Four to be honored during
UTM Homecoming game

Two alumni and two friends will be honored as part of the UT Martin Homecoming activities, which kicked off Monday and run through Sunday.

The award recipients will be recognized during the homecoming game against Jacksonville State at 2 p.m. Saturday at Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

This year’s award recipients are:

- Cade Cowan — Outstanding Young Alumni Award, given in recognition of outstanding achievement in his chosen profession; and
- Janet Ayers — Outstanding Alumni Award, given to an alumnus or alumna in recognition of outstanding achievement in his/her chosen profession;
- Jim and Janet Ayers — Chancellor’s Award for University Service, given in recognition of outstanding service to UT Martin. Cowan is a 1994 summa cum laude graduate of UT Martin. A native of Gordonsville, he attended UT Martin as a University Scholar majoring in economics in the School of Business. Additionally, he served as Student Government Association (SGA) president and vice presi-

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sistant, biology laboratory instructor, held many leadership positions for Alpha Delta Pi and was awarded the Greek Woman of the Year Award by Panhellenic in her senior year.

After UT Martin, Iacona pursued degrees at Vanderbilt University where she received her doctorate in pathology in 1998 and a master’s degree in public health in 1999. Dr. Iacona currently lives outside Philadelphia with her husband, Nick Iacona. She has worked at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals since 2001 and now serves as the head of the alliance and operations office for the global biometrics function.

SEE HONORS, PAGE 13
HONORS
FROM PAGE 1

For Alpha Delta Pi, Dr. Iacona has continued to serve the organization since graduation from UT Martin and now serves on the international vice president of alumnae membership, overseeing the strategic development of the more than 220,000 alumnae members. For UT Martin, she has started a leadership endowment scholarship and is currently serving on the steering committee for building the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority lodge at UT Martin.

The Ayers, because of their commitment and vision, convinced the Tennessee Legislature to approve a $200,000 annual recurring state appropriation for the establishment of operation of the UT Martin Parsons Center. The Ayers also made a leadership gift of $1 million to construct the UT Martin Parsons Center.

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Jim Ayers, the owner and chairman of the board of FirstBank, served as the honorary co-chair of The Campaign for Tennessee (UT Martin) in 2010, was a member of the UT Foundation Board and the UT Martin Campaign Steering Committee and is a former member of the UT Development Council. His gifts to The Campaign for Tennessee largely support the UT Martin Parsons Center and the UT Martin Ayers Scholars.

DONATION — Ridley Wills II shows some of the vintage postcards that he donated to the University of Tennessee at Martin.
Vintage postcards find new home at UT Martin

Postcards seem headed the way of film cameras in these changing times, but the images that both capture can be a part of history. Portions of a vintage postcard collection now have a new home, thanks to a gift made to UT Martin’s Paul Meek Library.

Ridley Wills II, well-known Nashville historian and former senior vice president of the National Life and Accident Insurance Co., gave the library more than 1,000 postcards from his personal collection of some 28,000 unduplicated Tennessee cards.

The gift includes all of his Weakley County postcards, which covers cards featuring photos and information from Gleason, Dresden, Greenfield and Martin. The donation also includes all of his Lake County cards, many of which highlight Reelfoot Lake. Tom Pulliam, a personal friend and UT Martin graduate who also lives in Nashville, connected Wills with the university.

Wills’ passion for postcards and his extensive collection had humble beginnings.

"Well, when I was a boy, I collected Tennessee postcards, and I kept them in a shoebox at my mother’s house,” Wills said. “And after I came back from the Navy after college to Nashville, I wanted to take pictures of old Nashville buildings, and I thought at first that I would use a camera to do it.” He quickly realized that most of the buildings he wanted to photograph were no longer there.

“So I thought about that childhood postcard collection,” he said. “I went to my mother’s house and found a postcard dated 1908 (still one of his most valued cards) showing Jacob McGavock Dickinson, Justice Howard Lurton of the United States Supreme Court and President William Howard Taft in front of Belle Meade Plantation.

And I said, ‘This is wonderful. I wonder if there are any more of these?’"

From there, his postcard collecting began in earnest. Early on, he collected cards from tourist homes and flea markets. “Then more recently, I’ve gotten them off the Internet,” he said, adding, “I still collect some, but I’m giving more away than I’m collecting.”

Today, thousands of postcards and decades later, he’s returning his collection to the areas portrayed on the cards. Museums and libraries are the main recipients of his generous gifts, noting “it’s been fun to get them back to where they belong.”

“We’re grateful to Mr. Wills for donating these postcards to the Paul Meek Library,” said Sam Richardson, UT Martin assistant professor of library science and head of Special Collections and Archives. “These postcards provide snapshots of history that will be preserved and enjoyed by future generations, thanks to this generous gift.”

A Vanderbilt University graduate, Wills has given back to the Nashville community in many ways since leaving the insurance company. He has served on boards, raised money for charitable organizations and written 18 books, several copies of which he’s donated to the Meek Library.

His own family is steeped in Nashville and state history, starting with his family home that became the Tennessee governor’s mansion in 1949. A West Tennessee tie includes his great grandfather, Howell E. Jackson, a U.S. Supreme Court judge who was born in Henry County and was elected U.S. senator from Tennessee in 1881.

While the number of postcards donated to UT Martin is impressive, he’s quick to put the gift in perspective. “Well if I’ve got that many Martin cards, you can imagine how many cards I’ve got (from) places like Memphis,” he said, laughing.

The postcards will be available for the public to view and research in the Meek Library’s Alliene and Jimmie S. Corbitt Special Collections.
Bynum chosen as division VP of state realtors association

The Tennessee Association of Realtors recently announced that Dresden Realtor Alex Bynum as 2014-15 Division Vice President of the Tennessee Association of Realtors (TAR), representing the western third of the state. Bynum was elected and installed at the state association’s 94th annual convention held recently in Destin, Fla.

"I am passionate about both real estate and TAR," remarked Bynum. "I am eager to represent our state association because of my strong belief in its benefits both to our Realtor members and to the public we serve."

Bynum is an affiliate broker with Wendell Alexander Realty in Dresden and is a member of several local realtor associations in west Tennessee. Bynum has served as both treasurer and president of the Reelfoot Regional Association of Realtors, and on the MLS Committee of the Central West Tennessee Association of Realtors in Jackson. In 2012 he was a finalist for recognition by the National Association of Realtors for their "30 under 30" awards to outstanding young Realtors across the country.

Active in his community, Bynum graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The Tennessee Association of Realtors is one of the largest professional associations in Tennessee, with approximately 19,000 members statewide. Services provided by TAR to its members include a weekly newsletter, legal and information bulletins, real estate forms and advanced business tools, in-depth education programs, and legislative advocacy and oversight. Visit www.tarnet.com for more information.

New UTM stadium delayed one year

The reconstruction of Hardy M. Graham Stadium on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus has been delayed until December 2014, one year after the original plans called for the overhaul of the stadium.

The Graham Stadium facelift was approved by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees on June 20 and has the full support of the UT Martin administration.

However, recent planning developments have dictated that the construction start date be postponed.

"We all want to see this project move forward as quickly as possible but given all the limitations and recent planning developments, this delay makes sense to me," UT Martin director of athletics Phil Delp said.

The overhaul of Graham Stadium will transform the venue into one of the finest Football Championship Subdivision facilities in the nation and will meet all requirements to allow UT Martin to host a playoff game.

The entire west side of the stadium will be replaced with new bleacher seating and a four-story building that will total approximately 21,000 square feet.

The building will stretch 50 yards, from 25-yard line to 25-yard line.

Included in the building is a floor level that will include a renovated visiting locker room, referee locker rooms and a concession stand amongst other game management space.

The new bleacher seating will extend closer to the field (directly behind UT Martin’s bench), eliminating the current walkway.

The entrance to each seat will now be located through tunnels from the back side of the bleachers.

The second level will be used by the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. The area will include a hospitality and event management program operated through the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The area will also serve as an academic support function throughout the calendar school year.

The club level is located on the third floor. On football game days, the 2,637 square feet area will house donors, offering a unique perspective of the game while in the climate-controlled suite.

This level also includes the Chancellor’s box and will also serve as a fresh location for banquets.

The fourth tier of the building is a state-of-the-art press box facility.

This floor includes nine spots designated for use by the visiting athletics director, visiting radio and coaching staff, television production, print media/ sports information staff, public address/scoreboard operator, home coaching staff, home radio and WUTM radio.

The area will be highlighted by a working media area (711 square feet) which can seat up to 28 members, more than twice what the current press box holds.

"The renovation being planned will be a major boost for our students, athletes, faculty, staff and community partners who enjoy football and a range of other events that will be served in this multipurpose structure," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

The project is scheduled to be completed in time for the beginning of the 2015 Skyhawk football season.

UT Martin’s home opener is tentatively set for Sept. 19 against Central Arkansas.

UTM has four home games remaining this season, including Jacksonville State on Saturday, and four on the schedule for 2014.
PKP ceremony set at UTM campus

The Phi Kappa Phi (PKP) Fall Recognition Ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Boling University Center in the Watkins Auditorium.

Dr. Bradley Ray will present the faculty lecture. His talk will be titled “Fish Is Food: Where Do We Go From Here?”

Originally from Omaha, he earned bachelor’s degrees with majors in biology and fish and wildlife ecology at Northland College in northern Wisconsin. He earned a master’s degree in biology from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, before completing his doctorate degree at Virginia Tech with a major in fisheries and wildlife.

Ray is currently an associate professor in the department of agriculture, geosciences and natural resources at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His current research covers a diverse spectrum of fisheries management, from controlling invasive species to food fish production.

The event will honor freshmen and sophomores who excel academically. These students will be recognized before peers, guests and PKP members.

Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 127 at UT Martin, founded in 1971, honors students, faculty and staff who have reached high levels of academic success.

Phi Kappa Phi is the nation’s oldest, largest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

The public is invited to this event and there is no admission fee.

Handgun course to be held Oct. 12

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is sponsoring a handgun carry course.

The course will be offered from 8-5 p.m. Oct. 12.

Terry Guthrie, state certified handgun instructor, will teach the course.

The course will present the student with the minimum requirements mandated by the state to obtain a handgun carry permit. The class will cover the use, operation and basic cleaning of a handgun.

The first four-hour block will be devoted to classroom instruction and the written exam. The second four-hour block will be for firing range instruction and the practical exam. The student must score a minimum of 70 percent on both the written and practical exam to successfully complete the course.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to apply for a handgun carry permit from the State of Tennessee.

The registration fee to attend is $75. The student must be at least 21 years of age and have no felony convictions. The student will need to bring a handgun, 50 rounds of ammunition appropriate for the handgun, a pen or pencil, paper and hearing and eye protection.

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

Dessert evening tickets available

Tickets are on sale now for the University of Tennessee at Martin 2013 Dessert Evening.

The event is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. both Friday and Saturday in the Blankenship Recital Hall in the Fine Arts Building on campus.

Tickets are $12 each for children 12 and younger and UT Martin students and they are $18 each for adults. Call Sherry Adams at (731) 881-7402 or email sadams@utm.edu to reserve tickets. Space is limited.

All proceeds benefit the choral area of the UT Martin Department of Music.

WestStar schedules HS event

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s WestStar Leadership Program will be hosting the third annual Rising Star Leadership Summit for high school juniors and seniors Nov. 21-22 at UTM.

The purpose of the Rising Star Leadership Summit is to give student leaders across West Tennessee an opportunity to develop leadership skills and learn the importance of community involvement.

The cost of the summit is $120 per student, which covers hotel room, meals and materials.

WestStar suggests that each school select no more than two students to attend in order to encourage higher interaction among the students from different schools. WestStar’s goal is to have all 21 counties in West Tennessee represented.

For the agenda and registration information, visit www.utm.edu/edu. For more information, contact the WestStar leadership office at (731) 881-3298.
Alumni, friends to be honored as part of UTM homecoming

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Cowan is a 1994 summa cum laude graduate of UT Martin. A native of Gordonsville, he attended UT Martin as a University Scholar majoring in economics in the School of Business. Additionally, he served as Student Government Association (SGA) president and vice president of Kappa Alpha Order and he donned the Pacer Pete mascot uniform for two years. At graduation he was awarded the Paul and Martha Meek Achievement Award.

Currently, Cowan is a managing partner of the leadership development practice for Pivot Leadership, a consulting firm that equips senior leaders of Fortune 100 companies to more effectively execute their organizational strategies. During his career, he has worked in 31 countries on five continents with leaders from companies such as Microsoft, Walmart, Johnson & Johnson, Aetna and HP.

In addition to his degree from UT Martin, Cowan holds a master’s degree in organizational and social psychology from Columbia University in New York.

Dr. Iacona graduated from UT Martin in 1991, with a bachelor’s degree in biology as a University Scholars graduate. At UT Martin, she served as a resident assistant and biology laboratory instructor, held many leadership positions for Alpha Delta Pi and was awarded the Greek Woman of the Year Award by Panhellenic in her senior year.

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Today, thousands of postcards and decades later, he’s returning his collection to the areas portrayed on the cards. Museums and libraries are the main recipients of his generous gifts, noting “it’s been fun to get them back to where they belong.”

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Alex Bynum chosen as 2014-15 Division VP of the Tennessee Association of Realtors

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Active in his community, Alex Bynum graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Tennessee at Martin.
A Roarin’ Good time continues through Sunday

Homecoming 2013 at the University of Tennessee at Martin continues through Sunday with a theme of “A Roarin’ Good Time.”

Here is the remaining schedule:

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

**Friday**
- **3 p.m.** — Rhodes Golf Center dedication
- **3:30 p.m.** — Rope pull championships, by Pacer Pond
- **5 p.m.** — Ed Jones Agricultural Hall of Fame Reception and Dinner, Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom

**Saturday**
- **7:30 a.m.** — Letterwinner’s Breakfast and Hall of Fame Inductions, Elam Center concourse
- **10 a.m.** — Sorority Lodge dedication, 247 West Peach St.
- **10:30 a.m.** — Quad City
- **11 a.m.** — Football team’s Skyhawk Walk, Quad near Paul Meek Library

**Sunday**
- **10 a.m.** — Walk in the Quad
- **10:30 a.m.** — Homecoming Brunch, Boling University Center

**Ballroom**
- **7 p.m.** — Volleyball match vs. Jacksonville State, Skyhawk Fieldhouse
- **7 p.m.** — Soccer match vs. Tennessee Tech, Skyhawk Soccer Field
- **7 p.m.** — Pyramid and pep rally, Elam Center ($2 per person charge)
- **7:30 p.m.** — University Choirs Dessert Evening, Fine Arts Building

**Student Recreation Center**
- **5 p.m.** — Campus Recreation former employee reunion, Student Recreation Center
- **5:30 p.m.** — Black Alumni Reception, Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom
- **5:30 p.m.** — Softball Reunion, Bettye Giles Field
- **7 p.m.** — Young Alumni Reception, Opera House
- **7 p.m.** — NPHC Greek Step Show, Elam Center
- **7:30 p.m.** — University Choirs Dessert Evening, Fine Arts Building

**Skyhawk Fieldhouse**
- **2 p.m.** — Football game vs. Jacksonville State, Hardy M. Graham Stadium
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**SIGMA ALPHA** — The ladies of Sigma Alpha took first place in the sorority division at the annual Lip Sync event at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Tuesday. (Photo courtesy of Kara Kidwell, Pacer Staff)
AOPI — The ladies of AOPi took second place in the sorority division at the annual Lip Synch event at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Tuesday during Homecoming Week. (Photo courtesy of Kara Kidwell, Pacer Staff.)

AGR — The men of AGR fraternity took second place in the fraternity division at the annual Lip Sync event at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Tuesday during Homecoming week. (Photo courtesy of Kara Kidwell, Pacer Staff.)
SIGMA CHI — The men of Sigma Chi fraternity took first place in the fraternity division at the annual Lip Sync event at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Tuesday. (Photo courtesy of Kara Kidwell, Pacer Staff)

CDA — The Collegiate Dance Association took first place in the open division at the annual Lip Synch event at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Tuesday during Homecoming week. (Photo courtesy of Kara Kidwell, Pacer Staff)
Civil War exhibit on display through Oct. 25

Authentic Civil War photographs, letters, images and stories are featured in a new exhibit now on display at the University of Tennessee at Martin's J. Houston Gordon Museum.

Civil War history comes alive at the Teacher's Discovery Traveling Exhibit on the Civil War which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the war. Housed at UT Martin's Paul Meek Library, the exhibit runs through Oct. 25 and includes additional Civil War prints, pictures and other West Tennessee artifacts culled from the library's Corbitt Special Collections. The additional local items will remain on display until Dec. 20.

"In West Tennessee, we live among the remains of the Civil War and seldom acknowledge the sites of horrific battles, the scars on our buildings or the war's impact on the American psyche," university museum curator Sam Richardson said. "For four long and terrible years, the United States was interrupted by a brutal war that helped define American democracy. The grim realities of war are featured in this moving exhibit, which will be of interest to all age groups."

The museum is open 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday or by special arrangements. Call (731) 881-7094.

The exhibit, as well as public programming, is partially funded by a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (in partnership with The Library of America) and is funded by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.
SPECIAL DELIVERY — Ridley Wills II, a well-known Nashville historian, recently donated more than 1,000 vintage postcards to the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Paul Meek Library. The postcards came from his personal collection of some 28,000 unduplicated Tennessee cards. Among them are all of his Weakley County postcards and all of his Lake County postcards, including many which highlight Reelfoot Lake.

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Young writers event scheduled at UTM

Aspiring young writers can improve their writing skills at the annual Young Writers Conference Nov. 8 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

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

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

Dobbins, of Memphis, is a graduate from the College Scholars program at UT Knoxville. She recently began contributing poetry reviews for The Rumpus and Cutbank and was Beloit Poetry Journal’s featured poet for June.

The workshop for teachers will cover how to use creative writing to meet common core standards. Other events include a luncheon; a reading by Dobbins and an open mic for students.

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

The conference registration fee is $10 for students and $20 for teachers and includes all workshops, readings and a luncheon.

Teachers are encouraged, but are not required, to attend along with their students. Teachers should follow their school policies in arranging for parent/guardian permissions for students who will attend the conference.

Registration is limited to 100 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms must be received by Oct. 31, along with payment to UT Martin for the conference registration fee.

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

For more information about the conference or to register, contact Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English, at (731) 881-7296 or by email at lachance@utm.edu.

Authentic Civil War items on display at UT Martin

Authentic Civil War photographs, letters, images and stories are featured in a new exhibit now on display at the University of Tennessee at Martin’s J. Houston Gordon Museum.

Civil War history comes alive at the Teacher’s Discovery Traveling Exhibit on the Civil War, which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the war.

Housed at UT Martin’s Paul Meek Library, the exhibit began this week and runs through Oct. 25. It includes additional Civil War prints, pictures and other West Tennessee artifacts culled from the library’s Corbitt Special Collections. The additional local items will remain on display until Dec. 20.

“In West Tennessee, we live among the remains of the Civil War and seldom acknowledge the sites of horrific battles, the scars on our buildings or the war’s impact on the American psyche,” university museum curator Sam Richardson said. “For four long and terrible years, the United States was interrupted by a brutal war that helped define American democracy. The grim realities of war are featured in this moving exhibit, which will be of interest to all age groups.

“We are excited to be able to bring this exhibit to the West Tennessee area for all to come and commemorate a time in America’s past where our nation’s democracy was tested,” Richardson said.

The museum is open 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays or by special arrangements. Call (731) 881-7094 for more information.

The exhibit, as well as public programming, is partially funded by a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (in partnership with The Library of America) and is funded by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

UT Martin’s ROTC program targeted for closure in 2015

The University of Tennessee at Martin was notified this week that the school’s Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) program is among 13 in the nation scheduled for closure in 2015.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, received a call Wednesday from the U.S. Army notifying the university of the closure.

