our volunteers," he said.

The 2013 Miss Limestone Sheriff’s Rodeo, April Brown, of Platte City, Mo., echoed that sentiment as she mingled with the crowd and autographed pictures.

"It’s more a blessing for me than the kids, probably," Brown said.

She was accompanied by two Little Miss Limestone Sheriff’s Rodeo winners, current Little Miss, Kylee Campbell, 12, of Hampton Cove, and 2012 Little Miss, Haven Nichols, 12, of Athens. Both said it was their first time attending the event.

"I really enjoy talking with people and seeing what's going on," Campbell said.

Blakely said the annual special needs rodeo was first held 11 years ago when former rodeo queen Charis Williams Ritter proposed doing it to give back to the community.

"The first year, I was a little apprehensive. I didn't know what to expect. We're always so busy at rodeo time," Blakely said.

That was before the first attendees took horseback rides.

"I knew right then, when I saw the smiles on their faces and how important it was to them, that we had to do this from then on," he said.

Volunteer and frustrated Auburn fan Samantha Fleming was working the face-painting table Sunday.

"Sadly, the Alabama A has been the most popular. I have so far not had one request for a War Eagle... It's sickening," she said.

When Tanner student Manny Fletcher, 8, came to get his face-painted, Fleming thought she had finally scored. She held up an Auburn stamp, hopefully, and asked if he wanted it.

Fletcher nodded, but then his aunt, Sabrina Bivens, who was sporting a University of Alabama hat, intervened. Fletcher wound up with a big red A on his cheek.

Seth Burkett can be reached at 256-340-2446 or sburkett@decaturdaily.com.
The Little Rose Play Premieres at The University of Tennessee at Martin's Vanguard Theater

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRLog (Press Release) - Jun. 24, 2013 - LOS ANGELES, Calif. -- The University of Tennessee at Martin's Vanguard Theatre will premiere Sheri Fink's #1 best-selling, award-winning children's book as a play adapted by Leon Scioscia and Sheri Fink. The Little Rose will have its premiere on July 26, 2013, 7:00 pm (with a subsequent performance on July 27th at 7:00 pm) in the newly renovated Fine Arts Building's "Little Theatre." This will be the first official performance in the new Vanguard Theatre Little Theatre.

Try-outs for children will take place on Monday and Tuesday, June 24 and 25 beginning at 5:30 pm in rm. 216 of Gooch Hall on the UT Martin campus. There are 20 roles available for children ages 8 - 11. Rehearsals for the play will begin Monday July 1, 2013. Participation in performances of The Little Rose is a service provided by Vanguard Theatre to our community and is free. Call 731-446-3493 or 731-881-7400 for information.

The Little Rose, Ms. Fink's first children's book, enjoys massive popularity due to its heartfelt central message: be yourself, even in the face of bullying. Mr. Scioscia, and Ms. Fink, knew that the story was perfect for the stage so they teamed up to develop, adapt and write the theatrical version of the book.

"I'm so grateful to have worked on this with Leon," said Sheri Fink. "Together we were able to translate the universal themes into a memorable stage event. I know that my fans will love the Little Rose play as much as they have loved the Little Rose book."

Leon Scioscia said: "Sheri's vision of The Little Rose reaches out and touches young and old. She has created a timeless story that tugs at the heart, and makes you think about right and wrong. I am honored to have had the opportunity to adapt the story, with Sheri, because of its worldwide appeal."

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Fine Arts Chairman, Douglas J. Cook, remarked: "We are so thrilled to present the world premiere of this classic tale for children. The director of the production, UTM's Theatre Teacher Melanie Hollis, gets the honor of not only helming this play, but also being the first director to stage a play in the newly renovated Fine Arts Building. I can't think of a better play to produce, as our first play, than The Little Rose."

Sheri Fink is a #1 international best-selling, award-winning children's author and international speaker. She created "The Whimsical World of Sheri Fink" children's brand to inspire and delight kids while planting seeds of self-esteem that can have lifelong benefit. Sheri's books include The Little Rose, The Little Gnome, Exploring the Garden with the Little Rose, and The Little Firefly.