Other Tennessee universities facing ROTC closures are East Tennessee State University in Johnson City and Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville.

UT Martin’s verbal closure notification came without warning or consultation with university officials.

“We are disappointed to learn of the plans to discontinue Army ROTC at UT Martin,” Rakes said.

“We serve a high number of capable, underrepresented students, and by discontinuing the ROTC program, our community and region will fall victim to budget cuts and decreasing opportunities for our young people,” Rakes said. “I anticipate appealing the decision through channels.”

“The program has exhibited outstanding performance involving competition among battalion groups within the region, as well as commissioning several hundred officers during the program’s existence,” the UT Martin chancellor added.

An ROTC unit was first established at the university in 1952, followed by the start of a four-year ROTC program in 1964. Since the program’s beginnings, 651 cadets have been commissioned as second lieutenants in the regular Army, the U.S. Army Reserve and the Tennessee Army National Guard.

The university’s military science program, of which ROTC is a part, includes Jackson State Community College, Lane College, Freed-Hardeman University, Bethel University and Union University.

Enrollment for fall semester 2013 is 61 basic course cadets and 25 advanced course cadets, a university spokesman said in a news release Thursday afternoon.

If the closure plan proceeds, remaining Reserve Officers’ Training Corps students would be commissioned as part of the 2014-15 graduating class.
UTM's ROTC program set to close in 2015

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"We are disappointed to learn of the plans to discontinue Army ROTC at UT Martin," Rakes said in the release. "We serve a high number of capable, underrepresented students, and by discontinuing the ROTC program, our community and region will fall victim to budget cuts and decreasing opportunities for our young people."

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Briefly
Continued from Page B1

Army notifying the university of the closure.

Based on the investigation, police said, Gray set up a drug deal with Crossett and set the meeting point for the Taco Bell on North Highland Avenue.

Police said when Crossett tried to sell Gray simulated narcotics, Evans took the purported drugs and demanded money. After Crossett refused to give up any money, Evans shot him in both legs and Evans and Gray drove away, police said.

Gray and Evans were taken to the Madison County Jail and booked on charges of especially aggravated robbery. Gray will face additional charges of sale and delivery of a controlled substance and felony evading arrest by motor vehicle. Evans faces additional charges of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and theft of property regarding the stolen firearm.

Jackson police arrested the two Sept. 20 after Jacob Crossett, 29, of Madison County, was shot during an apparent drug deal, which was followed by a car chase. Spike strips and a Precision Immobilization Technique maneuver eventually were used to stop a car driven by Gray. Evans was also in the car.

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Ed Jones' contributions in politics, agriculture recalled

By Nick McFerron
contactus@jacksonsun.com

On Friday, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and the University of Tennessee Martin honored the life of the late Ed Jones, former U.S. representative and former commissioner of agriculture for the state of Tennessee. Congressional pages, staff members, friends and family attended a reception honoring Jones' induction into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame.

Betty McCaffrey Ellis worked for Jones while he was the congressman for Tennessee's Eighth District.

"I've known him longer than probably anyone else here. I was at Mr. and Mrs. Jones' wedding in 1938, when I was 9," Ellis said. "They were family to me."

Ray Lancaster and Jim Johnson remembered working in Washington, D.C., with Jones. Lancaster served as Jones' administrative assistant from 1969 to 1980, and Johnson served on the House Agriculture Committee with Jones.

"He would have been 90 out of place in today's Congress," Lancaster said, referring to Jones' habit of seeking bipartisanship on every bill he authored.

"All he wanted to do was make life better for people in West Tennessee," Jim Johnson said, speaking especially of the agricultural work Jones did.

Jones is the 13th inductee into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame since 1938.

Jones' accomplishments leading up to his induction into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame started when he became the youngest commissioner of agriculture for the state of Tennessee at age 37.

Jones served on the Agricultural Committee during his time in the House of Representatives and authored many bills changing the face of agriculture in America.

"He certainly left his mark on our nation's agriculture and is responsible for many of the programs in conservation, foreign finance and risk management that we now take for granted," said Julius Johnson, commissioner of the Department of Agriculture.

"Through it all, Mr. Jones never lost sight of his mission to improve the livelihood of farmers and lives of rural Americans," Julius Johnson said.

Former Congressman John Tanner delivered the keynote address at the reception, speaking about Jones' influence in Congress, and his relationship with Jones.

Tanner ended his speech by relating Jones' life to a poem by Will Allen Drimoole called "The Bridge Builder."

"Ed Jones was a bridge builder. You all crossed it, and he would be so pleased to know that that bridge crossing is alive and well tonight," Tanner said.

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LOCAL COLLEGES

UTM, Bethel inducting HoF classes

UT Martin and Bethel are both having homecoming this weekend as both teams kick their games off at 2 p.m. today.

Bethel inducted its class that included Kayla McSweeney Collins, Glen McAdams, Shorty Akers and the 2008 men's soccer team that won the NAIA national championship Friday night.

UTM's class will be inducted this morning with its traditional Hall of Fame breakfast. The Skyhawks' class includes Lee Mayo, Ross Elder, Jack Beeler, Mack Terry, Mack Terry and Kristin Runyan.

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UT-Martin will host retirement seminar

The University of Tennessee at Martin will sponsor a six-hour retirement seminar in suburban Memphis.

Two three-hour sessions are scheduled in Germantown Oct. 17 and Oct. 24 starting at 6 p.m. in the Great Hall and Conference Center, 1900 S. Germantown Road.

Registration is $59.00 for two people and includes a 134-page textbook.

Contact UT Martin at 731-881-7082 or go online to register at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php
The University of Tennessee-Martin has been informed that their ROTC program will be closed in 2015.

Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes was notified by the U.S. Army that the university was one of 13 in the nation to receive the notice, which also included East Tennessee State and Tennessee Tech.

Dr. Rakes said he was “disappointed” at the decision, and said discontinuing the ROTC would bring budget cuts and decreased opportunities for young people.

Dr. Rakes added that he anticipates an appeal of the decision, stating that the UTM program had commissioned several hundred officers since its beginning in 1952.

UT Martin's ROTC program slated to close in 2015

UT Martin's ROTC program slated to close in 2015

Posted: Oct 03, 2013 1:19 PM CDT
Updated: Oct 03, 2013 1:19 PM CDT

James Long - email

MARTIN, TN (KFVS) - The Reserve Officers' Training Corps program at UT Martin is among 13 in the nation scheduled to close in 2015.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, received a call Wednesday from the U.S. Army notifying the university of the closure.

According to UT Martin, the notification came without warning or consultation with university officials.

"We are disappointed to learn of the plans to discontinue Army ROTC at UT Martin,"Rakes said. "We serve a high number of capable, underrepresented students, and by discontinuing the ROTC program, our community and region will fall victim to budget cuts and decreasing opportunities for our young people."

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If the closure plan proceeds, remaining ROTC students would be commissioned as part of the 2014-15 graduating class, according to the university.

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Army Will Close 13 ROTC Programs

October 3, 2013

The Army will close its Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs at 13 colleges and universities because of financial constraints. While one of the universities released a letter from the Army announcing the cuts on Wednesday, the reductions were ordered last month, before the government shutdown. The programs will close or realign by the end of the 2014-15 school year, according to an Army memo. "This action is not a reflection of either the quality of your program or the outstanding cadets you have produced," Thomas R. Lamont, assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs, wrote in a letter to the chancellor of Arkansas State University, one of the institutions.

Other colleges and universities whose programs will be closed are Georgia Regents, East Tennessee State, Morehead State, North Dakota State, Northern Michigan and Tennessee Technological Universities; and the Universities of California at Santa Barbara, North Alabama, South Dakota, Southern Mississippi, Tennessee at Martin and Wisconsin at La Crosse. A spokesman for Georgia Regents University said the university had not received official word about changes to the program.

Arkansas State University will fight to reverse the decision to close its 77-year-old ROTC program, which currently serves 122 participants, Chancellor Tim Hudson said in a press release. So will the University of Southern Mississippi and University of Tennessee at Martin, officials said. A statement from William G. Kale, president of the University of North Alabama, said the university was "shocked to learn of this decision, which was made without consultation and came without warning."

Officials at the other institutions did not respond to requests for comment.

UT Martin To Lose ROTC Program

Story Updated: Oct 4, 2013

MARTIN, Tenn. - The United States Army is cutting the ROTC programs at 13 colleges or universities nationwide. The University of Tennessee at Martin is one of the schools.

"It's a disadvantage to some of the cadets because some of the cadets have put in a lot of hard work and development, and they have grown tremendously," the school's Professor of Military Science and Leadership, Lieutenant Colonel Michael Johnson, said.

Johnson said he was disappointed upon learning his program will be shut down in two years.

"The decision to close down UT Martin has nothing to do with the quality of education or the quality of the cadet," Lt. Col. Johnson said. "It just basically comes down to resources."

For juniors and seniors scheduled to graduate by May 2015, there will be no impact. But for younger ROTC students, major changes are on the way.

"If they want to be any Army officer, they're going to have to transfer to another university that has a ROTC program," Johnson said.

The school still has plenty of questions, and plans to push to keep the program.

"We don't know everything that went into the reasoning for this, so we hope to find that out I guess over the next two years and we plan to see what we can do to maintain the program," said school chancellor Tom Rakes.
Army to close ROTC programs at ETSU, TN Tech, UT Martin

The Reserve Officers Training Corps programs at the University of Tennessee-Martin, East Tennessee State University and Tennessee Tech are three of 12 to be closed by August, 2015, the U.S. Army has announced.

The announcement has brought complaints at all three Tennessee institutions. The Johnson City Press reports that U.S. Rep. Phil Roe and state Rep. Matthew Hill have pledged to oppose the ETSU closure.

Roe said a lack of graduates from the program was cited as a reason for the closure of the program, but said no one ever came to campus to evaluate the ROTC cadets. He plans to take the lead on arguing for the Army to keep this program as well as other programs.

He will include the staffs of senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker, if not the senators themselves.

"As Yogi Bera said, 'It ain't over till it's over.' And although they (the Army) said there's no appeal here, I disagree with that. It's worth fighting for and we're going to do that."

Excerpt from WBBJ TV's report on the UT-Martin closure:

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"We don't know everything that went into the reasoning for this, so we hope to find that out I guess over the next two
years and we plan to see what we can do to maintain the program,” said school chancellor Tom Rakes.

Below is an excerpt from a Tennessee Tech news release (full text HERE):

**From a Tennessee Tech news release.**

TTU received notification this week of the Army’s intentions. The move to close programs appears to be linked to budget decisions and the Army’s desire to have more diverse ROTC participants.

TTU President Phil Oldham and many concerned university supporters say it is a bewildering decision they will fight to reverse.

“We don’t understand why the Army would try to balance the budget on the backs of TTU students,” Oldham stated.

“And we have to question why a disproportionate number of programs in Tennessee are being targeted,” Oldham emphasized. “If there is a concern about establishing diversity, I assert that our first-generation college students from rural areas who participate in our state’s ROTC programs represent a special population.

“ROTC programs are lifelines to American kids from rural areas who are making extraordinary efforts to serve their country and earn an education,” Oldham added.

East Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee Martin also received notification. The closure list is not linked to the current federal government shutdown, but has its roots in decisions related to the federal budget reductions known as “sequestration” and military personnel reduction.
Leaders and supporters of all three Tennessee universities question the method and metrics used to choose programs for closure. Programs have been aware of a goal of 15 commissions a year, but no notice was given that failure to meet this mark would result in such dire consequences. Oldham points out there was no notification from the Army about TTU's status and no description of a process to respond and report improvement.

“We find fault with the analysis because during the last year we commissioned 16 officers, which may not have been taken into account by the Army. In our case, we believe this program is capable of meeting ROTC program requirements and are troubled by the lack of due process in the Army’s decision,” said Oldham.

“We have a rich history of service and of providing exemplary officers, and we plan to explore every opportunity to continue to operate our battalion.”

TTU plans to enlist support from Congressional leaders, alumni and others to work toward a reversal of the decision.

This entry was posted in federal funding, Higher Education, Military and tagged federal funding, higher education, military on October 4, 2013 by Tom Humphrey.

← ‘Six Week’ returns to UT
Watson won’t seek reelection to state House seat; wants to be sheriff →

http://knoxblogs.com/humphreyhill/2013/10/04/army-close-rotc-programs-etsu-tn-tech-ut-... 10/7/2013
Saturday UTM Homecoming Events
October 5th, 2013 - By Chris Stockdale

Events are scheduled throughout the day for the 2013 UT Martin Homecoming.

At 7:30 this morning, it's the Letter-Winners Breakfast and Hall of Fame Inductions at the Elam Center.

At ten o'clock, it's the Sorority Lodge dedication at 247 West Peach Street and Quad City starts at 10:30 in the Quad area by the Paul Meek Library.

The football game against Jacksonville State kicks-off at two o'clock, and if you can't make it to the game, you can hear it on Mix 101.3

At five this evening, there's a reunion for former campus recreation employees at the Student Recreation Center and at 5:30 there's a Black Alumni reception in the University Center Ballroom.

At seven tonight, there's a Young Alumni reception at the Opera House Restaurant and the Step Show starts at seven o'clock at the Elam Center.

Events continue Sunday morning with the annual walk in the quad at ten followed by a homecoming bunch at 10:30 in the University Center.
PINK WEEK — Zeta Tau Alpha is celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness Month by hosting "Think Pink Week" this week. Several events are planned throughout the week to help raise money for the fight against cancer. Among those participating are (back) Kelsey Breland, Christine Hassell, Sarah Young, Erica White, Brittany Berry, (front) Rachel Parsons, Marilauren Rogers and Niki Hensley.

UT Martin REED Center, TSBDC to host seminar on new health care law

The University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center (REED Center) and the Tennessee Small Business Development Centers (TSBDC) will host a free workshop titled "The New Health Care Law: What It Means To You" from 10 a.m. to noon Oct. 24 at UT Martin's Boling University Center's Legislative Chamber (Room 111).

This seminar will help to educate the public about obtaining health insurance, enrollment specifics, preventive and wellness care and how the law benefits uninsured and underserved individuals.

The seminar will be presented by Alan Cary, president of Cary Insurance of Martin.

A question-and-answer session is planned following the presentation.

"Many people are unaware or confused about the requirements of the Affordable Care Act," Cary said. "We are delighted to participate in this seminar to help our community better understand the law, what they need to do and when they need to do it."

Health insurance exchanges began enrolling consumers on Oct. 1. Attending an information session early in the process gives attendees ample time to compare plans and arm themselves with the necessary knowledge to make informed decisions, Cary said.

Starting Jan. 1, 2014, the Affordable Care Act requires everyone to have at minimum, a basic health insurance plan or pay a penalty. Many who already have insurance through an employer, spouse, or other source can simply keep their current plan. However, with nearly 50 million people in the U.S. lacking any type of coverage at all, the law guarantees that most will be able to obtain essential benefits, including preventive and wellness care, emergency services, hospitalization, maternity and newborn care and rehabilitative services.

The seminar is free but registration is required. To register call 731-587-7333 or online at www.TSBDC.org.
Four UT Martin sororities break ground for new lodges

Four sororities at the University of Tennessee at Martin participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for new lodges on campus Saturday during 2013 Homecoming festivities.

Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi and Zeta Tau Alpha, all founded on the UT Martin campus in the early 1960s, had small lodges in Grove Apartments on the North Side of campus from the mid-60s through 2004.

"It was decided that the sorority membership had grown too large to continue to hold rush, or recruitment, as we call it now in our lodges," said Secily Scott, Panhellenic president and a member of Chi Omega Sorority.

"By building these lodges, our chapters will not only have a place to hold recruitment activities, sisterhoods, meetings and other functions, but most importantly the chapters will have a place to call their own," said Scott.

The new lodges will be built on the southern edge of campus near University Courts. Each sorority has committed to pay close to $500,000 for their new lodge, which will be two stories and about 3,800-square feet.

"I've been waiting for this as a colony member of AOPi since the fall quarter of 1965," Mandy Riley Williams said. "At long last our dream is coming true."

More than 500 people braved the humid weather conditions to watch representatives of each sorority participate in the groundbreaking ceremonies.

"I must give most of the credit for us being here to the alumni members of these sororities who have worked diligently to raise funds to ensure these lodges would become a reality," UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes said. "One of UT Martin's points of pride is that we encourage the development of student leadership through service and leadership opportunities enhanced by more than 125 campus organizations. Our sorority members are leaders on this campus and become loyal alumni as evident at the groundbreaking."

Construction is scheduled to start soon, and completion is expected in the 2014-15 academic year.

"We look forward to returning to this site to celebrate the opening of the sorority lodges during the next academic year," Rakes said.
TOASTMASTERS — In May, Martin Area Toastmasters was chartered. This organization is world-wide and is an exceptional way to develop professionalism and public speaking skills. The Martin Area Toastmasters meet every Tuesday from noon to 1 p.m. in the Bob Carroll Football Building (Room 211) on the UT Martin campus. “This is a great organization and a very good way to hone skills in a comfortable environment,” a spokesperson said, adding the organization would love to have more people in the community and surrounding areas involved. For more information or to be added to mailing list, contact at 881-1598 or e-mail: martintoastmasters@gmail.com
Hughey a candidate for Weakley County Clerk

Kim Hughey has officially announced she will seek the office of Weakley County Clerk after Pat Scarbrough, currently the County Clerk, declared she will retire in 2014 at the end of the term.

Hughey grew up in Weakley County, attending school in Gleason and college at UT Martin. She is the daughter of Buddy (Roho) and Martha Sublett of Martin and Glen and Linda Margrave of Michigan. She lives in Martin with her husband, Alan, and has two sons, Madison and Ashton Hughey.

She was hired as a deputy clerk in the county clerk’s office in 2001 with a primary responsibility for business tax licensing. She previously worked for the Hamilton Ryker Company in staffing as a customer service supervisor and as corporate services supervisor. She later worked for New Wave Cellular Communications, the first B-side cellular provider in Weakley County, as the office manager.

“I gained vital experience in both industries that has prepared me to work in a public service position through county government,” Hughey said. “I formed many valuable relationships with local business owners, managers, employees and community leaders that have lasted throughout the years.

“I truly enjoy serving the people of Weakley County. We see almost every citizen at some time throughout the year. Our diverse duties and responsibilities include issuing licenses and registrations for motor vehicles, marriage licenses, business licenses, hunting and fishing licenses, and pawnbrokers licenses. We process applications for beer permits and notaries. The county clerk also keeps the records for the county commission and serves as the clerk of the juvenile court.

She said she believes her past experience and education will enable her to serve efficiently and responsibly in the role as county clerk.

“I’ve met many great folks and made many friends while working in the clerk’s office the last 12 years. I learned years ago to be resourceful and go the extra mile to help a customer,” she said. “I am dedicated to being honest, hard-working and treating people fairly. I have a keen interest in the future and people of Weakley County. I’m looking forward to meeting everyone in the months to come. I would like to ask for your vote and support in the 2014 election as the Weakley County Clerk.”

UTM’s ROTC program set to close

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If the closure plan proceeds, remaining ROTC students would be commissioned as part of the 2014-15 graduating class.
Two former UT Martin students and two friends of the university received awards Saturday as part of the university's Homecoming activities.

This year's award recipients were:

- Cade Cowan, Outstanding Young Alumni Award, given in recognition of outstanding achievement in his chosen profession (the recipient must not be more than 40 years of age).
- Dr. Renee Bailey Iacona, Outstanding Alumni Award, given to an alumni in recognition of outstanding achievement in her chosen profession.
- Jim and Janet Ayers, Chancellor's Award for University Service, given in recognition of outstanding service to UT Martin.
- Cade Cowan, Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

Additionally he served as Student Government Association (SGA) president, vice president of Kappa Alpha Order, and perhaps most memorably donned the Pacer Pete mascot uniform for two years. At graduation he was awarded the Paul and Martha Meek Leadership Award.