Leon Scioscia has written over 14 plays, several short stories, including The Snow Fort, and poetry -- his favorite being: The Man With A Mouth Full Of Jellybeans. His day job enables him to support his writing desires. He has worked for theatre companies all over the United States.

Vanguard Theatre is part of the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The department provides educational, artistic and cultural opportunities for the students of the University and the people of West Tennessee. The faculty and students serve the area through a quality undergraduate professional arts program with performances and exhibits enhancing the aesthetic and cultural awareness of the campus and region while preparing students for careers in the arts, teaching and for advanced study.
The House Band entertains with mix of covers, original songs

By ALEX JACOBI
Special to The Press

MARTIN — Martin community members gathered this past Thursday at Festival Park to enjoy the summer heat with some easy-going tunes from the House Band, a group made up of UTM’s Dr. David Coffey, Dr. David Carithers, Dr. James Fieser, Dr. Chris Brown and alumnus Micah Barnes.

Along with a variety of covers that included the Allman Brothers Band, Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash, the band also performed original songs, written by Coffey and Carithers.

“Our favorites to play are the originals,” Carithers said.

Even though the band as it is now officially began at a UTM College of Humanities and Fine Arts picnic over five years ago, some of the band members have been playing since 2004.

“In 2004, some of us in the Department of History and Philosophy began jamming together, with David Coffey on vocals and harmonica and me on guitar. We were later joined by Chris Brown on drums and another faculty on bass guitar. In the mean time, David Carithers from the Department of English was performing in an acoustic duo. We all joined forces and the House Band was born. Our most recent band member, Micah Barnes, joined on bass guitar around two years ago,” Fieser said.

While the band enjoys giving audiences good music, they also enjoy being together and learning from the process.

“Being a part of this band has allowed me to expand musically from someone who only did the occasional acoustic open mic to being a member of a full, electric Rock and Roll band,” said Micah Barnes.

LOCAL SOUNDS — The “House Band” entertains community members this past Thursday at Festival Park. The band is made up of UTM’s Dr. David Coffey, Dr. David Carithers, Dr. James Fieser, Dr. Chris Brown and alumnus Micah Barnes. They played a mix of covers and original songs.

BAND
FROM PAGE 1

Roll band. I have learned so much about music and songwriting from all of my band mates, and it is always a pleasure to perform with them,” Carithers said.

The band not only learns together, but has the opportunity to experience something much different than each of their daytime jobs and responsibilities.

“We all love playing music together and performing for our friends and neighbors here in West Tennessee. It is also a significant diversion from our regular jobs, which is quite rewarding. It’s fun to show a different side, strap on a guitar, and play. For me it’s literally a dream come true,” Coffey said.

Along with the rewards and entertainment, it gives them the musical practice to keep up their craft.

“For any musician or musical hobbyist, it’s all too easy to just keep one’s instrument in the closet where it will collect dust, and this is especially so for us House Band members who have demanding work obligations at the University. The band keeps us musically active, and thus, helps wear off some of that rust,” Fieser said.

As for being a part of the Martin summer music series, the band is appreciative to be able to play at a venue that is both personally and locally beneficial.

“In this day and age of globalized (and therefore, somewhat sterile) entertainment, I think we’re all interested in seeing local culture flourish. Whether people are playing or watching, this downtown performance series is a great way to participate in building up a culture that is unique to Martin, Tennessee,” Brown said.
UTM tuition rises 6 percent

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a six percent instate tuition increase for students attending the University of Tennessee at Martin, effective for the 2013 fall semester. Approval came Thursday during the board’s annual meeting in Knoxville.

Instate tuition and fees will now cost undergraduate students an additional $229 per semester for a total of $3,757 or $7,514 for a full academic year. Full-time undergraduate enrollment is a minimum of 12 hours.

Tuition and fees will increase an additional $265 per semester for a total of $4,362 per semester for instate UT Martin graduate students or a total cost of $8,724 per academic year starting this fall. Full-time graduate enrollment is nine hours per semester.

Among the fees approved was a $50 per fall and spring semester increase in the facilities fee that all UT Martin students pay, totaling $100 for the academic year.

Other specialized course fees approved include a fee for art studio classes, a physical education activity class fee, a Reelfoot Lake Field Station fee and a student teaching placement fee.

Academic enrichment fees were also approved for the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences within the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and courses offered through the College of Business and Global Affairs.

In other action, the board approved naming the team room in the Rhodes Golf Center for Grover Page, longtime UT Martin golf team coach.

Fall semester classes begin Aug. 26 for the main campus and UT Martin centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley and Selmer.

On April 18, the Department of Mathematics and Statistics hosted the 2013 Middle School/Jr. High Mathematics Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Middle Tennessee State University, Austin Peay State University, Tennessee Tech and Pellissippi State Community College also hosted the contest. At Tennessee at Martin, the contest had 357 students representing 22 public and private schools in West Tennessee. Austin Creech (left) placed eighth in the state in the seventh-grade competition, and Caleb Weatherly (right) placed ninth in the eighth-grade competition.
With a campus street and a basketball court already named in Pat Summitt's honor, the University of Tennessee had to be more creative to recognize the Lady Vols coaching legend.

And encourage some assistance.

The university will use land across from Thompson-Boling Arena and Pratt Pavilion to build a plaza featuring a bronze statue of Summitt. It will be called Pat Summitt Plaza. UT issued a release on Wednesday elaborating on plans for a Summitt statue that UT athletic director Dave Hart first mentioned last month.

"It's a very fitting tribute to Pat," Hart said Wednesday night at the showing of "Pat XO", a documentary on Summitt. "I'm extremely confident it will be done in a first-class manner and people will respond."

While unsure of the total cost, Hart said the plaza will be privately funded through donations. Fans can support the project through the Tennessee Fund. According to patsummittplaza.com, a $1,000 donation receives recognition on the plaza and a print from the dedication, along with priority points. A framed print from the dedication is added to the package for a $5,000 donation. A $10,000 donation adds an invitation to the dedication dinner.

At Summitt's charity golf tournament in May, Hart said that the university planned to unveil a statue of Summitt as part of the renovated streetscape on Lake Loudoun Boulevard near the university's athletic facilities.

The plaza will be built at the corner of Lake Loudoun Boulevard and Phillip Fulmer Way. It will greet fans as they arrive for basketball games at the arena, where the court is named after Summitt. The artist depiction shows flower beds and a wall framing the statue. The wall curls up behind the statue, finishing with a basketball-net design.

Summitt, who officially stepped down from full-time coaching and assumed the title of head coach emeritus last year, already has been honored with a statue at UT Martin, her alma mater.

Hart said that he hoped to have a dedication ceremony during the fall.

"I'm hoping this fall at some point during the middle to late part of the football season we could have a dedication," he said. "A lot of things have to fall into place for us to hit that target, but I'm hopeful that we can find a way to hit that target."

Fans can support the project with a donation through the Tennessee Fund by calling 865-974-1218, visit patsummittplaza.com, or email info@patsummittplaza.com.
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ROGERSVILLE — Mike Faulk knows he has some big shoes to fill, but he believes the best tool he brings to his new circuit court judgeship is the same tool his predecessor employed — ’good old common sense.’

On Thursday, Gov. Bill Haslam officially appointed Faulk to complete the term of recently retired 3rd Judicial District Circuit Court Judge Kindall Lawson.

Faulk, who has worn several hats during his more than three decades of practicing law, officially becomes Judge Mike Faulk on Monday, although a formal swearing-in ceremony isn’t expected until August.

Faulk has been a state senator, a county commissioner, a city attorney and, like Lawson, began his law career in his home of Hawkins County.

"I think the breadth of my law practice over the years combined with the number of years’ experience, and the complexity of the work that I’ve done had a lot to do with (being appointed)," Faulk told the Times-News Thursday. "And frankly, I think the governor watching my work in the senate had something to do with it."

Lawson retired as of June 1. As a 3rd Judicial District judge, Faulk will preside over courts in Hawkins, Hancock, Greene and Hamblen counties.

"Mike will bring vast experience to the bench," Haslam said in a news release. "He has served his state well in the past, and I know he will serve the citizens of the Third Judicial District well in this new role."