"Home is where you look on the weather map, and Martin is a place I always look at on the map," Cowan said. "I am from Gordonsville, about 200 miles away, so, I used college to redefine myself."

Currently Cowan is a managing partner of the leadership development practice for Pivot Leadership, a consulting firm that equips senior leaders of Fortune 100 companies to more effectively execute their organizational strategies. During his career, he's worked in 31 countries on five continents with leaders from companies such as Microsoft, Walmart, Johnson & Johnson, Aetna and HP.

In addition to his degree from UT Martin, Cowan holds a master's degree in organizational and social psychology from Columbia University in New York.

Iacona graduated from UT Martin in 1991, with a bachelor's degree in biology as a University Scholars graduate. At UT Martin, she served as a resident assistant, biology laboratory instructor, held many leadership positions for Alpha Delta Pi and was awarded the Greek Woman of the Year Award by Panhellenic in her senior year.
“Alpha Delta Pi and UT Martin have made me the leader I am today,” Iacona said. “My love for UT Martin started in high school. I was one of the first students to attend the Governor’s School for the Humanities. UT Martin gave me many advantages, such as the Leaders-in-Residence, University Scholars and this is where I learned to love science.”

After UT Martin, Iacona pursued degrees at Vanderbilt University where she received her doctorate in pathology in 1998 and a master’s degree in public health in 1999.

Iacona currently lives outside Philadelphia, where she lives with her husband, Nick Iacona. She has worked at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals since 2001, and now serves as the head of the alliance and operations office for the global biometrics function.

For Alpha Delta Pi, Iacona has continued to serve the organization since graduation from UT Martin and now serves on the Grand Council as the international vice president of alumnae membership overseeing the strategic development of the more than 220,000 alumnae members. For UT Martin, she has started a leadership endowment scholarship and is currently serving on the steering committee for building the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority lodge at UT Martin.

Because of their commitment and vision, Jim and Janet Ayers convinced the Tennessee Legislature to approve a $200,000 annual recurring state appropriation for the establishment of operation of the UT Martin Parsons Center. The Ayers also made a leadership gift of $1 million to construct the UT Martin Parsons Center.

Ayers, a native of Parsons, established the Ayers Foundation Scholarship Program in 1999, which provides up to $4,000 for four years to any Decatur County area student in need, who meets the entrance requirements and attends any Tennessee college or university, community college or state-operated technical school. Ayers’ wife, Janet, is foundation president.

“Jim and I are proponents of higher education,” Janet Ayers said. “This is about breaking down barriers. It’s not just about academics. It’s about relationships, and relationships helped us break down barriers.”

Jim Ayers, the owner and chairman of the board of FirstBank, served as the honorary co-chair of The Campaign for Tennessee (UT Martin) in 2010, was a member of the UT Foundation Board and the UT Martin Campaign Steering Committee, and is a former member of the UT Development Council. His gifts to The Campaign for Tennessee largely support the UT Martin Parsons Center and the UT Martin Ayers Scholars.
Collector donating 1,000 postcards to UT Martin

MARTIN, Tenn. (AP) - Nashville historian Ridley Wills II is sharing some of his vast postcard collection with the University of Tennessee at Martin's Paul Meek Library.

Wills has given the library more than 1,000 postcards from his personal collection of some 28,000 Tennessee cards.

Included are all of Wills' Weakley County and Lake County postcards. Featured are photos and information from Gleason, Dresden, Greenfield, Martin and Reelfoot Lake.

The university says Wills, a former National Life and Accident Insurance Co. executive, started collecting Tennessee postcards as a child and continued after returning from the Navy.

Wills says he still collects some postcards but is giving more away, returning them to the areas shown on the cards.

The collection given to UT Martin will be available for the public to view and research.

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By news admin

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STATE GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2013

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Young Writers Conference set

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

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

Dobbins, of Memphis, is a graduate from the College Scholars program at UT Knoxville. She recently began contributing poetry reviews for The Rumpus and Cutbank, and was Beloit Poetry Journal's featured poet for June 2013.

“Our visiting author (Dobbins) is incredible and has a great background working with young people,” said Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English. “Also, we are collaborating with the West Tennessee Writing Project to provide a professional development workshop for teachers.”

The workshop for teachers will cover how to use creative writing to meet common core standards. Other events include a luncheon, a reading by Dobbins and an open mic for students.

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

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

Registration is limited to 100 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms must be received by Oct. 31, along with payment to UT Martin for the conference registration fee. Participants can register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php or by regular mail.

For more information about the conference or to register, contact Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English, at 731-881-7296, or by email at lachance@utm.edu.
UTM Preview Days

October 9th, 2013 - By Chris Stockdale

The first of two preview days at the University of Tennessee at Martin is set for Oct. 19. Preview Days are opportunities for high school seniors and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life.

A second day is planned Nov. 23. Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answers to students’ questions on a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid; college and housing costs; and the various university academic programs.

Registration for the Oct. 19 Preview Day will be from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Boling University Center, and Nov. 23, from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Elam Center.

On each occasion, registration will be followed by a welcome and general information session and the university’s academic fair, which will take place in the Duncan Ballroom in the Boling University Center, Oct. 19, and in the Elam Center, Nov. 23. Academic department visits and campus tours will also be conducted at both Preview Days.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at (731) 881-7020.

LOCAL COLLEGE BASKETBALL

UTM’s Newsome earns preseason honor

UT Martin basketball player Jasmine Newsome has been named by College Sports Madness as the preseason women’s basketball player of the year in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Newsome, a senior guard, has been OVC Player of the Year the past two seasons and was Defensive Player of the Year as a freshman and again as a junior.

She averaged 22.6 points per game last season, fifth nationally and one spot ahead of teammate Heather Butler (22.4). College Sports Madness also picked Butler as part of the OVC preseason first team and Kevin McMillan as the league’s top coach.

UTM opens its season at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 8 against Georgia State as part of the WNIT.

Collector donating 1,000 postcards to UT at Martin

MARTIN (AP) — Nashville historian Ridley Wills II is sharing some of his vast postcard collection with the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Paul Meek Library.

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THE JACKSON SUN • THURSDAY, OCT. 10, 2013

Briefs

Continued from Page A3

- the LIFT Wellness Center in Jackson.
- No appointment or reservations are needed.
- Every child should have a parent or guardian present.
- Today’s events include a talk on dental hygiene from 9 to 10 a.m. and a Halloween story from Spookley, who is the national spokesman for prevention of bullying, from 3 to 5 p.m.
- Friday there are educational booths and the grand finale is Chef Remi, an internationally known child chef, who will be appearing from 11:30 to 1 p.m. Friday with cooking demonstration for kids.
Four sororities at the University of Tennessee at Martin participated in a ground-breaking ceremony for new lodges on campus Saturday during 2013 homecoming festivities.

Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi and Zeta Tau Alpha — all established on the UT Martin campus in the early 1960s — had small lodges in Grove Apartments on the north side of campus from the mid-1960s through 2004.

“IT was decided that the sorority membership had grown too large to continue to hold rush, or recruitment, as we call it now in our lodges,” said Secily Scott, Panhellenic president and a member of Chi Omega fraternity.

“By building these lodges, our chapters will not only have a place to hold recruitment activities, sisterhoods, meetings and other functions, but most importantly the chapters will have a place to call their own,” she said.

The new lodges will be built on the southern edge of campus near University Courts. Each sorority has committed to pay close to $500,000 for their new lodge, which will be two stories and about 3,800 square feet.

“I’ve been waiting for this as a colony member of AOPi since the fall quarter of 1965,” Mandy Riley Williams said. “At long last our dream is coming true.”

More than 500 people watched representatives of each sorority participate in the ground-breaking ceremonies.

“I must give most of the credit for us being here to the alumnae members of these sororities who have worked diligently to raise funds to ensure these lodges would become a reality,” UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes said. “One of UT Martin’s points of pride is that we encourage the development of student leadership through service and leadership opportunities enhanced by more than 125 campus organizations. Our sorority members are leaders on this campus and become loyal alumnae as evident at the ground breaking.”

Construction is scheduled to start soon and completion is expected in the 2014-15 academic year.

“We look forward to returning to this site to celebrate the opening of the sorority lodges during the next academic year,” Rakes said.
Artwork on display in Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts (VTA) will sponsor an exhibition of works by local artist Shane Gregory, director of the Ice House Gallery in Mayfield, Ky.

The exhibition opened Tuesday and runs through Oct. 25 from 1-5 p.m. daily.

There will not be an opening reception for this exhibition, but there will be a closing reception with the artist in attendance on Oct. 25 beginning at 5 p.m.

Regular operating hours for the Fine Arts Building Art Gallery are 1-5 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 4-8 p.m. Thursdays; and 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The gallery is open late for exhibition openings and is closed when exhibitions are under construction.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at (731) 881-7400.

Holocaust travel study offered

The University of Tennessee at Martin will be offering a spring history course that includes a trip to Germany, the Czech Republic and Poland.

The travel study — set for May 12-25, 2014 — is a cooperative venture between UT Martin and Rhodes College in Memphis.

The tour is an undergraduate course credit for three hours and pre-departure meetings will be held during the spring semester.

Students will travel to Berlin and Dresden, Germany; Prague, Czech Republic; and Cracow and Warsaw, Poland. The tour will visit Holocaust memorials, former concentration and death camps, Jewish ghettos, national historic sites, museums, churches and other cultural landmarks.

The tour faculty will include Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, department of history at UT Martin, and Dr. Stephen R. Haynes, department of religious studies professor at Rhodes College.

For more information about the travel study, contact Dr. Carls by email at acarls@utm.edu.

Mehr announces run for sheriff

Retired TBI agent and current sheriff will face off in 2014

By David Thomas
dgthomas@jacksonsun.com

The election will be held Aug. 7, 2014.

"I just had a lot of people who came to me and asked me to run," Mehr said. "They convinced me to run, and I'm going to run for sheriff in 2014."

No stranger to law enforcement, Mehr left the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation in September 2012, after 38 years of service, due to a mandatory retirement age of 60.

"I left and worked on my farm and still teach for UTM, but I'm still involved with the TBI," Mehr said. "I work for some private companies. I never retired ... I never saw a future in retiring."

Mehr said he has a campaign treasurer and has filed papers with the Madison County Election Commission.

He believes one of his strengths will be the contacts he has in law enforcement not only in West Tennessee but the nation, as well.

His territory with the TBI in West Tennessee went "river to river," he said.

"I don't think any of us is seeing crime leveling off," Mehr said. "Crime from other places and there's crime here, and everything has changed the last five to 10 years and back and it all impacts us all.

"Dealing with the crime problems, you have to work with others and cooperate with other agencies," he said. "Everybody is part of the solution."

Mehr was hired in 1975 by the TBI and later transferred to TBI offices in Tullahoma, Murfreesboro and Jackson.

Continued from Page A1

Woolfork. The first elected in 1994, said he was aware Mehr was preparing to run for sheriff.

"What I know about John is, he is a good person and it's America and everybody is free to run," Woolfork said. "I'll make an announcement in the coming days, and we'll let the people decide."

Woolfork will be seeking a sixth term.

Mehr

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See MEHR, Page A3
Professor receives grant to study climate change

Karmosky's 3-year study to focus on melting of Greenland Ice Sheet

University of Tennessee at Martin assistant professor of meteorology Chris Karmosky received a grant to study climate change from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The goal of the three-year study is to improve understanding and prediction of surface melting on the Greenland Ice Sheet. This work will use satellite imagery, computer modeling and statistical analysis to study weather conditions responsible for surface melting, and how those weather conditions will change over the next several decades.

"Greenland contains some of the world’s fastest-flowing glaciers, which have doubled their speed over the past decade, and therefore it represents a region that is vulnerable to changes in weather and climate patterns," Karmosky said.

"Greenland also features Earth's second-largest ice sheet, which means climate change and ice melt in this region have important implications for sea level rise worldwide. Scientists currently have a limited understanding of exactly how quickly large ice sheets respond to increases in temperature, and it is hoped that this work will further understanding of this and related processes."

This work will involve researchers at UT Martin, New Mexico Tech and the University of Maryland, and will also incorporate the work of UT Martin undergraduate students as summer research assistants.

UT Martin will receive more than $108,000 for the research from the NSF’s Office of Polar Programs.

"Karmosky is a rising star in our growing meteorology program in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences," said Dr. Todd Winters, college dean. "Climate change is an important issue for all society. It affects agriculture and our natural resources, especially water."

Federally-funded research, such as that performed by Karmosky, directly transfers to Karmosky, giving UT Martin students state-of-the-art knowledge of the effects of weather and climate variations on global ice reserves.
Friends and former staff members of 8th District U.S. Rep. Ed Jones gathered Friday at the University of Tennessee at Martin to pay tribute to the late congressman and honor his induction into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame. Jones became only the 13th hall of fame member when he was elected in 2011.

A reception was held in the Paul Meek Library, where a replica of the congressman’s office is maintained and his congressional papers are held. A dinner followed in the Boling University Center, where a large bronze plaque was displayed that will later reside in the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame collection. The collection is maintained by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at the Tennessee Agricultural Museum in Nashville.

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.

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.

Anthony Haynes, University of Tennessee System vice president for government relations, emceed the dinner and reminded the audience of the “Ed Jones is My Congressman” slogan used by the popular U.S. representative at election time. “If you were running for office … you wanted your signs as close to his as possible,” he said. “Ed Jones was to retail politics what Bear Bryant was to college football.”

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed the crowd of Jones’ friends, supporters and former staff members to campus and emphasized the importance of agriculture to the university. “I would argue that we have the strongest undergraduate agriculture programs in the state,” he said. Rakes pointed to university’s agriculture-related outreach, including the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex, the West Tennessee Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and the new veterinary health technology program, as examples of outreach and commitment to the agricultural industry and education.
Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture Julius Johnson, who knew Jones during his career with the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, commended Rakes and others in attendance "for helping to bring attention to one of Tennessee's agriculture true treasures, Congressman Ed Jones."

"I think it's appropriate that the university is building upon his legacy in agriculture through the Ed Jones Distinguished Lecture Series and scholarship fund," Johnson said. "I know Congressman Jones would certainly be proud."

The original Ed Jones Distinguished Lecturer Series began in 1989 at the university, and Jones actively supported the series until it ended in 1995. A lead gift of $12,500 in June from Farm Credit Mid-America was the first step toward endowing the lecture series, which will now include the congressman's late wife's name and be called the Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series.

Commenting on the congressman's induction into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame, Johnson added, "He certainly left his mark on our nation's agriculture and is responsible for championing many of the programs in conservation, farm finance and risk management that we now take for granted. Through it all, Mr. Jones never lost sight of his life's mission to improve the livelihood of farmers and the lives of rural Americans."

Former U.S. Rep. John Tanner, who succeeded Jones in his congressional seat and served 11 terms, was the event's keynote speaker. "I never heard anybody say anything but that Mr. Ed Jones was a gentleman," Tanner said. "Whatever his politics were, whatever he stood for, he was a gentleman.

"And beyond that, he had a vision for the future. He understood that for this country to be strong and free, you had to have investment, public investment, in infrastructure. ... And he was pretty keen on a pretty robust agricultural policy as well."

Tanner recognized and thanked those who worked for Jones and the people of the 8th Congressional District. "I think he would be so proud to know that this network (of people) still exists," he said.

Dr. Jim Culver, president, CEO and director of VVC Exploration Corp. and a former congressional aide to Jones, offered highlights from the late congressman's life. He noted that Jones did many things in his career, "But through all of what he did in life, Ed Jones was always a farmer, and he always felt like he was a farmer."

"Working for him was the highlight of my career," Culver said.

Donations can be made to the Ed Jones Gift Fund, which supports the university's Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series. Contact the UT Martin Office of Development, 329 Hall-Moody Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238, or call 731-881-7620. Gifts to the lecture series fund can also be made online at www.utmforel.com/jones.
VTA guest artist exhibition held at UT Martin

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For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 881-7400.

Two Miss Tennessee preliminary pageants scheduled for Oct. 26

The combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant will be staged Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus.

Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson this summer.

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

The event will feature interview, talent, evening gown and swimsuit competitions.

General admission tickets will be available at the door for $15. UT Martin student tickets will be $10 at the door with proper ID.

For more information, contact pageant executive director Hollie Holt at (731) 514-3556 or hholt@utm.edu.

ACT prep courses offered

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer an ACT preparation course for students from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays Oct. 19-Nov. 23 on the UT Martin campus.

Ron Ramage, a UT Martin adjunct faculty member, will teach the course.

The course will begin with students taking an off-record ACT test. The instructor will then provide feedback in specific areas. Students will learn how to complete test problems based on question frequency, difficulty, substantive knowledge, curriculum and alternative test-taking strategies. Maximizing scores in the allotted time will also be focused on.

At the end of the program, students will take another off-record ACT exam. The instructor will meet one-on-one to provide a final study preparation to the real exam after receiving post-test data.

The registration fee to attend is $225. The registration fee includes two textbooks, two official retired ACT tests and a diagnostic report. No. 2 pencils will be required. A calculator is not necessary, but if a student chooses to use one, it must be a calculator permitted by ACT.

To register, contact ECOS at 881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree.php.
Enrollment at University of Tennessee Schools Virtually Flat

By Mike Osborne

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. (WMOT) -- The University of Tennessee has released its enrollment figures for the current school year and the report shows the number of students on UT affiliated campuses is virtually unchanged from last year.

Head Count enrollment at the four UT system schools fell by slightly more than 100 students between the 2012 and 2013 school years. Undergraduate enrollment actually rose slightly at UT schools, but an ongoing drop in the number of graduate students offset the gains.

The state's flag-ship school, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, enjoyed a slight increase in enrollment, as did UT Chattanooga. UT Martin saw a significant drop in the number of students taking classes this year.

Graduate enrollment at UT affiliated schools has declined steadily over the past four years. Over the last five years, UT Martin has suffered a 22 percent decline in the number of students seeking advanced degrees.

While enrollment at UT affiliated schools remained essentially flat, the state's other system of higher education, the Tennessee Board of Regents, saw its head count fall this year by more than three percent.
Akron residents attend UT Martin homecoming

Linda Neese Beringer (center) and her husband, Tim, both of Akron, Ohio, are joined by George Jennings, of Dresden, at the sorority lodges groundbreaking on Oct. 5 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's 2013 homecoming celebration. Linda, formerly of Martin and an alumni member of Chi Omega Sorority, and Jennings are both 1968 UT Martin graduates. Four buildings will be constructed on the southern edge of the campus, marking the first time that UT Martin sorority chapters will have lodges. Homecoming week was held Sept. 30-Oct. 6. ###

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Accident claims restaurant manager,
UT Martin student

A popular Martin restaurant manager and a University of Tennessee at Martin student died in a weekend motorcycle crash in rural Weakley County.

Jimmy D. Fitzgerald, 46, of Sharon and Logan D. Hughes, 23, of Newbern died in a crash that apparently occurred early Saturday on Parkers Levee Road, about five miles south of Martin.

Fitzgerald was manager of the Opera House Restaurant in Martin and Hughes was a UT Martin student who worked at the Opera House.

According to a Tennessee Highway Patrol report, Hughes was driving a 1999 Honda VF7 motorcycle southbound while maneuvering a curve on Parkers Levee Road. The vehicle exited the right side of the roadway, went down an embankment and hit a tree. Both riders were thrown from the motorcycle.

Hughes was wearing a helmet, but Fitzgerald was not, the THP reported.