Faulk, 59, has worked in The Faulk Law Office in Church Hill since 1982.

From 2008-12, he served as a state senator representing Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson and Union counties in the 106th and 107th Tennessee General Assemblies.

While serving as a state senator, he was a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, among other duties.

He has written for the Tennessee Bar Journal and the Tennessee Trial Lawyers Magazine and has been a lecturer, including serving as adjunct faculty member at East Tennessee State University.

Faulk received his juris doctorate in 1979 from Memphis State University where he received the Kirby Bowling Labor Law Award as outstanding labor law student for 1979. He received a master's degree from Memphis State in 1978 and a bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1975.

"I am deeply humbled by the Governor's confidence in me, grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of East Tennessee and privileged to work with the other judges and court personnel of Greene, Hamblen, Hawkins and Hancock counties," Faulk said in a state press release.

Two weeks ago, the Hawkins County Circuit courtroom was filled with friends and admirers of Lawson, congratulating him on his career and wishing him a good retirement. Faulk was among those in attendance.

"I know that Kindall Lawson has some mighty big shoes to fill, and it will test me in all of my abilities to do the job as well as he has done," Faulk said. "If I, after my time on the bench is over, have folks say the same things about me that they say about Judge Lawson, I will have been a grand success. Everybody to a person talks about what a fair man he is. I've tried dozens, and maybe hundreds of cases in his court over the years, and I've lost my share of them, but not one time ever did I feel like he'd been unfair or unreasonable."

Added Faulk: "The other thing about Judge Lawson that impresses everyone, despite all his years on the bench, and in spite all of his legal training, he still uses that good old common sense."
UT Martin announces new College of Business and Global Affairs Dean

Dr. Ross N. Dickens

Dr. Ross N. Dickens has been appointed as the new dean of the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs, effective Aug. 1, 2013. Dr. Jerald Ogg, university provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, made the announcement this past Monday.

"Dr. Dickens has a track record of sustained excellence as a classroom professor, researcher, public servant and administrator, and I expect him to take an already strong college to even greater heights," Ogg said. "He emerged from a very impressive applicant pool, and I think both the campus and community will appreciate his understanding of, and enthusiasm for, the UT Martin mission."

Dickens, a professor and chair of the University of South Alabama Department of Economics and Finance since 2004, earned his Ph.D. in finance from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and his MBA from the University of North Carolina. He previously served on the faculty at Louisiana Tech University, taught as a visiting professor at Fachhochschule Worms, University of Applied Sciences in Dusseldorf, Germany, and worked for two banks in Columbia, S.C.

Dickens has also acted as an instructor for both the Alabama Banking School and Louisiana State University Graduate School of Banking.

"I am struck by the loyalty of those associated with the university," Dickens said. "I also sense an almost reverence for the school. My perception is that there are many who believe fully that they owe much of their success to the opportunity to attend UT Martin, and these wonderful people are dedicated to paying back this fine institution and the faculty and staff who were here before us."

Dickens and his family are excited about coming to UT Martin and the Martin community. "I am looking forward to working with the faculty and staff of the College of Business and Global Affairs, as well as the wider university. Similarly, my family is eager to join this community and dive fully into high school, church and civic activities," he said.

Dickens succeeds Dr. Ernie Moser, who is returning to full-time classroom duties after serving 12 years as dean.

Two wins for Lofaro in CoSIDA

Joe Lofaro, a former writer for the Dresden Enterprise, won two first-place accolades in the 2012-13 College Sports Information Directors of America Fred Stabley Sr. Writing Contest. Lofaro won first-place honors in District 4.

A Lofaro entry won first place in coach/administrator profile and historical feature. Lofaro also won first place in the Season Preview/Recap category.

Lofaro, who lives in Martin, served as the sports information director at the University of Tennessee at Martin from February 2002 until March 5, 2013. In 2010, Lofaro won first place in the nation in event coverage.

Dr. R. Mark Kelley appointed new dean of College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences

Dr. R. Mark Kelley has been appointed as the new dean of the UT Martin College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, effective July 1, 2013. Dr. Jerald Ogg, university provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, made the announcement.