The time of the crash is unknown, according to the report from investigating officer Trooper Jason Goslee, who said it apparently occurred in the early morning hours Saturday. Friends have indicated they last saw Hughes and Fitzgerald leaving the Martin restaurant Friday night, according to sources.

The THP report, provided by the Tennessee Department of Safety, also indicated drinking was involved.
2 dead in motorcycle crash, including UT-Martin student

MARTIN, Tn - A University of Tennessee at Martin student and a Martin restaurant manager died in a motorcycle crash on Parkers Levee Road.

According to the Tennessee Highway Patrol report, the time of the crash is unknown, but the bodies of Logan Hughes and Jimmy D. Fitzgerald were found Saturday.

Hughes is a Computer Science Major and Fitzgerald is the manager of the Opera House Restaurant.

Hughes was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity.

THP says Hughes and Fitzgerald were traveling on southbound on Parkers Levee Road when Hughes, the driver, failed to negotiate a curve. The motorcycle left the roadway, went down an embankment and hit a tree. Hughes and Fitzgerald were thrown from the motorcycle.

THP says Hughes was wearing a helmet, but Fitzgerald was not.

UT Martin student, 1 other killed in motorcycle crash, only 1 wearing helmet

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
October 14, 2013 - 7:59 am EDT

MARTIN, Tennessee — A University of Tennessee at Martin student and a Martin restaurant manager have died in a motorcycle crash.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol says the bodies of computer science major Logan Hughes and Opera House Restaurant manager Jimmy D. Fitzgerald were found Saturday.

Troopers told WPSD-TV in Paducah (http://bit.ly/1ejIDqn) that Hughes and Fitzgerald were traveling on southbound on Parkers Levee Road when Hughes failed to negotiate a curve.

Troopers say the motorcycle left the roadway, went down an embankment and hit a tree. Hughes and Fitzgerald were thrown from the motorcycle.

Troopers say Hughes was wearing a helmet, but Fitzgerald was not.
UT Martin student dies in motorcycle crash

Posted: Oct 14, 2013 6:38 AM CDT
Updated: Oct 14, 2013 7:02 AM CDT

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MHS seniors join county-wide celebration of College App Week

By Crystal Burns

Seniors in all six high schools in the county have no more excuses.

Gibson County workforce and economic development leaders partnered with area college and technical school representatives to bring the No Excuses Tour into each high school in celebration of College App Week.

“Our goal was to reach every senior during or close to College App Week to give awareness to all kinds of post-secondary education options for everyone,” said Julie Allen Burke, Director of the Milan Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of the Gibson County Workforce Development Committee.

“Even if you don’t go to a four-year college, everyone is going to need some kind of post-secondary education whether it be military, some kind of licensure or certification, associate degree, or at the very least the National Career Readiness Certificate. Our goal was to give encouragement so that each senior might be convicted to further their education and come back to Gibson County to make our community economically stronger for years to come.”

The National Career Readiness Certificate is a national credential given by the administrators of the ACT.

At Milan High School last Wednesday, Burke and County Mayor Tom Witherspoon were joined by Libby Wickersham, Workforce Investment Act; Paula Fuller, Jackson State Community College; Miyoshi Brooks, University of Tennessee at Martin; and Penny Roland, Tennessee College of Applied Technology.

Mayor Witherspoon shared his school and work experience with the students, starting by showing a photograph of himself on his first day of kindergarten and his senior photo.

Witherspoon has spent the majority of his adult life working in the Tool & Die Industry where he said he made good money and good friends and got to travel a lot. He knew early on he wanted to be a Tool & Die maker because a neighbor in the profession had a nice house, a nice boat, and money in his pocket, Witherspoon told students.

He went to his guidance counselor at Gibson County High School to tell her his future plans, but she had stern words of warning for young “Spoon.”

“You can do it,” she said, “but you’re going to have to show more commitment.”

He enrolled at Tennessee Technology Center at Newbern where an instructor called Witherspoon into his office and asked him a blunt question: “Are you going to be an excuse maker or an action taker?”

Witherspoon said he sat out in his car for 30 minutes before going back to class to ask the instructor for another chance.

“Take yourself seriously,” Witherspoon told MHS seniors. “We can give you all the information and everything you

FREE FLASH DRIVES - High school seniors across the county received free flash drives containing important information regarding post-secondary education options from college to career training. Students can also use the drives to store their school projects, music, and photos. Alivia Church, a MHS senior, received her flash drive from Gibson County Mayor Tom Witherspoon and UT Martin representative Miyoshi Brooks at the No Excuses Tour stop in Milan last week.
MHS seniors join county-wide...(cont. from page 1)

need, but you’ve got to pick it up and strap it on. I can’t wait to see what you guys accomplish.”

Wickersham, Fuller, Brooks, and Roland gave brief remarks, encouraging students to research their options and pursue some kind of post-secondary training.

“If you don’t do something after high school, you’re going to have a really hard time finding a job,” Wickersham said. “Get your acts together. Do what you’re supposed to do.”

The No Excuses Tour is funded through a grant, which provides up to $15,000 for the project. The Joint Economic and Community Development Board chose the No Excuses Tour for Gibson County’s 2013 Three Star project.

Burke, a graduate of Milan High School and the University of Tennessee, said local guidance counselors helped coordinate the tour at each school.

Carol Parkins, Director of the College Access & Success program at Milan High School, organized the MHS portion of the tour and arranged for seniors to enjoy a tailgate party following the presentation. Career-Technical Education teacher Andy Tatum and some of his students cooked chicken, corn on the cob, and red potatoes for the students to enjoy, and soft drinks were available.

UT Martin sets preview days

The first of two preview days at the University of Tennessee at Martin is set for Oct. 19. Preview Days are opportunities for high school seniors and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life.

A second day is planned Nov. 23.

Registration for the Oct. 19 Preview Day will be from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Boling University Center, and Nov. 23, from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Elam Center.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at (731) 881-7020.
Martin Historic Business District loses a leader

UT Martin senior also killed in weekend motorcycle crash in rural Weakley County

A well-known Martin restaurant manager and a University of Tennessee at Martin student died in a weekend motorcycle crash in rural Weakley County.

Daniel Fitzgerald, 46, of Sharon and Logan D. Hughes, 23, of Newbern died in a crash that apparently occurred early Saturday on Parkers Levee Road, about five miles south of Martin.

Fitzgerald was manager of the Opera House Restaurant in Martin and Hughes was a UT Martin student who worked at the Opera House.

According to a Tennessee Highway Patrol report, Hughes was driving a 1999 Honda VF7 motorcycle southbound while maneuvering a curve on Parkers Levee Road. The vehicle exited the right side of the roadway, went down an embankment and hit a tree. Both riders were thrown from the motorcycle. Hughes was wearing a helmet, but Fitzgerald was not, the THP reported.

The time of the crash is unknown, according to the report from investigating officer Trooper Jason Goslee, who said it apparently occurred in the early morning hours Saturday. Friends have indicated they last saw Hughes and Fitzgerald leaving the Martin restaurant Friday night, according to sources.

Fitzgerald was a leader in Martin's Historic Business District for the past several years and with his death, the community loses a businessman like no other.

"The energy and passion that he had for downtown was impressive," officers for the Martin Historic Business District said. "Even though Fitzgerald did not actually own a business, the time and effort he put into downtown cannot be duplicated.

"Always seen with a smile on his face, Fitzgerald promoted growth and progress with a never-ending determination."

Serving as vice-president of the Martin Historic Business District for the past three years, the organization had grown and added several events and fundraisers with his help.

"There are no words to express the loss we have been dealt," said Kim Longacre, president of the Martin Historic Business District.

Hughes, who worked at the opera house, was a UT Martin senior majoring in computer science and a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

"Our university community is saddened at this tragic loss," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to Logan's family and many friends during this difficult time."

Visitation for Fitzgerald will be held at The Opera House at 10 a.m. on Saturday and a private celebration of life with family and close friends will be at 11 a.m.

A funeral service for Hughes will be held at 1 p.m. today in the chapel of Johnson-Williams Funeral Home in Newbern. Interment will follow in Fairview Cemetery in Newbern.

The THP report, provided by the Tennessee Department of Safety, also indicated drinking was involved.
HOMECOMING FESTIVITIES — Dr. Robert Nanney of Dresden is joined by Diamond Adams (left) of Memphis and Tomi Parrish of Martin on Oct. 5 during UT Martin’s 2013 Quad City, an annual homecoming event. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme “A Roarin’ Good Time.” Nanney is communications department chair, Adams is a sophomore communications student and Parrish is a communications department faculty member.

CELEBRATING UT MARTIN — Linda Neese Beringer (center) and her husband, Tim, both of Akron, Ohio, are joined by George Jennings of Dresden at the sorority lodges groundbreaking Oct. 5 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s 2013 homecoming celebration. Linda, formerly of Martin and an alumni member of Chi Omega Sorority, and Jennings are both 1968 UT Martin graduates. Four buildings will be constructed on the southern edge of the campus, marking the first time that UT Martin sorority chapters will have lodges.
GOOD TIMES — Vicki Whitworth (left) of Camden, Phyllis Pritchett (center) of Martin and Felicia Mears of Franklin, attended the sorority lodges groundbreaking Oct. 5 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s 2013 homecoming celebration. All are alumni members of the Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority. Four buildings will be constructed on the southern edge of the campus, marking the first time that UT Martin sorority chapters will have lodges.

UTM gets $125K commitment for Parsons Center nursing expansion

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently received a $125,000 commitment from Tennessee Health Management of Parsons. The gift will be used for the UT Martin Parsons Center nursing expansion.

The Center is building a 10,000-square-foot addition to the current facility for the nursing program. The addition will include classrooms, a skills laboratory and a high-fidelity computerized simulation laboratory.

“UT Martin cherishes the partnership that we have with Tennessee Health Management,” said Jason Sullivan, UT Martin associate director of development.

“UT Martin is very grateful for their willingness to support this nursing expansion. This endeavor is not an investment in bricks and mortar but an investment in lives and the future of Parsons and the surrounding areas.”
GOOD TIMES WITH FRIENDS — Matt Maxey (center), formerly of Ashland City, is joined by his wife, Ashley, and Josh Lemons of Martin on Oct. 5 during UT Martin’s 2013 Quad City, an annual homecoming event. Matt and Josh are UT Martin alums who both worked in various media roles on campus during their time at the university. Matt and Ashley now live in Bellevue near Nashville.

Preview days at UT Martin set

The first of two preview days at the University of Tennessee at Martin is set for Oct. 19. Preview days are opportunities for high school seniors and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life.

A second day is planned Nov. 23. Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answers to students’ questions on a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid; college and housing costs; and the various university academic programs.

Registration for the Oct. 19 preview day will be from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Boling University Center, and Nov. 23, from 9-9:30 a.m., in the Elam Center.

On each occasion, registration will be followed by a welcome and general information session and the university’s academic fair, which will take place in the Duncan Ballroom in the Boling University Center, Oct. 19, and in the Elam Center, Nov. 23. Academic department visits and campus tours will also be conducted at both preview days.

For more information about preview day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at (731) 881-7020.
ACT prep class offered in Jackson

An ACT preparation course for students, sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, will be offered from 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays from this Saturday through Nov. 23.

Lina Jognson and Kartharine Moran, UT Martin adjunct faculty members, will teach the course.

The course will begin with students taking an off-record ACT test. The instructor will then provide feedback in specific areas. Students will learn how to complete test problems based on question frequency, difficulty, substantive knowledge, curriculum and alternative test taking strategies.

Maximizing scores in the allotted time will also be the focus. At the end of the program, students will take another off-record ACT exam.

The instructor will meet one-on-one to provide a final study preparation to the real exam after receiving post-test data.

The registration fee to attend is $225. The registration fee includes two textbooks, two official retired ACT tests and a diagnostic report.

No. 2 pencils will be required.

A calculator is not necessary, but if a student chooses to use one, it must be a calculator permitted by ACT. To verify that a specific calculator is permitted, visit http://www.actstudent.org/faq/calculator.html.

The course will be held at the University of Tennessee at Martin Jackson Center, located at 3031 Highway 45 Bypass in Jackson.

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

First of Preview Days planned for Saturday

The first of two Preview Days at the University of Tennessee at Martin is set for Saturday.

Preview Days are opportunities for high school seniors and their families to visit and learn about the university.

Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life.

A second day is planned for Nov. 23.

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

Registration for Saturday’s Preview Day will be from 9 to 9:30 a.m. in Boling University Center, while registration for the next event will be Nov. 23 from 9 to 9:30 a.m. in Elam Center.

On each occasion, registration will be followed by a welcome and general information session and the university’s academic fair, which will take place in the Duncan Ballroom of Boling University Center on Saturday and in Elam Center on Nov. 23.

Academic department visits and campus tours will also be conducted at both Preview Days.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at (731) 881-7020.
ROCKY START — Dr. Michael A. Gibson, who has taught geology at UT Martin for 25 years, has been serving on the Natural History Committee with Jim Bondurant during the planning stages for Discovery Park of America. He and Jennifer Wildes, the project's Museum Coordinator, looked over some colorful minerals that will be on display in the Natural History area at Discovery Center. While some of the minerals that will be featured were discovered locally, others come from areas as remote as Russia, China, Australia, Vietnam and Brazil. Gibson also was very involved in locating fossil specimens and arranging for the dinosaurs that roam Dinosaur Hall in real life poses.

UTM nursing expansion receives boost with gift

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently received a $125,000 commitment from Tennessee Health Management of Parsons. The gift will be used for the UT Martin Parsons Center nursing expansion.

The center is building a 10,000-square-foot addition to the current facility for the nursing program. The addition will include classrooms, a skills laboratory and a high-fidelity computerized simulation laboratory.

"UT Martin cherishes the partnership that we have with Tennessee Health Management," said Jason Sullivan, UT Martin associate director of development.

"UT Martin is very grateful for their willingness to support this nursing expansion. This endeavor is not an investment in bricks and mortar but an investment in lives and the future of Parsons and the surrounding areas," he added.
At University of Tennessee at Martin

UC student introduced into pre-med program

Matthew Keathley of Union City, a student at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has been introduced into the Pre-Med Scholars program.

The program is slated to last two years, with at least 10 new students beginning each year.

It includes three parts: a series of shadowing opportunities; subject-specific MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test) review; and a test prep course at the end of the two-year program.

The program currently involves 12 area physicians and Volunteer Community Hospital in Martin.

The physicians include Dr. Nikhil Patel, Gastroenterology Associates; Dr. Walter Fletcher, Martin Medical Center; Dr. Elizabeth Lund, Surgical Associates of Martin; Dr. Jabbar Saliba, Martin Specialty Clinic; Dr. James Hall, Northwest Tennessee Cardiology Clinic; Dr. John Bates, Pediatric Place of Union City; Dr. Mark Armstrong, Union City Surgical Center; Dr. Michael Hinds, Hinds Medical Center; Dr. Susan Brewer, Martin Pediatric and Adolescent; Dr. Chiniya Thapa, Martin Specialty Clinic; Dr. Sukepma Giri, Martin Specialty Clinic; and Dr. Anna Hopla, Martin Medical Center.

"It's geared toward sophomores because it is a two-year program and is intended to prepare students for the MCAT and application to med school, which typically takes place at the end of the junior year or the beginning of the senior year," UT Martin health sciences pre-professional coordinator Kristina Pitz said.

Students selected for the Pre-Medical Scholars program must have taken Chemistry 121 and 122 and must have an average of 3.0 for the two classes. Preference is given to students who have taken Biology 130 and 140 and students who have taken a math course.

"We want to get more students in medical school," Ms. Pitz said. "Our students are very competitive, but this program will make them more competitive."

HOMECOMING COURT — Members of the 2013 University of Tennessee at Martin Homecoming court included (from left) Chi Omega member Anneliese Alexander of Bradford; Katie Jarvis of Bartlett, who was representing the UT Martin Residence Hall Association; queen Tori Johnson of Trenton, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority; Alpha Kappa Psi's Chiquilla Sanders of Bartlett; and Shannon Cheatham of Lewisburg, a member of Alpha Delta Pi.
NEWSOME TABBED AS PRESEASON FAVE
UT Martin's Jasmine Newsome (right) has been tabbed as the College Madness' Ohio Valley Conference Preseason Player of the Year along with first team honors. Newsome, a three-time All-OVC first teamer, averaged 22.6 points per game, ranking fifth in the nation in scoring en route to the program's first All-American honors. She is on pace to become just the second player in UT Martin history to score 2,000 points, currently sitting at 1,958 for her career. UTM's Heather Butler was named to the College Madness All-OVC first team.

VTA Guest Art Exhibit held at UT Martin
The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts (VTA) will sponsor an exhibition of works by local artist, Shane Gregory, director of the Ice House Gallery in Mayfield, Kentucky.

The exhibition will open Tuesday, October 8, from 1-5 p.m., and run through Friday, October 25. There will not be an opening reception for this exhibition, but there will be a closing reception with the artist in attendance on Friday, October 25, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Regular operating hours for the Fine Arts Building Art Gallery are: 1:00-5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 4:00-8:00 p.m. on Thursdays; and 1:00-5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The gallery is open late for exhibition openings and is closed when exhibitions are under construction.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

OPEN MIC NIGHT AT UTM
MARTIN: Open mic night at the University of Tennessee at Martin is common, but having Dr. David Carithers and the Martin Songwriting Collaborative (MSC) as the featured act at 8:00 p.m. on October 29, in the Boling University Center's Watkins Auditorium, is beyond the norm.

Carithers, who usually plays with the House Band (Dr. David Coffey, Dr. Chris Brown, Dr. Jim Fieser and Micah Barnes), will be on stage with his acoustic guitar and will be joined by MSC members Bob Peckham and Ezra Nance.

Two Miss Tennessee preliminary pageants set for October 26 at UT Martin
The combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant will be staged at 7:00 p.m., October 26, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus.

Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson this summer.

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

The event will feature interview, talent, evening gown and swimsuit competitions. General admission tickets will be available at the door for $15. UT Martin student tickets will be $10 at the door with proper ID.
Two killed in motorcycle accident

By David Fisher
Staff Reporter

Two men were killed in a motorcycle accident over the weekend in rural Weakley County.

According to a Tennessee Highway Patrol report, the bodies of 23-year-old Logan Dale Hughes of Newbern and 36-year-old Jimmy Daniel Fitzgerald of Sharon were found late Saturday night following an intensive search after they were reported missing Saturday.

Although the exact time of the accident is not known, investigators believe it occurred during the early morning hours of Saturday, October 12, as Hughes was giving Fitzgerald a ride home after getting off work at the Opera House restaurant in Martin. Fitzgerald was reportedly the manager of the restaurant and Hughes was an employee.

Trooper Jason Goslee states Hughes was southbound on Parkers Levee Road approximately five miles south of Martin on his 1999 Honda VF7 motorcycle, when he failed to negotiate a left curve. The motorcycle ran off the right side of the roadway, went down an embankment, and struck a tree. Both riders were thrown from the motorcycle. The report states Hughes was wearing a helmet, but Fitzgerald was not.

Hughes was a UT Martin senior majoring in computer science, and a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

"Our university community is saddened by this tragic loss," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to Logan's family and many friends during this difficult time."

Funeral services for Hughes were held Tuesday, October 15, in the chapel of Johnson-Williams Funeral Home in Newbern.

According to Williams Funeral Home in Sharon, a private memorial service for Fitzgerald will be held for family and close friends at 10 a.m., Saturday, October 19 at the Opera House restaurant in Martin. (See obituary for more information.)
Four UT Martin sororities break ground for new lodges

Four sororities at the University of Tennessee at Martin participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for new lodges on campus October 5 during 2013 Homecoming festivities.

Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi and Zeta Tau Alpha, all founded on the UT Martin campus in the early 1960s, had small lodges in Grove Apartments on the North Side of campus from the mid-60s through 2004.