"The search committee and I thought Dr. Kelley's credentials and interview reflected an exceptional record of teaching, scholarship and administrative leadership," Ogg said. "Dr. Kelley grew up in Arkansas, and he and his wife, Sandy, are excited about moving to Martin and helping us advance the university's mission."

Kelley, a professor and chair of the Western Illinois University Department of Health Sciences since 2008, earned his Ph.D. in health science from the University of Arkansas. He previously served on the faculty at Oklahoma State University, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Southeastern Louisiana University.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to join the UT Martin team and be a part of the College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences," Kelley said. "The vibrant growing nature of the college, UT Martin and Martin communities was evident during my visit to campus."

Kelley succeeds Dr. Mary Lee Hall, who is retiring June 30 after serving 10 years as dean of the college.
Local inducted into Order of the Engineer at UT Martin

Alex Verdell (center), of Gleason, was inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to UT Martin commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. The awards were presented by Dr. Ed Wheeler (left), Department of Engineering interim chair, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean.

Jazz workshop to be offered for children at UT Martin

A jazz dance workshop will be offered for students ages 13-16, from 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m., July 8-26, at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

Participants will explore various jazz styles, such as those taught by Bob Fosse, to more modern styles, such as musical theater.

Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing, such as leggings and a T-shirt, tank top and comfortable shoes.

Students will meet at the appointed times on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

The registration fee is $40 for participants, and children must be accompanied by an adult.

Advance registration is required. To register, call 731-881-7082 or visit www.utm.edu/nondegree.

Dance classes to be offered for children

Dance classes will be offered for students ages 4-8, from 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., July 8-26, at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

"Creative Movement" will explore the basics of dance moves and participants will use props. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing for the class. Students will meet at the appointed times on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

The registration fee is $40 for participants, and children must be accompanied by an adult.

Advance registration is required. To register, call 731-881-7082 or visit www.utm.edu/nondegree.

Ballet classes to be offered for children at UTM

A ballet dance workshop will be offered for students ages 9-12, from 4:15-5:15 p.m., July 8-26, at the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

Participants will explore ballet from the classical and modern styles, and popular music will be played.

Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing, such as leggings and a T-shirt, and ballet shoes or socks.

Students will meet at the appointed times on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

The registration fee is $40 for participants, and children must be accompanied by an adult.

Advance registration is required for children to attend. To register, call 731-881-7082 or visit www.utm.edu/nondegree.
UTM’s Taylor up for NCAA award

UTM Sports Information

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Leah Taylor has been selected as the Ohio Valley Conference's nominee for the NCAA Woman of the Year award. The award will be announced at the Woman of the Year Awards Dinner in Indianapolis on October 14.

Each conference nominates up to two women and from that group the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics (CWA) narrows it down to the top 10 per division which will be announced in August. In September, the CWA will select the top 3 per division.

The NCAA Woman of the Year Award honors graduating student-athletes who have distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate careers in the areas of athletic achievement, athletics excellence, service and leadership. Student-athletes are nominated only once in their career by their institution.

The NCAA CWA manages the nomination process and selections. In the past five years, 676 student-athletes were nominated by their conference or independent institutions, representing multiple ethnicities and all NCAA-sponsored sports within Divisions I, II and III. In 2012 alone, 429 student-athletes were nominated by their institutions. From 1998 through 2005, an average of 410 female student-athletes per year were nominated for the award; and since the program's inception in 1991, 2629 women have been recognized as state or conference honorees.

Taylor, a marketing major with an impressive 3.97 GPA, was recently named a CoSIDA Academic All-American, marking the second year in a row she has been honored with that award. She has also been a multi-time selection to the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll as well as being an OVC Medal of Honor pick and being tabbed an NFCA All-America Scholar-Athlete. She is a member of the UT Martin Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society and Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). She has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and Hoops for Heroes as well as participating with numerous elementary school events.

On the softball field, Taylor has been nothing short of remarkable. This past season, she became the UT Martin all-time career leader in runs scored (162), steals (110) and triples (18). The Brownsville native led the OVC in steals (39) and is tied for sixth in the nation in that category.
Katie Jarvis (right), of Martin, recently received the Darrin Devault Public Relations Scholarship. The award was presented at the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is pictured with Dr. Jeff Hoyer, professor of communications.