“It was decided that the sorority membership had grown too large to continue to hold rush, or recruitment, as we call it now in our lodges,” said Secily Scott, Panhellenic president and a member of Chi Omega Sorority.

“By building these lodges, our chapters will not only have a place to hold recruitment activities, sisterhoods, meetings and other functions, but most importantly the chapters will have a place to call their own,” said Scott.

The new lodges will be built on the southern edge of campus near University Courts. Each sorority has committed to pay close to $500,000 for their new lodge, which will be two stories and about 3,800-square feet.

“I’ve been waiting for this as a colony member of AOPI since the fall quarter of 1965,” Mandy Riley Williams said. “At long last our dream is coming true.”

More than 500 people braved the humid weather conditions to watch representatives of each sorority participate in the ground-breaking ceremonies.

“I must give most of the credit for us being here to the alumni members of these sororities who have worked diligently to raise funds to ensure these lodges would become a reality,” UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes said. “One of UT Martin’s points of pride is that we encourage the development of student leadership through service and leadership opportunities enhanced by more than 125 campus organizations. Our sorority members are leaders on this campus and become loyal alumni as evident at the ground breaking.”

Construction is scheduled to start soon, and completion is expected in the 2014-15 academic year.

Authentic Civil War stories, more on display at UT Martin Museum

Authentic Civil War photographs, letters, images and stories are featured in a new exhibit now on display at the University of Tennessee at Martin’s J. Houston Gordon Museum.

Civil War history comes alive at the Teacher’s Discovery Traveling Exhibit on the Civil War, which commemorates the 150th anniversary of the war. Housed at UT Martin’s Paul Meek Library, the exhibit runs from October 1 through Friday, October 25, and includes additional Civil War prints, pictures and other West Tennessee artifacts culled from the library’s Corbitt Special Collections. The additional local items will remain on display until Friday, December 20.

“We are excited to be able to bring this exhibit to the West Tennessee area for all to come and commemorate a time in America’s past where our nation’s democracy was tested,” Richardson said.

The museum is open 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by special arrangements. Call (731) 881-7094.

The exhibit, as well as public programming, is partially funded by a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (in partnership with The Library of America) and is funded by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.
Sudberry announces candidacy for Weakley County Mayor

David Sudberry announced this week that he will be a candidate for the office of Weakley County Mayor in the August 2014 election.

In announcing his candidacy, Sudberry said, "My wife, Linda Stover Sudberry, and I attend Central Baptist Church where I have been a Sunday school teacher for over 20 years. We have three children - Bryan Sudberry and wife Nicole, Courtney Higgs Williams and husband Chris Williams and Camille Higgs, and two grandchildren Kylie and Bryson Sudberry.

"As a young man, I worked for several farmers. I learned to value the rich soil, the bountiful crops, and the hard work that these men and women of Weakley County put forth each day. I learned that it takes hard work to be a success at anything you do and I have applied that principle to my life. Also serving in the United States Air Force for four years and 24-1/2 years in the Tennessee National Guard I learned teamwork, discipline, honor, and integrity.

"I am a graduate of Martin High School, and I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from the University of Tennessee at Martin. I have taught classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin, and I have been a substitute teacher in several of the schools in Weakley County. In 2011, I was the teacher for the Integrated Systems Technology classes at Westview High School for part of that year. I have a heart for advancing education in Weakley County, and as the next local manager. I have grown in this position gaining skills in grant writing, fundraising, event planning, broadcast, television, nonprofits, program development, social media, and marketing. Working for WLJT-DT and covering most of west Tennessee has allowed me to gain a regional view of what west Tennessee has to offer.

"I have served five years with Weakley County United Way - 1994 as campaign chairman and 1989-1993 as funds distribution chairman. I currently serve on the Funds Distribution Board. I have served on the UTM Alumni Council. I am a graduate of Leadership Weakley County. I have also had the opportunity to be a volunteer working with community outreach projects through the Martin Kiwanis Club and other groups like Family Fun Nights and UTM Relay for Life Team.

"I believe I have the background needed for the next county mayor. I am a team player, I honor our county values and respect the good people who live and work in Weakley County. I am enthusiastic and energetic at everything I undertake.

"As your next county mayor I will promote education. I will seek opportunities to grow local retail and manufacturing. I will encourage a stronger agriculture and university relationship.

"In August 2014, allow me to use my years of experience, skills, and training to improve our county. I am asking you to elect me as your next Weakley County mayor."
Local student introduced into pre-med scholars program at UT Martin

Michael Wilson

Michael Wilson, of Dresden, a student at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has been introduced into the Pre-Med Scholars program.

The program is slated to last two years with at least 10 new students beginning each year. The program includes three parts: a series of shadowing opportunities; subject-specific MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test) review; and a test prep course at the end of the two-year program.

The program currently involves 12 area physicians and Volunteer Community Hospital. The physicians include Dr. Nikhil Patel, Gastroenterology Associates; Dr. Walter Fletcher, Martin Medical Center; Dr. Elizabeth Lund, Surgical Associates of Martin; Dr. Jabbar Saliba, Martin Specialty Clinic; Dr. James Hall, Northwest Tennessee Cardiology Clinic; Dr. John Bates, Pediatric Place of Union City; Dr. Mark Armstrong, Union City Surgical Center; Dr. Michael Hinds, Hinds Medical Center; Dr. Susan Brewer, Martin Pediatric and Adolescent; Dr. Chiniya Thapa, Martin Specialty Clinic; Dr. Sukepma Giri, Martin Specialty Clinic; and Dr. Anna Hopla, Martin Medical Center.

“It’s geared toward sophomores because it is a two-year program and is intended to prepare students for the MCAT and application to med school, which typically takes place at the end of the junior year or the beginning of the senior year,” health sciences pre-professional coordinator Kristina Pitz said.

Students selected for the Pre-Medical Scholars program must have taken chemistry 121 and 122 and must have an average of 3.0 for the two classes. Preference is given to students who have taken biology 130 and 140 and students who have taken a math course.

“We want to get more students in medical school,” Pitz said. “Our students are very competitive, but this program will make them more competitive.”

UT Martin ROTC Program slated for closing in 2015

The University of Tennessee at Martin was notified this week that the school’s Reserve Officers’ Training Corps program is among 13 in the nation scheduled for closure in 2015. Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, received a call Wednesday from the U.S. Army notifying the university of the closure.

Other Tennessee universities facing ROTC closures are East Tennessee State University in Johnson City and Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville. UT Martin’s verbal closure notification came without warning or consultation with university officials.

“We are disappointed to learn of the plans to discontinue Army ROTC at UT Martin,” Rakes said. “We serve a high number of capable, underrepresented students, and by discontinuing the ROTC program, our community and region will fall victim to budget cuts and decreasing opportunities for our young people.”

Rakes said he “anticipates appealing the decision through channels.” He added, “The program has exhibited outstanding performance involving competition among battalion groups within the region, as well as commissioning several hundred officers during the program’s existence.”

An ROTC unit was first established at the university in 1952, followed by the start of a four-year ROTC program in 1964. Since the program’s beginnings, 651 cadets have been commissioned as second lieutenants in the regular Army, the U.S. Army Reserve and the Tennessee Army National Guard.

The university’s military science program, of which ROTC is a part, includes Jackson State Community College, Lane College, Freed-Hardeman University, Bethel University and Union University. Enrollment for fall semester 2013 is 61 basic course cadets and 25 advanced course cadets.

If the closure plan proceeds, remaining ROTC students would be commissioned as part of the 2014-15 graduating class.
SAAB FOUNDER VISITS MARTIN — Chancellor Tom Rakes visits with Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe (left) and Joe Henderson (center) following Bledsoe’s recent presentation at UT Martin. Bledsoe is founder of the Student African American Brotherhood, an organization described on its website as “a national organization established to enhance the experiences of and instill a ‘spirit of care’ in African American males in high schools, colleges and universities around the country.” Henderson directs the university’s Office of Student Conduct and advises the SAAB chapter at UT Martin. Other university and community leaders attended the presentation, which was followed by a workshop led by Bledsoe for SAAB members. The SAAB currently has 10 members at UT Martin and seeks to expand membership.

Talent show slated

The University of Tennessee at Martin and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Tennessee will sponsor “Northwest Tennessee’s Got Talent” at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at UT Martin’s Fine Arts Building.

The talent show will be staged in Room 122 (Blankenship Recital Hall).

Admission is $5 each for adults and $1 each for students with an ID. Children age 10 and younger will be admitted for free.

There is a $25 entry fee for a one- to three-person act and a $50 fee for acts of four or more people.

The first-place winner will receive $100, while the second-place winner will get $60. The third-place winner will receive $30.

All proceeds will benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northwest Tennessee.

For more information, contact Tracy Boucher at (731) 885-0883 or tboucher@bgcnwt.org.

Carithers, Martin songwriting collaborative set to be featured Oct. 29

Open mic night at the University of Tennessee at Martin is common, but having Dr. David Carithers and the Martin Songwriting Collaborative (MSC) as the featured act at 8 p.m. Oct. 29 in the Boling University Center’s Watkins Auditorium is beyond the norm.

Carithers, who usually plays with the House Band (Dr. David Coffey, Dr. Chris Brown, Dr. Jim Fieser and Micah Barnes), will be on stage with his acoustic guitar and will be joined by MSC members Bob Peckham and Ezra Nance.

“I have been playing on-and off-again since I was a teenager,” he said.

Carithers plays a variety of musical styles, but his work with the MSC can be described as Americana.

“We (me and the House Band) play it all, though — country, folk and Americana,” he said.

One of Carithers’ influences is the legendary Bob Dylan.

“I like ‘Visions of Johanna’ and ‘One More Cup of Coffee,’” he said.

While Dylan is one of Carithers’ influences, he and the House Band won’t shy away from Dylan’s music.

“He (Dylan) was the first to show how profound song writing was,” Carithers said.

NW Tennessee’s Got Talent show slated for Tuesday at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northwest Tennessee will sponsor Northwest Tennessee’s Got Talent at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at UT Martin’s Fine Arts Building.

The talent show will be staged in Room 122 (Blankenship Recital Hall).

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There is a $25 entry fee for a one- to three-person act and a $50 fee for acts of four or more people.

The first-place winner will receive $100, while the second-place winner will get $60. The third-place winner will receive $30.

All proceeds will benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of Northwest Tennessee.

For more information, contact Tracy Boucher at (731) 885-0883 or tboucher@bgcnwt.org.
West Tennessee’s Civil War role explored

UT Martin history professor plans to lecture next week

University of Tennessee Martin history professor David Coffey will explore Civil War activities in West Tennessee and their effect upon the ultimate Union victory during a presentation next week.

The lecture, which is sponsored by the J. Houston Gordon Museum, will begin at 4 p.m. Thursday at the Paul Meek Library, according to a news release from the university.

Coffey will address “The Civil War: Won and Lost in West Tennessee” in conjunction with “The Civil War at 150” exhibit currently mounted by the museum.

“There is a tendency in this region to focus on the Confederate aspects of the war, such as Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, but the real story of the Civil War in West Tennessee is on the Union side: The rise and survival of U. S. Grant, the first important Federal victories, the defeat-turned-victory at Shiloh and the opening of southern waterways,” Coffey said in the release. “What happened in West Tennessee early on had a great deal to do with the ultimate Union victory.”

“The Civil War at 150” exhibit features authentic Civil War photographs, Civil War prints, letters, images and stories, accompanied by West Tennessee artifacts culled from the library’s Corbitt Special Collections, the release said.

Coffey is also the chairman of the Department of History and Philosophy at UT Martin and is the 2011-12 recipient of the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award. His research interests include U.S. history with an emphasis in Civil War history. He has conducted extensive research on the history of the Civil War in West Tennessee.

IF YOU GO

What: ‘The Civil War: Won and Lost in West Tennessee,’ a free presentation by University of Tennessee Martin history professor David Coffey
When: 4 p.m. Thursday
Where: Paul Meek Library at UT Martin
Phone: (731) 881-7094

See WAR, Page B2

War

Continued from Page B1

Coffey is an assistant editor of “American Civil War: The Definitive Encyclopedia and Document Collection,” edited by Spencer C. Tucker, and author of “Sheridan’s Lieutenants: Phil Sheridan, His Generals, and the Final Year of the Civil War”; “Soldier Princess: The Life and Legend of Agnes Salm-Salm in North America, 1861-1867”; and “John Bell Hood and the Struggle for Atlanta.”

The lecture is free and open to the public. It is funded in part by a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, in partnership with The Library of America, and by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the release said.

For more information about the lecture or exhibit, call (731) 881-7094.

UT Martin holds first of two Preview Days

The first of two Preview Days at the University of Tennessee Martin is set for today.

Preview Days are opportunities for high school seniors and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to form a first impression of university life, according to a news release from the school.

A second Preview Day is planned Nov. 23. Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answers to students’ questions.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at (731) 881-7020.
12 students join UTM Pre-Med Scholars program

The Jackson Sun

Twelve students at the University of Tennessee Martin have been introduced into the Pre-Med Scholars program, according to a news release from the university.

The scholars include Brianna Jaye Victoria Rachel Foss, of Paris; Morgan Gray, of Trezevant; Matthew Keathley, of Union City; Alli McClure, of Huntingdon; Sean O’Brien, of Voorhees, N.J.; Saumil Patel, of Martin; Vance Pounders, of Nashville; Ben Reeves, of Knoxville; Ben Rollins, of McKenzie; Amber Thompson, of Arlington; Christy Lee, of Martin; and Michael Wilson, of Dresden.

The program is slated to last two years with at least 10 new students beginning each year, the release said. The program includes three parts: A series of shadowing opportunities; subject-specific Medical College Admissions Test review; and a test prep course at the end of the two-year program.

The program involves 12 area physicians and Volunteer Community Hospital. The physicians include Dr. Nikhil Patel, of Gastroenterology Associates; Dr. Walter Fletcher, of Martin Medical Center; Dr. Elizabeth Lund, of Surgical Associates of Martin; Dr. Jabbar Saliba, of Martin Specialty Clinic; Dr. James Hall, of Northwest Tennessee Cardiology Clinic; Dr. John Bates, of Pediatric Place of Union City; Dr. Mark Armstrong, of Union City Surgical Center; Dr. Michael Hinds, of Hinds Medical Center; Dr. Susan Brewer, of Martin Pediatric and Adolescent; Dr. Chiniya Thapa, of Martin Specialty Clinic; and Dr. Anna Hopla, of Martin Medical Center.

“It’s geared toward sophomores because it is a two-year program and is intended to prepare students for the MCAT and application to med school, which typically takes place at the end of the junior year or the beginning of the senior year,” health sciences pre-professional coordinator Kristina Pitz said.

Students selected for the Pre-Medical Scholars program must have taken Chemistry 121 and 122 and must have an average of 3.0 for the two classes, the release said. Preference is given to students who have taken Biology 130 and 140 and students who have taken a math course.

“We want to get more students in medical school,” Pitz said. “Our students are very competitive, but this program will make them more competitive.”
Four UTM sororities eager for new lodges

The Jackson Sun

Four sororities at the University of Tennessee Martin participated in a ground-breaking ceremony for new lodges on campus Oct. 5 during 2013 Homecoming festivities. Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi and Zeta Tau Alpha, all founded on the UT Martin campus in the early 1960s, had small lodges in Grove Apartments on the north side of campus from the mid-1960s through 2004, according to a news release from the university.

"It was decided that the sorority membership had grown too large to continue to hold rush, or recruitment, as we call it now in our lodges," said Secily Scott, Panhellenic president and a member of Chi Omega Sorority, in the release.

"By building these lodges, our chapters will not only have a place to hold recruitment activities, sisterhoods, meetings and other functions, but most importantly the chapters will have a place to call their own," Scott said.

The new lodges will be built on the southern edge of campus near University Courts. Each sorority has committed to pay close to $500,000 for its new lodge, which will be two stories and about 3,800 square feet, according to the university.

"I've been waiting for this as a colony member of AOPi since the fall quarter of 1965," Mandy Riley Williams said. "At long last, our dream is coming true."

More than 500 people braved the humid weather to watch representatives of each sorority participate in the groundbreaking ceremonies, the release said.

"I must give most of the credit for us being here to the alumni members of these sororities who have worked diligently to raise funds to ensure these lodges would become a reality," UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes said. "One of UT Martin's points of pride is that we encourage the development of student leadership through service and leadership opportunities enhanced by more than 125 campus organizations. Our sorority members are leaders on this campus and become loyal alumni as evident at the ground breaking."

Construction is scheduled to start soon, and completion is expected in the 2014-15 academic year, according to the university.

"We look forward to returning to this site to celebrate the opening of the sorority lodges during the next academic year," Rakes said.
The University of Tennessee Martin and the Boys and Girls Club of Northwest Tennessee will sponsor "Northwest Tennessee's Got Talent" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The talent show will be in Room 122 (Blankenship Recital Hall) of UT Martin's Fine Arts Building, according to a news release.

Admission is $5 each for adults, $1 each for students with an ID and free for children 10 and younger.

There is a $25 entry fee for one- to three-person acts and a $50 fee for acts of four or more people.

The first-place winner will receive $100, while the second-place winner will get $60. The third-place winner will receive $30.

All proceeds will benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Northwest Tennessee.

For more information, contact Tracy Boucher at (731) 885-0883 or tboucher@bgcnwt.org.
David Sudberry declares candidacy for county mayor

After much encouragement from family and friends across Weakley County, David Sudberry is declaring himself a candidate for the office of Weakley County Mayor in the August 2014 election.

Sudberry and his wife, Linda Stover Sudberry, attend Central Baptist Church, where David Sudberry has been a Sunday school teacher for over 20 years. The couple has three children: Bryan Sudberry and wife Nicole, Courtney Higgs Williams and husband Chris Williams and Camille Higgs and two grandchildren Kylie and Bryson Sudberry.

As a young man, Sudberry worked for several farmers. He said he learned to value the rich soil, the bountiful crops and the hard work that these men and women of Weakley County put forth each day. He said he learned that it takes hard work to be a success at anything you do and that he has applied that principle to his life. Also serving in the United States Air Force for four years and 24.5 years in the Tennessee National Guard, he said he learned teamwork, discipline, honor and integrity.

He is a graduate of Martin High School and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering Technology from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He has taught classes at the University of Tennessee.

David Sudberry

Sudberry from Page 1

at Martin and has been a substitute teacher in several of the schools in Weakley County. In 2011, he was the teacher for the Integrated Systems Technology classes at Westview High School for part of that year. He said he has a heart for advancing education in Weakley County and as the next County Mayor he wants to work closely with the school board to do that in anyway.

"Serving as an alderman in Martin I have learned a great deal about how government works," Sudberry said. "I serve on the following committees and boards – Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, C. E. Weldon Library Board, Citizens Police Academy Committee, Historic Zoning Committee, Historic Zoning Committee, Public Works Commission, and Municipal-Regional Planning Committee.

"Over the years I have developed many skills through formal and informal training. As the local manager for 30 years at Frontier Communications I gained skills in strategic consulting, leadership development, public speaking, public relations, and budgeting to list just a few. While working for Frontier Communications I had the perspective of the need to serve all the people in Weakley County."

As the marketing manager for WLJT-DT, he has applied all of the skills he learned as a local manager. He said he has grown in this position gaining skills in grant writing, fundraising, event planning, broadcast, television, nonprofits, program development, social media and marketing. Working for WLJT-DT and covering most of West Tennessee has allowed him to gain a regional view of what West Tennessee has to offer, he said.

He has served five years with Weakley County United Way, 1994 as campaign chairman and 1989-1993 as funds distribution chairman. He currently serves on the Funds Distribution Board. He has served on the UTM Alumni Council. He is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County. He has also had the opportunity to be a volunteer working with community outreach projects through the Martin Kiwanis Club and other groups like Family Fun Nights and UTM Relay for Life Team.

"I believe I have the background needed for the next county mayor," he said. "I am a team player, I honor our county values and respect the good people who live and work in Weakley County. I am enthusiastic and energetic at everything I undertake."
West Tennessee’s Civil War role to be explored Thursday

Civil War activities in West Tennessee and their effect upon the ultimate Union victory will be explored by University of Tennessee at Martin history professor Dr. David Coffey at a presentation sponsored by the J. Houston Gordon Museum at 4 p.m. Thursday at the Paul Meek Library.

Coffey will address “The Civil War: Won and Lost in West Tennessee” in conjunction with The Civil War at 150 exhibit currently mounted by the museum.

“There is a tendency in this region to focus on the Confederate aspects of the war, such as General Nathan Bedford Forrest, but the real story of the Civil War in West Tennessee is on the Union side: the rise and survival of U. S. Grant, the first important Federal victories, the defeat-turned-victory at Shiloh, and the opening of southern waterways. What happened in West Tennessee early on had a great deal to do with the ultimate Union victory,” Coffey said.

The Civil War at 150 exhibit features authentic Civil War photographs, Civil War prints, letters, images and stories, accompanied by West Tennessee artifacts culled from the Library’s Corbitt Special Collections.

Coffey is also the chairman of the Department of History and Philosophy at UT Martin and is the 2011-12 recipient of the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award. His research interests include U.S. History with an emphasis in Civil War history. He has conducted extensive research in the history of the Civil War in West Tennessee.

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The lecture is open to the public, free of charge and is funded in part by a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (in partnership with The Library of America) and by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

AWARD WINNER — Michelle Borgens, representing J’i’s Quick Stop in Martin, earned the ‘OktoberBest Award’ for having the most participants at her game booth during Saturday’s annual Oktoberfest in Historic Downtown Martin. Lynn Harper, event coordinator, presented the award to Borgens.
Friends and colleagues gather to remember Congressman Ed Jones

MARTIN — Friends and former staff members of 8th District U.S. Rep. Ed Jones gathered early this month at the University of Tennessee at Martin to pay tribute to the late congressman and honor his induction into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame. Jones became only the 13th hall of fame member when he was elected in 2011.

A reception was held in the Paul Meek Library where a replica of the congressman’s office is maintained and his congressional papers are held. A dinner followed in the Boling University Center where a large bronze plaque was displayed that will later reside in the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame collection. The collection is maintained by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at the Tennessee Agricultural Museum in Nashville.

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.

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.

Anthony Haynes, University of Tennessee System vice president for government relations, emceed the dinner and reminded the audience of the “Ed Jones is My Congressman” slogan used by the popular U.S. representative at election time. “If you were running for office...you wanted your signs as close to his as possible,” he said. “Ed Jones was to retail politics what Bear Bryant was to college football.”

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed the crowd of Jones friends, supporters and former staff members to campus and emphasized the importance of agriculture to the university. “I would argue that we have the strongest undergraduate agriculture programs in the state,” he said. Rakes pointed to university’s agriculture-related outreach, including the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex, the West Tennessee Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and the new veterinary health technology program, as examples of outreach and commitment to the agricultural industry and education.

Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture Julius Johnson, who knew Jones during his career with the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, commended Rakes and others in attendance “for helping to bring attention to one of Tennessee’s agriculture true treasures, Congressman Ed Jones.”

“I think it’s appropriate that the university is building upon his legacy in agriculture through the Ed Jones Distinguished Lecture Series and scholarship fund,” Johnson said. “I know Congressman Jones would certainly be proud.”

The original Ed Jones Distinguished Lecturer Series began in 1989 at the university, and Jones actively supported the series until it ended in 1995. A lead gift of $12,500 in June from Farm Credit Mid-America was the first step toward endowing the lecture series, which will now include the congressman’s late wife’s name and be called the Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series.

Commenting on the congressman’s induction into the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame, Johnson added, “He certainly left his mark on our nation’s agriculture and is responsible for championing many of the programs in conservation, farm finance and risk management that we now take for granted. Through it all, Mr. Jones never lost sight of his life’s mission to improve the livelihood of farmers and the lives of rural Americans.”

Former U.S. Rep. John Tanner, who succeeded Jones in his congressional seat and served 11 terms, was the event’s keynote speaker. “I never heard anybody say anything but that Mr. Ed Jones was a gentleman,” Tanner said. “Whatever his politics were, whatever he stood for, he was a gentleman.”

“And beyond that, he
had a vision for the future. He understood that for this country to be strong and free, you had to have investment, public investment, in infrastructure. ... And he was pretty keen on a pretty robust agricultural policy as well.

Tanner recognized and thanked those who worked for Jones and the people of the 8th Congressional District. “I think he would be so proud to know that this network (of people) still exits,” he said.

Dr. Jim Culver, president, CEO and director of VVC Exploration Corp. and a former congressional aide to Jones, offered highlights from the late congressman’s life. He noted that Jones did many things in his career, “But through all of what he did in life, Ed Jones was always a farmer, and he always felt like he was a farmer.”

“Working for him was the highlight of my career,” Culver said.

Donations can be made to the Ed Jones Gift Fund, which supports the university's Ed and Llew Jones Distinguished Lecture Series. Contact the UT Martin Office of Development, 329 Hall-Moody Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238, or call (731) 881-7620. Gifts to the lecture series fund can also be made online at www.utmforever.com/jones.

JONES REMEMBERED — Julius Johnson (left), Tennessee commissioner of agriculture, and Dr. Tom Rakes, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, stand with the plaque of the late Congressman Ed Jones that will be displayed in the Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame. Jones was honored for his hall of fame induction during a reception and dinner earlier this month at UT Martin. The hall of fame collection is maintained by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at the Tennessee Agricultural Museum in Nashville.
UT Martin’s first academic speaker to talk about ‘How We Learn’

Robert Duke

Robert Duke, the Marlene and Morton Meyerson Centennial Professor and head of music and human learning at the University of Texas at Austin, will be the first academic speaker of the 2013-2014 academic year at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Duke’s appearance, sponsored by the Honors Programs and the Department of Music, is set for 7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 24, in the Andy Holt Humanities Building’s Campbell Auditorium on the UT Martin campus.

Duke’s presentation is called, “How We Learn...and How We Don’t.”

He is a university distinguished teaching professor, Elizabeth Shatto Massey Distinguished Fellow in teacher education and director of the Center for Music Learning. He is also an advisor to the Psychology of Learning Program at the Colburn Conservatory in Los Angeles.

The most recent recipient of a senior researcher award, Duke has directed national research efforts under the sponsorship of such organizations as the National Piano Foundation and the International Suzuki Institute.

His research on human learning and behavior spans multiple disciplines, including motor skill learning, cognitive psychology and neuroscience.

His most recent work explores procedural memory consolidation and the cognitive processes engaged during musical improvisation. A former studio musician and public school music teacher, he has worked closely with children at risk, both in the public schools and through the juvenile justice system.

He is the author of Scribe 4 behavior analysis software, and his most recent books are Intelligent Music Teaching: Essays on the Core Principles of Effective Instruction and The Habits of Musicianship, which he co-authored with Jim Byo of Louisiana State University.

AT&T Distinguished Scholars

Chuck Thomas III, with AT&T, presented UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes (third from left) with a check for $100,000. Also participating in the check presentation were (from left) Brad Thompson, the Martin director of community development; State Sen. John Stephens; Rakes; Thomas; and Jake Bynum with the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce. The money will allow the university to create scholarships for academically qualified, low-income students attending UT Knoxville, UT Chattanooga, or UT Martin.
West Tennessee’s Civil War role to be explored by UT Martin scholar, history professor

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The lecture is open to the public, free of charge and is funded in part by a grant from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (in partnership with The Library of America) and by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information on the lecture or exhibit, call 731-881-7094.

Enjoying “A Roarin’ Good Time”

Dr. Robert Nanney (center), of Dresden, is joined by Diamond Adams (left), of Memphis, and Tomi Parrish, of Martin, on October 5 during UT Martin’s 2013 Quad City, an annual homecoming event. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme “A Roarin’ Good Time.” Nanney is communications department chair; Adams is a sophomore communications student; and Parrish is a communications department faculty member. Homecoming week was held September 30-October 6.
Chris Karmosky

University of Tennessee at Martin assistant professor of meteorology Chris Karmosky received a grant to study climate change from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The goal of the three-year study is to improve understanding and prediction of surface melting on the Greenland Ice Sheet. This work will use satellite imagery, computer modeling and statistical analysis to study weather conditions responsible for surface melting, and how those weather conditions will change over the next several decades.

“Greenland contains some of the world’s fastest-flowing glaciers, which have doubled their speed over the past decade, and therefore it represents a region that is vulnerable to changes in weather and climate patterns,” Karmosky said.

“Greenland also features earth’s second-largest ice sheet, which means climate change and ice melt in this region have important implications for sea level rise worldwide. Scientists currently have a limited understanding of exactly how quickly large ice sheets respond to increases in temperature, and it is hoped that this work will further understanding of this and related processes.”

This work will involve researchers at UT Martin, New Mexico Tech and the University of Maryland, and will also incorporate the work of UT Martin undergraduate students as summer research assistants.

UT Martin will receive more than $108,000 for the research from the NSF’s Office of Polar Programs.

“Karmosky is a rising star in our growing meteorology program in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences,” said Dr. Todd Winters, college dean. “Climate change is an important issue for all society. It affects agriculture and our natural resources, especially water.”

Federally funded research, such as that performed by Karmosky, directly transfers to the classroom, giving UT Martin students state-of-the-art knowledge of the effects of weather and climate variations on our global ice reserves.”

At the college level

Victoria Seng, daughter of Dr. Louis Seng and Dr. Victoria Seng of Union City, has been awarded scholarships for 2013-14 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

She received the Elam Alumni Legacy Award, the Stan Gault Scholarship, the Chancellor’s Award and the Communication Department Scholarship.
Big Cypress Tree Fall Festival
set for Nov. 2

The annual Big Cypress Tree Fall Festival is Nov. 2 and park officials are encouraging the public to come out and enjoy the day’s festivities.

The free event is family-oriented and runs from 9 a.m. through 3 p.m.

Tennessee’s most famous volunteer, Davy Crockett, will make his way over to Big Cypress Tree State Natural Area before he crosses over the great Mississippi River on his way to Texas. Since the public has taken a recent interest in his adventures, he promises to tell his life story to set the record straight.

Crockett, played by impersonator Arthur Hunt, an associate professor of communications at UT Martin, will address the public at 9:30 a.m.

Hunt captures Crockett’s dress, voice and mannerisms as reflected in historical accounts and Crockett’s own autobiography written in 1834 published at the height of his political career.

After Crockett finishes, Dr. Tom Blanchard, professor of the UTM department of biological sciences and director of the Reelfoot Lake Environmental Field Station, will present a program on the snakes of Tennessee.

Miss Tennessee Tourism Alexandra Barros, who is also a UTM student with a Dean’s List double major in political science and public relations, will be at the festival at noon. She will speak briefly about the Miss Tourism Program, which promotes volunteerism and becoming an active member in one’s community. She will be competing in Miss World Tourism in July 2014.

An animal program that will be presented at the festival is “Predators to Prey” by Bob Tarter of the Natural History Educational Company of the MidSouth. This program’s star attraction is an impressive adult bobcat. This program will be presented twice during the festival, with the first time being 10:30 a.m. and second time being 12:15 p.m.

The second animal program to be presented comes from Reelfoot Lake State Park and is Reelfoot’s famous and popular “Birds of Prey” program. One of the birds of prey in this program is the magnificent American Bald Eagle. This program will begin around 2 p.m.

The musical entertainment this year will be Currency, an energetic and upbeat family bluegrass band from Columbia, Mo. David and Nancy Currey and their children provide a lively blend of traditional and contemporary bluegrass music. They played at the Big Cypress Festival in 2012 and were a huge hit with visitors, organizers said.

Air Evac Lifeteam is scheduled to land at the park between 11 a.m. and noon.

The UTM Ecology Club will have a booth with interesting exhibits of plants, birds, mammals and small animals. UTM’s Eleanor See Festival, Page 2
PLENTY TO SEE — Heather Meadors and Michael Beasley of the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Ecology Club show off a barn owl during last year’s Big Cypress Tree Fall Festival. The ecology club will be on hand for this year’s festival, along with several new additions. UT Martin associate professor of communications Arthur Hunt will portray Davy Crockett. Hunt captures Crockett’s dress, voice and mannerisms as reflected in historical accounts.

GIRL SCOUT BADGE — Martin Girl Scouts learned all about oil recently at the Tom and Ann Stuart Community Center in Martin. Professor Eleanor Gardner and senior Andrew Eudy complete one of the requirements for the Oil Up badge with Persempathy Harrell (from left), London McDonald and Serenity Harrell. Eudy is a member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, the earth science honor’s society. Also helping Gardner out were Eta Alpha Chapter members William Abrams, Taylor Wilson-Prim and Brandt Gibson. Gardner is a lab instructor in agriculture, geosciences and natural resources at the University of Tennessee at Martin.
Saumil Patel and Christy Lee, both of Martin and students at the University of Tennessee at Martin, have been introduced into the Pre-Med Scholars program.

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HOMECOMING COURT — Members of the 2013 University of Tennessee at Martin Homecoming court included Chi Omega member Anneliese Alexander of Bradford; Katie Jarvis of Bartlett, who was representing the UT Martin Residence Hall Association; Queen Tori Johnson of Trenton and (center) a member of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority; Alpha Kappa Psi’s Chiquilla Sanders of Bartlett; and Shannon Cheatham of Lewisburg, a member of Alpha Delta Pi.

SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED — UT Martin’s National Forensic Academy (NFA) scholarship fund was established through a gift from UT Martin alumna Katherine Tosh (far right) of Tosh Farms in Henry. Tosh is a 2012 graduate of the inaugural session of the NFA Collegiate Program and is employed by the Henry County Sheriff’s Office. The 2013 scholarship recipients are (from left) Valerie Favazza, Kayla Solowey, Caleb Watts, Danielle Stagner and Aubrey Granger. The scholarship recipients are pictured with Dr. Brian Donavant (left), UT Martin associate professor of criminal justice. The University of Tennessee’s National Forensic Academy Collegiate Scholarship Fund provides financial assistance to students enrolling in UT Martin’s National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program. This award is open to all applicants with the primary criteria based upon academic excellence.
Rotarian service project helps 16 area families

Martin Rotary, Martin Interact Club and UTM Rotaract Club joined forces this past weekend to help 16 families in the community — with activities ranging from small handyman jobs, yard work, painting, window cleaning, attic cleaning, winterizing houses and more.

A total of 17 Rotarians, 23 Interactors (high school Rotarians) and five Rotaractors (collegiate Rotarians) showed up to help. Most work teams were done in a few hours, but a few worked longer — as much as 13 hours.

But when it was over, one thing was obvious — all the workers felt really good about helping folks in their community. This is a new service project for Martin Rotary called "Helping Hands" — one they plan to continue a couple of times each year.

The next work day will be March 15, 2014. Anyone in the community who needs help must apply and Martin Rotary will select those which can be served.

HELPING HANDS
— Martin Rotarian Steve Holt does some touch up paint work as part of the service project.

based on need — whether Rotary has the expertise available and the number of workers available.

Anyone who has a need may pick up an application from any Rotarian; at We Care, Martin Senior Center, Northwest Tennessee Development District office, City Hall or WCMT radio station; or by finding it online at http://martinrotary.org.
UT Martin athletic director Phil Dane told the school Thursday he is retiring effective Dec. 31.

"It's something that's been on my mind for about the last eight or nine months," Dane said.

Dane has worked at UTM since 1979 and been the athletic director since 2000. He said he wanted to wait until the tennis and golf facility improvements were complete and make sure the football stadium renovation project was off to a good start before he left.

Dane

Continued from Page D1

Chancellor Tom Rakes said he was not expecting Dane to retire but appreciated advance notice.

"He has helped guide our athletic programs to a higher level of championships and competing in general," Rakes said of Dane. "So I think he's been very successful."

Rakes said he'll soon form a search committee of about six to 10 people and would like to have a new athletic director hired in January or February. He hopes to interview at least three or four candidates with management experience in an NCAA Division I athletic department.

Rakes said he'll appoint an interim AD after Dec. 31 if necessary.

Asked what he is most proud of since 2000, Dane first named the facility improvements UTM has made in the past 10 years, which he said include every athletic venue on campus.

After that he mentioned athletic success and players' academic progress. He said UTM athletes have averaged a GPA of at least 3.0 for the past three semesters.

Dane said the next step for UTM is to increase scholarship funding to the maximum amount allowed by the NCAA in order to become more competitive in all sports.

"We've got a ways to go to get to the top across the board," he said.

Still, Dane said UTM has gained respect in the Ohio Valley Conference.

"People sit up and take notice when they have to play UT Martin in football or basketball anymore, and that was not always the case," he said.

He has enjoyed the school's conference championships and NCAA tournament appearances in all sports, though he noted the football team's OVC championship in 2006 in particular contrasted starkly with a history of losing.

UTM has made multiple NCAA tournament appearances in women's basketball, soccer and softball in the past five years.

A former baseball player at Tennessee Tech, Dane regrets not being able to provide UTM's struggling baseball program more resources to succeed.

"It would have meant taking money away from sports that are higher-profile," he said.

Dane said he might take a part-time job as a consultant and hopes to work with people in higher education like university administrators, athletic directors or college deans. He said he'll also do more volunteer work.

Dane was vice chancellor for business and finance at UTM for 13 years before becoming athletic director. He looks forward to attending Skyhawk sporting events without being responsible for the business and logistics an athletic director must handle.

"I was a huge fan before and will be a huge fan afterward in a much more relaxed state," Dane said.
UT Martin’s Dane stepping down as AD

By KEVIN WEAKS
Messenger Sports

Phil Dane says he’s done.

The UT Martin athletic director since 2000, Dane has decided to retire, effective Dec. 31. He made the announcement official in a meeting with athletics staff members and coaches Wednesday morning.

“This is something I’ve been contemplating for awhile now,” Dane told The Messenger Wednesday afternoon. “It was something I wanted to do last spring, but there were some other things I wanted to see through — the Rhodes Golf Center dedication and to make sure the football stadium project got kicked off. The timing is now.”

Dane concludes a professional career at the school that began in 1979.

“During his time as director of intercollegiate athletics, Phil — along with many excellent coaches and talented athletes — has guided many of our programs to higher competitive levels than ever before,” UTM chancellor Tom Rakes said in a press release. “Many of our athletic facilities have undergone upgrades that rival many within the Ohio Valley Conference and, of course, better support our student-athletes.”

Rakes will announce the details of the search process at a later date with assistant ADs Richard Schoebel and Danelle Fabianich to conduct the department’s day-to-day activities following Dane’s retirement, according to the release.

“It has been a blessing to be a part of this. When I came here as internal auditor, I never dreamed I’d have this opportunity. I’ve made some amazing memories. I’ve been to Cameron Indoor Arena (Duke) and the blue turf at Boise and all points in between. I couldn’t have asked for a greater experience. I just want to thank everybody who’s ever bought a ticket or made a private donation because that’s what makes it all possible.”

Dane can look back at a successful 13-year tenure at the helm as he led the way for numerous facility improvements, worked out a formula to keep football as a scholarship sport, saw women’s programs flourish and oversaw a marked improvement in the overall academic standing of student-athletes.

“The one that comes to mind the most is the facilities upgrade, and I give a lot of that credit to the Bob Carroll (football) building, which wouldn’t have happened without the lead gift from the (Tom) Elam family,” Dane said. “That helped us convince young men that we were serious about competing in football, it got us over the hump.”