Matt Borden (center), of Martin, recently received the Dr. Gary Steinke WUTM Broadcasting Excellence Award. The award was presented at the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He is pictured with Dr. Richard Robinson (left), professor of communications and faculty advisor for WUTM, and Dr. Gary Steinke (right), professor of communications.

Local students honored by UT Martin Department of Communications

Natalie Medling (right), of Greenfield, recently received the Senior Ambassador Award and Communications Department Academic Excellence Award during the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is pictured with Dr. Robert Nanney, chair of the Department of Communications.

Meredith Reynolds (right), of Martin, recently received the M. Sue Kahle Excellence in Leadership Award. Reynolds was also awarded the Presidential Service Award for her contributions to Women In Communications. The awards were presented at the Department of Communications annual awards banquet at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is pictured with Dr. Teresa Collard, assistant professor of communications and Women In Communications adviser.
Members of the Martin and UTM police departments participate in active shooter training at Martin schools in preparation for possible future threats to students from gun-wielding attackers.

Martin P.D. and UTM police conduct active shooter training

Officers of the Martin and UTM police departments recently participated in training, which has become extremely important to law enforcement across the United States. Officers trained at all Martin area schools on the proper tactical methods in the event there is an active shooter on campus.

An active shooter is defined as "an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims."

The exercise took place at the Martin Middle and Westview High schools, Thursday June 13, and Martin Primary and Elementary schools Friday, June 14. The training gave officers the opportunity to become familiar with the layout of each school and train on various shooting scenarios to prepare them for any incident that might occur.

Weakley County student receives scholarship

A Weakley County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2013-2014 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Sabrina Black, of Martin, daughter of David Black and Barbara Tatum, will be a sophomore. She received the Fred and Marie Colvett Family and Consumer Sciences award.
Baskette attends conference

Lisa Baskette, a senior social work major at UT Martin, attended the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at Maryland University.

There were 700 college women leaders attending the three-day conference at Maryland University.

Lisa won a national scholarship, which paid for the conference. The local Martin chapter of AAUW, which Lisa is a member, sponsored her by assisting in travel arrangements.

"If it had not been for AAUW assisting me financially, I would not have been able to attend this awesome conference. I met many women and made new connections while learning about networking. I learned a lot about leadership and I plan to use those skills on campus, in this community, and in my practice. I want to pass on the NCCWSL tradition to other women who step up and lead," stated Baskette.

Lisa is the President of the Women's Student Association and a board member of UT Martin's Women Center.

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ZIEGLER SPEAKS —
Jeff Ziegler recently spoke to the Martin Kiwanis Club about the University of Tennessee at Martin Post Office and how it accommodates the university. Learn more about the Martin Kiwanis Club at martinkiwanisclub.org or check out their Facebook page.

WINS CHAMPIONSHIP — Taylor Martin, son of Jeff and Lori Martin, won the high overall combined championship recently at the Tennessee State Scholastic Clay Target Championship. Martin competed in trap, skeet and sporting clays. He also earned one of three places on the Tennessee All State Skeet Team. He will be attending the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall and will continue shooting at collegiate level.
Run, fly or slither out to the wild Summer Celebration

Fox numbers are in decline, perhaps in response to increases in coyote populations, though fox sightings on golf courses and landscapes seem to be on the rise. It's thought that foxes may feel safer from coyotes in suburban settings. I could find no clinical data to support this, but I see the logic, and from the numbers of Youtube videos, it's hard to dispute!

Are you sure you know the difference in red and gray fox? Color can't always be a deciding factor, since red foxes may have a silver phase in winter that might confuse. Red foxes are just a bit larger and have a distinctive white tip on their tail. If you see a fox climbing a tree, it is definitely a gray fox. Gray fox are good climbers and may climb to escape predators and to eat eggs or baby birds, or even fruit. Yes, the children's fable about the fox and the grape is not just a fairy tale. Foxes love fruit and have even been known to snatch tomatoes from vegetable gardens, especially during dry times when other foods are scarce.