Football, basketball, baseball, golf, soccer, softball and tennis had their facilities upgraded, a significant portion of the improvements coming from an increase in student fees that was approved by 63 percent of the student body in 2007.

“When coach (Jason) Simpson came in 2006 and we won the conference championship, it really energized our student body,” Dane said. “When we went before them saying we want more of our sports to have a chance to win conference championships, they responded with a two-thirds majority approval of what was basically a tax on themselves, which is almost unheard of. Other schools have tried to get that done through referendums and failed miserably. That was a significant amount that enabled those improvements to take place. Once a student-athlete decides he or she likes the coach and will have a chance to play, the next thing they do is compare the facilities. It makes a big difference.”

The tennis courts recently underwent a major face-lift, and the home seating and press box of the Graham Stadium is set to be demolished and replaced beginning at the conclusion of the 2014 season.

UT Martin has produced 20 OVC regular season or tournament championships from seven sports since 2000, including five first-time champions, and

(See Page 9, Col. 5)
Dane came to athletics from the position of vice chancellor for business and finance, where he served from 1987-2000. That non-athletic background was not favored by many UTM supporters, but Dane felt he won over most of that group during his time as AD.

“I did hear it,” Dane said of the critics “In fact, some people I have the greatest respect for today told me that at the time. I said that if I were in their shoes, I’d feel the same way. I got into this in a very unconventional way. I asked for the opportunity to do it because I felt I had something to offer. I just let them roll off my back and didn’t hold any ill will because I didn’t feel that was a legitimate concern. Over time, I know some of those same people have come to me recently and said, ‘You know I wasn’t for you in the beginning, but I hope you also know you’ve done a great job.’”

Dane said, “I’m disappointed that we weren’t able to make the improvements in baseball that we needed to fast enough to have the same success there. But, hopefully, that will change soon.”

Dane was a scholarship baseball player and three-year letterman at Tennessee Tech.

Looking ahead, Dane has a wish list for the athletics department’s next generation.

“I hope there will continue to be an emphasis on the student-athlete and decisions will be made in their best interest,” Dane said. “I’d like to see us add more sports. That’s more money, but we’re never going to be able to realistically compete for the Commissioners’ Cup (all sports trophy) in our conference. The way the calculations are done, you need enough sports in your inventory to be able to throw out a bad grade, so to speak. We have the Rhodes Golf Center now, which can accommodate a women’s golf team. I’d like to see a way to fund that. I would like to see the university fully fund scholarships in all our sports, just do everything you can to give your student-athletes a chance to compete in the conference. They’re all important, but we don’t fund them the way the NCAA allows.”

Dane indicated he has no plans for his retirement, other than to spend more time with his wife, Debbie. He did say, however, he would entertain ideas to help the university on a part-time basis, if called.
Members of the 2013 University of Tennessee Martin Homecoming court included Chi Omega member Anneliese Alexander, of Bradford; Shannon Cheatham, of Lewisburg, a member of Alpha Delta Pi; Tori Johnson, of Trenton, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority; Katie Jarvis, of Bartlett, who was representing the UT Martin Residence Hall Association; and Alpha Kappa Psi's Chiquilla Sanders, of Bartlett. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

The newly formed Skyhawk Veterans Association, UT Martin students who have served in the armed services, enjoyed Quad City, an annual homecoming event at UT Martin. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme 'A Roarin' Good Time.' Members of the Skyhawk Veterans Association participating in Quad City included Johnny Dyer, of Union City; Michael Cochran, of Union City; Russell Whitlow, of Greenfield; Kevin Klutts, of Sharon; David Crum, of Kenton; Melanie Young, of the UT Martin Success Center (Transfer and Nontraditional Student Services); and Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, the group's adviser. Carls is from Jackson. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Members of the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority enjoyed Quad City, an annual homecoming event at UT Martin. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme 'A Roarin' Good Time.' Several alumnae came back to campus for Homecoming, including (from left) Felisha Jones, of Bolivar; Giovonnie Pierce, of Tiptonville; Kyndka Dancy, of Brownsville; Ra'D'Shina Lyons, of San Diego, Calif.; and Kori Roger, of Jackson. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
Members of the Chi Omega sorority didn’t mind dressing up for ‘A Roarin’ Good Time,’ the Homecoming theme this fall at UT Martin. From left: Carly White, of Union City; Paige Mathis, of Trenton; Katelyn Ray, of Union City; and Becca Richards, of Crockett County, dressed up in flapper costumes. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Alumnae of Zeta Tau Alpha came back to campus for Quad City, an annual homecoming event at UT Martin. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme ‘A Roarin’ Good Time.’ Susan Beard, left, from Birmingham, Ala., is a member of the Zeta Tau Alpha national staff. She met Vicki Clark, of Collierville; Darlene Burks, of Dyersburg; and Vickie Shackelford, of Counce, at Quad City. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers James Truett, of Jackson, and Adrian Montegue, of Jackson, enjoyed Quad City, an annual homecoming event at UT Martin. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme 'A Roarin' Good Time.' PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Lin Dunn, left, of Dresden, head coach of the WNBA's Indiana Fever and UT Martin alumna; Lisa Beringer, also a UT Martin alumna and a member of Chi Omega sorority; and Ashton Jennings, interim director of UT Martin's Ned McWherter Institute for Collaboration and Innovation and associate director for development, attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the UT Martin sorority lodges. The groundbreaking ceremony was part of UT Martin's 2013 Homecoming festivities. Jennings, of Dresden, is also a UT Martin alumnus. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Tori Johnson, center, a senior from Trenton, along with her mom, Pam Johnson, and her father, Mark Johnson, a 1984 graduate of UT Martin, spent some time together at Quad City, an annual homecoming event at UT Martin. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme 'A Roarin' Good Time.' Johnson was crowned Homecoming queen later at the UT Martin football game. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Kelsey Carr, right, of McKenzie, used Homecoming 2013 at UT Martin as a chance to see her parents, Kenny and Jackie Carr, left. The Carrs enjoyed most of the morning at Quad City, an annual homecoming event. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme 'A Roarin' Good Time.' PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Dr. Robert Nanney, center, of Dresden, is joined by Diamond Adams, left, of Memphis, and Tomi Parrish, of Martin, on Oct. 5 during UT Martin's 2013 Quad City, an annual homecoming event. Booths were decorated throughout the quadrangle featuring the theme 'A Roarin' Good Time.' Nanney is the communications department chairman, Adams is a sophomore communications student and Parrish is a communications department faculty member. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
Intermediate iPad class offered at UTM

The University of Tennessee Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education is sponsoring an intermediate iPad course for students from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Jessica Crews Garcia, UT Martin Technology Center instructor, will teach the course, according to a news release.

The course is an intermediate class for iPad users. The release said students will learn tips and tricks to get the most out of their iPad, while discovering apps for organizing, communicating, educating, reading, writing and having fun. Topics such as iCloud, app searches, photo transfers between devices, advance settings and the newest iOS features and gestures will be covered.

The registration fee is $75. Some apps that will be demonstrated cost money, so participants are asked to bring a notepad to take notes or to have money available in an Apple account. Participants also must bring their Apple ID and password, which was created at the time of iPad purchase.

To register, call ECOS at (731) 881-7082 or visit www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php.

UTM to host Young Writers Conference

Aspiring young writers can improve their writing skills at the annual Young Writers Conference on Nov. 8 at the University of Tennessee Martin.

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

The one-day conference is designed for students in grades nine through 12 who want to improve their creative and professional writing abilities. It is open to students recommended by their teachers on the basis of academic merit and artistic promise.

A series of writing workshops will be taught by UT Martin faculty and visiting poet Heather Dobbins.

A workshop for teachers will cover how to use creative writing to meet Common Core standards. Other events include a luncheon, a reading by Dobbins and an open mic for students.

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

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

Registration is limited to 100 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms must be received by Thursday along with payment to UT Martin for the conference registration fee. Participants can register at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php or by regular mail.

For more information or to register, contact Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English, at (731) 881-7296 or lachance@utm.edu.
Army to discontinue Tennessee Tech ROTC program

By Tony Gonzalez  
| The Tennessean

The Army has announced that it will discontinue ROTC programs at three Tennessee universities.

The officer-training programs at Tennessee Tech University, East Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee Martin are among 13 programs in the nation that the U.S. Department of Defense is closing. Nationwide, more than 1,300 universities train about 33,000 ROTC cadets.

The Army recently announced the closures as part of a broader push to update the ROTC training program and diversify recruiting.

At Tennessee Tech in Cookeville, university President Phil Oldham blasted the plan in a blog post, calling it a bad decision and vowing to ask elected leaders and alumni to work to reverse the decision. The university has 69 cadets in the program, and has graduated 1,662 commissioned officers since 1950.

On his http://blogs.tntech.edu/president/?p=583" alt="" title="" target="_blank">university blog, Oldham lamented the "cold, matter-of-fact call" he received from an Army commander about the decision.

"I completely disagree with the conclusion drawn behind closed doors, but I am even more justifiably angry and saddened by the process itself. With more than 60 years of commitment to producing many of the U.S. military's best leaders, Tennessee Tech has earned the respect and common courtesy of due process," he wrote. "We were not consulted or notified prior to or during this review ...

UT Martin AD Dane Steps Down

By Justin Walters  
By jwalters@wbbjtv.com  
Story Created: Oct 26, 2013 at 11:17 PM CDT  
Story Updated: Oct 29, 2013 at 4:49 PM CDT

MARTIN, Tenn. - A chapter filled with a decade of progression comes to a close at University of Tennessee at Martin.

Phil Dane, who has served as UTM’s athletic director since 2000, announced his mid-year retirement last week.

"It's been rewarding. A lot of great experiences," Dane said. "I think my years as Vice Chancellor helped prepare me very well for this job."

Prior to transitioning to the Skyhawks athletic department, Dane spent 13 years as the Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance.

Dane has had an extensive journey at UTM. Earning his MBA from the university in 1984 was only the beginning of his mark left on the school.

"The athletic directors in the Ohio Valley Conference are really impressed with where we [UTM] have moved with our facilities. With the exception of football, I think we are right there at the average or better," Dane explained.

In his tenure, Dane has witnessed a multitude of facility upgrades from the tennis courts to the football stadium.

Albeit, the numerous regular season and conference accolades were enjoyable during his time, the academic records by students is his most memorable feat.

"I think that academics is attitude related. It starts from the top with the coaches. I take the most pride in that."

Dane's retirement is effective Dec. 31.
Hunt to portray Crockett at Big Cypress Tree festival

Tennessee Congressman and renowned bear hunter David "Davy" Crockett will visit Big Cypress Tree Fall Festival Saturday at 9:30 a.m.

University of Tennessee at Martin communications professor Dr. Arthur Hunt will portray the famous volunteer at the state park's annual fall festival in a presentation based on Crockett's autobiography written at the height of his political career.

"The Story of Davy Crockett as Told by Himself" covers Crockett's youth to his departure to Texas, capturing the frontiersman dress, voice and mannerisms.

"There are two Davy Crocketts," Hunt said. "The first one is the real Crockett who lived, married, hunted, politicked and died at the Alamo. The second Crockett is that of legend as reflected in theatrical productions, almanacs, books and films. "Crockett's autobiography attempted to set the record straight, while also advancing his political career in a possible U.S. presidential bid," Hunt said.

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

A resident of West Tennessee for 13 years, Crockett traveled to Texas in 1835 to explore new lands for his family after losing a fourth bid to U.S. Congress.

The festival begins at 9 a.m.
VOLCANO SIMULATION — Members of Dr. Stan Dunagan’s geology classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin were able to learn the significance of dissolved gases in magma and their contribution to explosive eruptions. Dunagan used liquid nitrogen, ping pong balls, Captain Crunch cereal and packing peanuts in his simulation.

Wilson enters scholars program

Michael Wilson, of Dresden, a student at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has been introduced into the Pre-Med Scholars program.

The program is slated to last two years with at least 10 new students beginning each year.

The program includes three parts: a series of shadowing opportunities; subject-specific MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test) review; and a test prep course at the end of the two-year program.

Students selected for the Pre-Medical Scholars program must have taken biology 130 and 140 and students who have taken a math course.

“We want to get more students in medical school,” Pitz said. “Our students are very competitive, but this program will make them more competitive.”
Local high school students learn about the dangers of texting while driving

By BENITA EVANS
Special to the Press

Educating young drivers is the goal of “Text Out,” a campaign set up by a group of UT Martin students.

As part of a class project, members of UTM’s Health Education and Promotion class went to Greenfield, Dresden and Westview high schools to inform the students of the dangers of texting and driving. The college crew asked the tech savvy teens to fill out a survey and take a pledge in hopes of getting the teens thinking about the risks.

Information provided by Dr. Todd Sherman’s students revealed 51 percent of 16 to 19-year-olds text while driving, a disturbing statistic for any parent of a teen driver. The group feels that the campaign has the potential to lower those stats.

Melissa Johnson, a member of the class, says, “Texting and driving is slowly, but surely, creeping up to potentially becoming a leading cause of death among teenagers. We wanted to do this program because we believe that getting the facts out to the teenagers in our community is the first step on getting teenagers to change their viewpoint on texting when they get behind the wheel.”

The pledge states:
- I pledge not to text and drive because distracted driving is the leading cause of teen deaths in the USA, and texting is the main distraction.
- I pledge not to text and drive because it takes your eyes off the road for almost 5 seconds at a time.
- I pledge not to text and drive because it makes me 23 times more likely to have an accident.
- I pledge not to text and drive because texting and driving kills.

The true test of the event is the young driver and if they keep that pledge. Parents can help by encouraging their youngster to ignore the phone when driving. If the message cannot wait, pull off the road in a safe area and put the vehicle in park before reading and answering a text.
UT Martin AD Phil Dane announces retirement

By KEVIN WEEKS
Press Sports

Phil Dane says he's done.

The UT Martin athletic director since 2000, Dane has decided to retire, effective Dec. 31. He made the announcement official in a meeting with athletics staff members and coaches Wednesday morning.

"This is something I've been contemplating for awhile now," Dane told The Weakley County Press Wednesday afternoon. "It was something I wanted to do last spring, but there were some other things I wanted to see through — the Rhodes Golf Center dedication and to make sure the football stadium project got kicked off. The timing is now."

Dane concludes a professional career at the school that began in 1979.

"During his time as director of intercollegiate athletics, Phil — along with many excellent coaches and talented athletes — has guided many of our programs to higher competitive levels than ever before," UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes said in a press release. "Many of our athletic facilities have undergone upgrades that rival many within the Ohio Valley Conference and, of course, better support our student-athletes."

Rakes will announce the details of the search process at a later date with assistant ADs Richard Schoeberl and Danelle Fabianich to conduct the department’s day-to-day activities following Dane’s retirement, according to the release.

"It has been a blessing to be a part of this. When I came here as internal audit-itor, I never dreamed I'd have this opportunity. I've made some amazing memories. I've been to Cameron Indoor Arena (Duke) and the blue turf at Boise and all points in between. I couldn't have asked for a greater experience. I just want to thank everybody who's ever bought a ticket or made a private donation because that's what makes it all possible."

Dane can look back at a successful 13-year tenure at the helm as he led the way for numerous facility improvements, worked out a formula to keep football as a scholarship sport, saw women's programs flourish and oversaw a marked improvement in the overall academic standing of student-athletes.

"The one that comes to mind the most is the facilities upgrade, and I give a lot of that credit to the Bob Carroll (football) building, which wouldn't have happened without the lead gift from the (Tom) Elam family," Dane said. "That helped us convince young men that we were serious about competing in football; it got us over the hump."

Football, basketball, baseball, golf, soccer, softball and tennis had their facilities upgraded, a significant portion of the improvements coming from an increase in student fees that was approved by 63 percent of the student body in 2007.

"When coach (Jason) Simpson came in 2006 and we won the conference championship, it really energized our student body," Dane said. "When we went before them saying we want more of our sports to have a chance to win conference championships, they responded with a two-thirds majority approval of what was basically a tax on themselves, which is almost unheard of. Other schools have tried to get that done through referendums and failed miserably. That was a significant amount that enabled those improvements to take place. Once a student-athlete decides he or she likes the coach and will have a chance to play, the next thing they do is compare the facilities. It makes a big difference."

The tennis courts recently underwent a major face-lift, and the home seating and press box of the Graham Stadium is set to be demolished and replaced beginning at the conclusion of the 2014 season.

UT Martin has produced 20 OVC regular season or tournament championships from seven sports since 2000, including five first-time champions, and 16 All-America picks.

Academically, nine of the university's 14 all-time OVC Scholar-Athletes have graduated during Dane's time. The athletic department has set new standards for recipients of the OVC Medal of Honor (141) and

See Dane, Page 11
Dane

Commissioner's Honor Roll (1,077). UTM athletes have reached a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 for three consecutive semesters.

"I'm especially proud of the academic performance of our student-athletes," Dane said. "They win all kinds of academic awards all the time, and I don't think you do that if you don't set the tone from the top that academics are important. We tried to do that, and our coaches have responded. We're recruiting more student-athletes who are serious about their education. So, I'm really proud of that.

"I'm proud to say that we don't have any programs on probation academically or any APR problems. I'm really proud of everybody for that."

Dane came to athletics from the position of vice chancellor for business and finance, where he served from 1987-2000. That non-athletic background was not favored by many UTM supporters, but Dane felt he won over most of that group during his time as AD.

"I did hear it." Dane said. "In fact, some people have the greatest respect for today told me that at the time. I said that if I were in their shoes, I'd feel the same way. I got into this in a very unconventional way. I asked for the opportunity to do it because I felt I had something to offer. I just let them roll off my back and didn't hold any ill will because I didn't feel that was a legitimate concern. Over time, I know some of those same people have come to me recently and said, 'You know I wasn't for you in the beginning, but I hope you also know you've done a great job.' So, I don't worry about those things and didn't at the time because we needed all those people to help us. And, they did in spite of the reservations about me."

His love of athletics and his position of vice chancellor enabled Dane to work with the ADs prior to his tenure in building their budgets and keep up with the NCAA rules. When he was named the director, fundraising and marketing proved to be the areas where he had to do the most learning on the job. Fundraising never became a favorite activity, but he understands how important it will be to the next person to take the job.

As a result of Dane's decision, UTM will begin the search for a replacement who will be faced with hiring a new baseball head coach as the first major order of business.

Ironically, the inability to build a consistently winning baseball program is the area Dane looks back on his tenure with disappointment.

"The timing is right, particularly so the baseball coach can be picked by someone who's going to be here long-term," Dane said. "I'm disappointed that we weren't able to make the improvements in baseball that we needed to fast enough to have the same success there. But, hopefully, that will change soon."

Dane was a scholarship baseball player and three-year letterman at Tennessee Tech.

Looking ahead, Dane has a wish list for the athletics department's next generation.

"I hope there will continue to be an emphasis on the student-athlete and decisions will be made in their best interest," Dane said. "I'd like to see us add more sports. That's more money, but we're never going to be able to realistically compete for the Commissioners' Cup (all sports trophy) in our conference. The way the calculations are done, you need enough sports in your inventory to be able to throw out a bad grade, so to speak. We have the Rhodes Golf Center now, which can accommodate a women's golf team. I'd like to see a way to fund that. I would like to see the university fully fund scholarships in all our sports, just do everything you can to give your student-athletes a chance to compete in the conference. They're all important, but we don't fund them the way the NCAA allows."

Dane indicated he has no plans for his retirement, other than to spend more time with his wife, Debbie. He did say, however, he would entertain ideas to help the university on a part-time basis, if called.
3 Tenn. ROTC programs canceled

ROTC programs at three Tennessee universities will end.

The Army announced it is closing its officer-training programs at Tennessee Tech University, East Tennessee State University, and the University of Tennessee in Martin.