Have you ever wondered what sounds they make, or how many kits they have in a litter? Learn all this and more at this season's Summer Celebration on July 11, where the theme is "Go Wild."

Eric Pelren, wildlife professor at the University of Tennessee Martin, will be revealing the secret lives of Tennessee predators, from the shrew to the bobcat. While many people think of predators as fearsome, Pelren will show you their beguiling side, the devotion to family, and explain their value in Tennessee's ecosystems.

Those predators can come from above, with sharp beaks and talons to snatch their prey. James Huggins, of Union University, will bring some of his "rehab raptors" for a show and tell. It is always thrilling to see these fierce birds up close and to hear the touching stories about how the injured birds came into Dr. Huggins' capable hands.

Let's hope he doesn't get them too close to the snakes that will be brought by Tom Blanchard, director of the Reelfoot Lake Environmental Field Station, and a member of the Tennessee Herpetological Society. Hawks and owls eat snakes! If you would prefer not to get too close to either, you might wish to cozy up to the amphibians. Dr. Blanchard will give an indoor presentation on the 21 species of frogs and toads found in Tennessee. Did you ever wonder what defines a toad from a frog?

Of course there will be plenty of other presentations on birds and butterflies — the prettier, softer side of wildlife. You can even pick up bird house specifics for attracting desirable birds from Polly Rooker with the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency. Here's your chance to learn more about the wild animals of Tennessee. More details can be found at west.tennessee.edu, or visit the Facebook page at "UT Gardens Jackson" for more information on the plants featured in the sale.

Carol Reese is ornamental horticulture specialist for the Western District of the University of Tennessee Extension Service.
Brinn Roten, of Savannah; Emily Land, of Ripley; and Alyssa Bynum, of Dresden.

Steve and Anita Hamilton, of Medina.

Reid Barker, of Jackson, and Joe Barker, of Savannah.

David and Carol Reid, of Martin.

Clay Banks, formerly of Shelby County, and Bobby Dyer, of Lexington.

Julie and Pat Riley, of Trenton.
The University of Tennessee Martin's WestStar Leadership Program graduated its 2013 class June 20 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Jackson. The program is in its 24th year and now has 680 graduates, most from West Tennessee. The 2013 class included 33 participants. Class members are competitively selected to learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. WestStar alumni who live or work in the area, including members of the 2013 class, gathered for a photo following graduation. Back row, from left: Jack Matthys, Martin Jelinek, Dennis Henderson, Dr. Bill Seymour, Greg York, Dave Brackner, Doug Roth, Jerry Hartsfield, Scott Dahlstrom and Scott Conger. Front row, from left: Tammy Boyd, Katie Poco, Janna Hellums, Tawnya Moore, Jan Boud, Sherri McCarter, Judy Renshaw, Ginger French, Pam Nash and Anita Hamilton. Kneeling, from left: Dee Henderson and Diane Abbott. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

State Sen. Dolores Gresham, of Somerville, and Peggy Daniel, of Selmer. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Joe Barker, of Savannah; Shannon Cotter, of Rossville; and Garry Welch, of Savannah. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
Dr. Todd A. Winters has accepted an appointment as dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, effective Monday, at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor of academic affairs and provost, made the announcement earlier this month, according to a news release from the university.

Winters, a professor and associate dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, earned his Ph.D. in endocrinology/reproductive physiology (biochemistry) from the University of Wisconsin in Madison, and his master's degree in animal science from Purdue University. His bachelor's degree in animal science is from Washington State University, and he served as a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Virginia Health Sciences Center in Charlottesville from 1992-94.

"I am looking forward to leading a college that is already moving in a positive direction," Winters said in the release. "Deans (Jerry) Gresham and (Jim) Byford should be proud of their accomplishments. The College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences is well positioned to train the workforce, and provide assistance through research and outreach to help solve important societal issues related to food production and security; environmental stewardship and climate change; nutrition and family wellness; and food safety."

"This ended up being a particularly complex search, but the committee did a superb job recruiting an impressive group of interviewees," Ogg said.

Winters succeeds Gresham, who is retiring today.

Briefly

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