Nationwide, the Department of Defense is closing 13 programs.

The Army says it's part of a bigger push to update the training program and diversify recruiting.

US Army Decision Could Affect Student Enrollment At UT Martin

By CHRISTINE JOSEPH, [wuot.org](http://wuot.org/)

The University of Tennessee in Martin has been losing students over the last two years, and a recent U.S. Army decision could accelerate that decline.

The U.S. Army says it plans to close three Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs in Tennessee within the next two years including the program at UT Martin.

UT Martin’s Director of University Relations Bud Grimes says that decision follows on the heels of a two-year enrollment decline that started with the economy as fewer rural students chose to attend college after high school. Then the Tennessee Complete College Act changed where many students choose to earn dual enrollment credits.

"When we look at the things that are setting us back then when you throw in the ROTC part of this puzzle in there, then - everything matters. People again don't see 12 or 15 students a year as being a big deal but it is, because then you have to go out and recruit those students that you're missing," says Grimes.

"There is no question the loss of students with the ROTC program over time is going to be felt," he says.

Grimes says the university will appeal the Army’s decision.
Writers clubhouses slated at UTM

The West Tennessee Writing Project will host concurrent Young Writers Clubhouses on Nov. 9 at the University of Tennessee at Martin and at the UT Martin Parsons Center.

The cost is $35 and the clubhouses are open to children in grades 3 through 8.

The theme for the UT Martin clubhouse is “Just Pin It!” and it will focus on organizing new ideas related to student hobbies.

The Parsons theme is “Picture Your Words,” in which students will write in a variety of genres in response to visual images.

More information for both clubhouses can be found on WTWP’s website: http://www.utm.edu/departments/wtwp.

For registration information, call UT Martin’s Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7080.

ATTENDS PREVIEW — Steven Buckelew (center) of Obion County and his parents, Dennis and Susan Buckelew, attended the University of Tennessee at Martin’s recent Fall Preview Day. Students had the opportunity to tour the UT Martin campus and meet with faculty and staff to learn about academic programs, financial aid, scholarships, housing and student life.

HORRIFYING AFFLICTIONS — An affliction of the body can really grate on the mind, body and soul, as portrayed by Laura Foltz in Masquerade Theatre’s Halloween Storytellers event. The last of three evenings of scary stories will be held on Halloween at the Capitol Theatre in downtown Union City beginning at 7.

UT Martin programs recognized

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

UT Martin is among three public Tennessee higher education institutions listed.


Both recognitions for UT Martin were announced in recent weeks.

“Students at the University of Tennessee at Martin enjoy and benefit from the opportunity to attend one of a very select group of colleges and universities providing quality and affordability in higher education,” said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

To be considered for the designation “America’s 100 Best College Buys,” an institution must be an accredited, four-year institution offering bachelor’s degrees.

The institution must also offer full residential facilities, including residence halls and dining services.

Additionally, the institution must have had an entering freshman class in fall 2012 with a high school grade point average and/or SAT/ACT score equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen.

Also, the out-of-state cost of attendance in 2013-14 for three quarters or two semesters must be below the national average cost of attendance or not exceed the national average cost by more than 10 percent.
UT Martin Young Writers Conference set for November 8

Aspiring young writers can improve their writing skills at the annual Young Writers Conference, Friday, November 8, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The conference will run from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in the Boling University Center and is sponsored by the UT Martin Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

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

Dobbins, of Memphis, is a graduate from the College Scholars program at UT Knoxville. She recently began contributing poetry reviews for The Rumpus and Cutbank, and was Beloit Poetry Journal's featured poet for June 2013.

"Our visiting author (Dobbins) is incredible and has a great background working with young people," said Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English. "Also, we are collaborating with the West Tennessee Writing Project to provide a professional development workshop for teachers."

The workshop for teachers will cover how to use creative writing to meet common core standards. Other events include a luncheon, a reading by Dobbins and an open mic for students.

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

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

West Tennessee Writing Project offers Writing Clubhouses

The West Tennessee Writing Project will host concurrent Young Writers Clubhouses on Saturday, November 9, at UT Martin and at the UT Martin Parsons Center.

The cost is $35 and the clubhouses are open to children in grades 3 through 8. The theme for the UT Martin clubhouse is "Just Pin It," and it will focus on organizing new ideas related to student hobbies.

The Parsons theme is "Picture Your Words," in which students will write in a variety of genres in response to visual images.

More information for both clubhouses can be found on WTP's website: http://www.utm.edu/departments/wtwp/. For registration information, call UT Martin's office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 881-7080.
Two crowned at Miss Tennessee qualifying pageants at UT Martin

Erica Glisson, of Dresden, was crowned Miss University of Tennessee at Martin at the combined Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant on Saturday night in the Harriet Fulton Theater in the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus. The UT Martin nursing student won the 2014 title and the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant this summer in Jackson.

Also headed to the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant is Camille Garner, of Tullahoma, who won the Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival title. She is a junior pre-dental major at Tennessee Tech.

"Considering Saturday night was the first time singing in front of anyone, ever, I was pretty excited when I just finished without forgetting the words, let alone getting the honor of representing the University of Tennessee at Martin," Glisson said.

The senior sang Etta James' At Last.

Glisson is the second nursing student to win the Miss UT Martin title. Mandy Hopper Braswell won the crown in 2006.

Glisson's philanthropy is Hoop It: Healthy Living for Life. The senior had a stellar high school basketball career at Dresden High School and played her freshman year at UT Martin.

"I picked this philanthropy because I wanted to focus on healthy living," Glisson said. "I singed out basketball because I have played for 13 years."

She led UT Martin with 76 assists and helped the Skyhawks advance to the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament during the 2009-10 season. She was a two-time all-district selection in basketball at Dresden High School. She also played softball in high school.

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Garner, who has been in more than 20 Miss Tennessee preliminary pageants, said her recent victory is the result of being persistent and dedicated.

"I did not see this coming. The interview portion of this pageant was so hard; they asked everything from current events, politics and the controversial."

Garner said she has watched the annual Miss America pageant religiously with her mother.

"The goal is to become Miss America," she said. "Since I moved to college I have had to stay on the phone the entire time with my mom."

The winners led a field of 10 contestants, and a total of $4,400 was awarded to the titleholders and runners-up. Miss UT Martin 2012 Jordan Gunn, of Dyersburg, crowned Glisson. Garner was crowned by Madison Hardy, of Philadelphia, Miss., the 2012 Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival.

Hardy, and Miss Tennessee Shelby Thompson entertained the audience with vocal selections. Hardy opened the show with Katy Perry's Roar and sang Sunday Kind of Love, which was her competition song in the recent Miss Tennessee pageant. She also sang Natural Woman.

Hollie Holt, of Martin, directed the pageant.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with two talented, bright and beautiful young ladies," Holt said. "They are both competitive and ready to start their year of service. They will prepare and train for the next six months for competition in fitness, talent, interview and evening gown. They will also work to raise donations and awareness for the Children's Miracle Network and children's hospitals as well as their own personal platforms."

Runners-up for the Miss UT Martin crown were Courtney Caton, of Huntingdon, second; and Shelby Dotson, of Rutherford, first.

Runners-up for Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival were UT Martin students Dylan Brown, of Martin, second; and Victoria Abbott, of Rutherford, first.

"I am excited about winning," Glisson said. "If I am going to do this, I am going to do it right."
Phil Dane, who has served as the athletics director at the University of Tennessee at Martin since 2000, announced his retirement from the university effective Dec. 31, 2013 in a meeting with athletics staff and coaches on Thursday.

Dane previously served as the UT Martin Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance for 13 years before moving to the athletics department.

Overall, he has served in numerous roles at the university since 1979.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes recognized Dane as a “tireless, experienced athletics director” who has moved the athletics program forward on many fronts.

“During his time as director of intercollegiate athletics, Phil, along with many excellent coaches and talented athletes, has guided many of our programs to higher competitive levels than ever before,” Rakes said. “Many of our athletic facilities have undergone upgrades that rival many within the Ohio Valley Conference and, of course, better support our student-athletes.”

Chancellor Rakes will announce details of the search process for a successor at a later date. Assistant athletics directors Richard Schoeberl and Danelle Fabianich will conduct the day-to-day activities of the athletics department following Dane’s retirement.

“I have come to this decision after much prayer and consideration for the best interests of Skyhawk athletics,” Dane said. “I have been blessed to work with a tremendous staff, inside and outside our department, to enhance the facilities at every venue where our student-athletes compete. Most importantly, I have tried to develop a culture of academic excellence, and our staff and students have embraced that culture by achieving unprecedented academic success.”

Dane has overseen numerous facility improvements, OVC championship teams and improved academic progress in his 13 years as UT Martin athletics director.

Dane administered facility upgrades for football, basketball, baseball, golf, soccer, softball and tennis facilities in his tenure. A significant portion of these improvements came from an increase in student fees after a proposal was submitted to the Student Government Association in 2007 and supported by 63 percent of the voting student body.

Almost $2,000,000 in private funding was raised that funded a significant portion of the Bob Carroll Football Building, FieldTurf for the football stadium and the new Rhodes Golf Center.

Since Dane took over as director of athletics in 2000, the Skyhawks have produced 20 Ohio Valley Conference regular season or tournament championships.

Seven different UT Martin sports programs have captured an OVC championship under the direction of Dane, five of which won their first-ever OVC championship.

Dane’s tenure also includes the supervision of the highly successful non-OVC rodeo and equestrian programs.

Individually, UT Martin has produced 16 All-Americans in Dane’s 13 years as Skyhawk director of athletics.

Nine of UT Martin’s 14 all-time OVC Scholar-Athletes (the OVC’s highest individual honor) have graduated during Dane’s tenure. Skyhawk athletics has set a new program record for OVC Medal of Honor recipients (at least a 3.25 GPA) in three straight years under Dane, capped off with 116 UT Martin student-athletes (and 17 Medal of Honor recipients) earning OVC academic accolades in 2012-13.

Overall, 1,077 Skyhawk student-athletes have tallied OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll status with 141 of those receiving an OVC Medal of Honor under Dane. The Skyhawk student-athletes have achieved at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA for three consecutive semesters.

An Air Force veteran, Dane was a three-year baseball letterman at Tennessee Tech before graduating with a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1978. He earned his MBA from UT Martin in 1984.
SOYBEAN PRINCESS - Carly Reams, a 16-year-old sophomore at South Fulton High School was crowned Tennessee Soybean Princess, in the age 13-17 division of the pageant held Oct. 26 in the Fine Arts Building on the University of Tennessee at Martin Campus. The daughter of Thea and Jeff Vowell and Charlie and DeAnna Reams of South Fulton, she chose as her platform, “Hometown Pride” incorporating her goal of completing Pharmacy School and returning to the twin cities to operate her own hometown pharmacy. As part of the competition, Reams had to submit a resume and essay, undergo interviews and compete in the areas of evening wear and fitness, for which she was also awarded the 2014 fitness award. The Tennessee Soybean Princess crown serves as a preliminary to the state Miss Tennessee Outstanding Teen pageant, scheduled for March 15, 2014, in Jackson, Tenn. (Photo submitted)

Kimberly Rimmer is resident of Milan and a new kindergarten teacher at Stigall Primary School. She is a 2004 graduate of Milan High School. In 2012 she earned her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Her goals for this year include utilizing the teaching skills she acquired to teach her students the skills that are needed to succeed.

“I feel that teaching is the most rewarding occupation.” She went on to add, “You can see the effort that you put forth almost instantly when a child realizes that they can do something that they could not previously do.”

She sees as her biggest challenge, not getting too attached to the students. She said that anytime she has to leave a group of students she really misses them.
UT-Martin finance professor weighs in on Fed policy

Thomas Payne, a University of Tennessee at Martin finance professor, discussed the economic outlook for 2014 at the Independent Bankers Convention, hosted by the Tennessee Bankers Association today in Franklin.

In particular, Payne addressed how the future economic picture will impact policy from the Federal Reserve — and what those policies mean for Tennessee banks.

The Fed's policy committee said today that it will continue its monthly bond purchases and keep short-term interest rates at virtually zero. Both policies have been designed to encourage economic growth.

Once the central bank begins to reduce those bond purchases, Payne said, Tennessee banks need to be prepared for interest rates to rise.

“When interest rates do go up, you better be ready,” Payne told the bankers. “I don’t think we’ll see an interest rate shock, but I do think we’ll see interest rates go up.”

Scott Harrison covers government and economic development, banking and law.
Payne, UTM chair and professor, earns president’s award from LSU

Dr. Thomas H. Payne, Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and professor of finance at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has been named the recipient of the T. Eugene Spragens, III, President’s Award from the Louisiana State University Graduate School of Banking.

The selection criteria include teaching performance as measured by student and administration evaluations and involvement in promoting and supporting the school and its educational mission.

The T. Eugene Spragens, III, President’s Award was established and funded in April 1999 by Gene Spragens, past president of the LSU Graduate School of Banking. The Graduate School of Banking is a professional educational program for commercial bank officers, which has been taught on the LSU campus for 65 years and has more than 15,000 graduates. The school’s dedicated faculty is its most valuable resource, and this award recognizes this importance. It is awarded annually.

Payne is a member of the LSU’s faculty and teaches monetary economics and interpreting economic change.

He consistently receives the highest ratings by his students for the thoroughness, clarity and depth of his lectures.

Payne holds a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from the University of Arkansas, an MBA with a concentration in finance from the University of Texas at Dallas and a Ph.D. in finance from the University of Arkansas.

Since coming to academia from the private sector where he worked for two Fortune 500 companies, Payne has published more than 30 peer-reviewed articles and has earned a reputation as an outstanding speaker, author, teacher and consultant.

An avid proponent of experiential learning, he connects students to careers through a variety of travel study, internship, and professional activities. Payne has served as a visiting professor at the University of Orleans in France where he taught financial analysis and risk management, partnered with the Financial Services Volunteer Corporation to assist the Savings Bank of Albania during its privatization and, in 2005, hosted a lending and risk management program for Russian bank executives.

Payne served as UT Martin’s interim chair of accounting, finance, economics and political science from 2007-2013.

He served in a leadership role in the establishment and delivery of UT Martin’s acclaimed online MBA focusing on banking and financial services professionals.

Payne, a frequent speaker to professional organizations, provides conferences, hosts seminars and sponsors speakers on the UT Martin campus. He is a faculty member of the Barret Graduate School of Banking in Memphis, the Tennessee Bankers Association Southeastern School of Consumer Credit and the Graduate School of Banking at LSU, where he was recently honored as the 2013 Outstanding Faculty Member.

Since 2002, Payne has hosted the highly successful Mid-South Agricultural Lending Conference and is co-director of the new Mid-South School for Advanced Agricultural Lending.

A leader in regional economic development, Payne serves as chairman of the Martin Industrial Development Board and on the Weakley County Economic Development Board of Directors.

He served on the WestStar Leadership Program Board of Trustees from 2011-2013 and was founder of the UT Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center.

Now affiliated with the Tennessee Small Business Development Center Network, the UT Martin REED Center supports small business growth and economic development throughout Northwest Tennessee.

Payne is a past president of the Martin Rotary Club and the Southwestern Finance Association.

He and his wife, Amy, have two daughters, Rachel, a UT Martin graduate and a CPA in Franklin, and Rebekah, who is a senior finance major at UT Martin.
The sky’s the limit for new 4-H camp

By DONNA RYDER
Special to The Press
The sky’s the limit and the possibilities endless for what could be done on an educational level should the University of Tennessee System be able to purchase Lone Oaks Farm in Middleton.

The top pick by a site selection committee that included Tim Smith, Dr. Ben West, Dr. Jim Byford, Dr. John Buchanan, Steve Sutton, Bob French and Matt Fennel, Lone Oaks Farm would be used as a new 4-H Camp and Conference Center in West Tennessee. There were 19 potential sites investigated by 30 members from the 4-H Camp Vision Committee and the Farm Bureau Camp Committee. They narrowed the sites to three — a private parcel of land in Carroll County, the former Camp Hazlewood site in Henry County and the Lone Oaks property in Hardeman County — which were then scored individually by the site selection committee members.

UT officials and members of the community who attended meetings concerning the need for a new facility in West Tennessee after Buford Ellington 4-H Center in Milan closed in 2009 were invited to view Lone Oaks Farm Wednesday afternoon and this morning.

Dr. Byford, UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences dean emeritus, guided one of the tours.

He said the farm has 13 furnished residences, which could be used as a conference center for paying guests to help keep up the 4-H center. Additional inn facilities overlooking the lake and woods could be built, if needed. Up-to-date, but not lavish, camp facilities would be built on the opposite side of Big Lake from the existing buildings for use as the 4-H facility.

He said the UT Board of Trustees last week approved $32.4 million, which they hope can be fast tracked by Gov. Bill Haslam, to be used to buy the property, adapt it for use as a center and for new building construction.

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**Camp**

**From Page 1**

"I'm afraid if we don't get it bought this year, we will miss this window," Byford said.

"We can build here cheaper (than any of the other sites)," he added.

Byford has high hopes for the facility, saying it could be used not only as a convention center and 4-H camp, but as a teaching facility. Among the buildings on the property is a facility for artificially inseminating cattle, complete with overhead viewing areas which could be used by UT classes.

"We have 1,600 acres to work with. ... We could have the best 4-H center in the world and the best demonstration of ag center," he said, adding other groups such as the FFA could use the facility as well.

One of two log cabins on the property was moved onsite from the Lambuth University campus in Jackson. It was built as it would have been "in the day," but includes modern amenities such as running water and electricity. Another house includes the windows from the child-

hood home of owner Scott Ledbetter, who has family ties in Obion County.

Ledbetter, a Memphis real estate businessman, and his wife, Kathy Ledbetter, who grew up in Hardeman County, developed the property over a 15-year period. They purchased 32 parcels to connect the massive estate, which also includes 18 stocked lakes and ponds; five creeks; waterfalls; 14 miles of well-maintained limestone gravel drives with wooden bridges built over the numerous creeks; a horse barn; horse buggies; 15 miles of horseback, hiking, jogging, biking and ATV trails; numerous wildlife viewing vistas and hidden food plots; and large stone fireplaces, decks, fire pits and conversation seating areas located next to ponds and throughout the farm. One of the ponds, Lost Pond, is 13 feet deep and includes a stone diving platform.

A commercial grade kitchen in the sale barn is large enough to feed 200 people, while the building is large enough to seat 400 for a catered meal. The sale barn has an extensive collection of tools, which will stay at the facility. The hay barn could also be made into a pavilion. Senior level architect students at UT are already working on making suggestions for the property, Byford said.

Fifty-five percent of the land is in hardwood and pine forests and 45 percent in open pastures, hay fields and lakes. Over 14 miles of fencing surround the property's perimeter and divide pastures for the farm's cattle and horses.

A generator is available on the farm and has the capability to run the whole facility should it suffer a loss of electricity.

Byford said UT officials have been informed the center could sell $109,000 worth of timber every year and the facility sold $125,000 in Bermuda hay last year, meaning the farm could be perpetually self sustaining. And, he said, the whole 1,600 acres don't have to be groomed as the farm's current staff does. UT would only need to groom about 300-400 acres.

The property is located 71 miles east of the Memphis airport and is a 10-minute drive south of Bolivar.

For more about the farm and to see photographs, visit www.loneoaksfarm.com.
QUEENS CROWNED — Two women received Miss Tennessee qualifying titles at the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant held Saturday night at the Harriet Fulton Theater at UT Martin. Erica Glisson (left) of Dresden won the 2014 Miss UT Martin crown. Camille Garner of Tullahoma won the Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Title. Miss Tennessee Shelby Thompson was also at the pageant.

**Dresden’s Erica Glisson crowned Miss UT Martin**

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SEE PAGEANT, PAGE 15
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