Stephen Mansfield believes every employee deserves a great leader.

Also inside:

Pictsweet is peppered with UT Martin graduates.

David Jones sings the praises of finishing his degree.

Jane Adcock gives us her two Penney's worth.

Sidney Carter's brush strokes of genius.
During our graduation ceremony this May, we celebrated the largest graduating class in the history of the institution. We are, of course, proud of this indicator of success; but it is important to note that UT Martin can also boast of having one of the highest graduation rates among public institutions in Tennessee. High-quality undergraduate education is clearly reflected in what our faculty and staff place as a top priority. I believe the successful completion of degree and program offerings has to remain a top indicator of the capacity-building mission of UT Martin.

You may recall that during the past five years we have completed just under $90 million in capital and renovation improvements involving new apartment-style housing, academic buildings, classroom space, laboratory facilities, and other improvements to our learning and living space.

Our new Student Recreation Center opened in January and is filled with students working to improve their health. An online tour of this facility is available at http://www.youtube.com/utmartin. I think you will like what you see.

Renovation of the Duncan Ballroom in the Boling University Center is under way, along with construction of a new baseball/softball complex. This fall we plan to break ground on the Phase I expansion of the Fine Arts Building. We have also begun Phase II of Humanities HVAC improvements. In addition, the communication tower replacement is under way, plus improvements are being made to our chilled-water distribution system. We are using $1.4 million in ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) funds to replace the library roof starting this summer. Through the generosity of a key donor, we are in the planning stages for an expansion of the Business Administration Building to begin sometime in 2011 or 2012.

We have reached the expanded goal for our portion of the Campaign for Tennessee and have established a new goal of $50 million by the end 2012. UT Martin was the first campus to exceed its goal and stretch even further. Our alumni, employees, friends and corporate partners have made this possible during an economic recession. Through major donor support, we recently kicked off an initiative to make UT Martin an all-Steinway campus. This effort signals that we are serious about high-quality academic programs and, in this instance, our music programs. Academic excellence is being nurtured through the leadership of enthusiastic donors.

The economic impact we have on the region was recently documented in a study released by UT Knoxville’s Center for Business and Economic Research. UT Martin brings in at least $138.5 million annually in income to Tennessee and supports more than 3,800 jobs.

While research initiatives are increasing throughout campus, recognitions continue honoring the university’s commitment to community service. Dr. Angie MacKewn, associate professor of psychology, became the 26th person from UT Martin to receive a Love Community Service Award from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Also, UT Martin was named to the 2009 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. This is the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

We continue to monitor, plan and revise budgets as the economic landscape remains uncertain. While we have had success on a number of fronts, we anticipate at least two more years before economic conditions shift enough to allow several important initiatives to emerge. During a three-year interval, we will have absorbed more than a 30 percent budget reduction in state appropriations. Plans are in place to ensure the continuation of strong academic programs and student services, although tuition increases to some extent will also be needed to sustain the current level of support our students deserve. Since the beginning of the FY 09 budget year, we have trimmed state-mandated reductions of $9,830,300 from our recurring operating budget. Most troubling during this time is the fact that we have had no employee raises for more than three years. Our faculty and staff continue to take on more and more work to ensure our success. Therefore, our ability to adequately compensate faculty and staff remains one of our greatest challenges. The state legislature approved a one-time bonus of $50 per year of credited service, up to a maximum bonus level of $1,250. This one-time bonus helps, but our long-term salary compensation issues remain.

Athletic programs continue to gain increasing levels of success, including OVC regular-season conference championships in softball and soccer, as well as improvement in a number of other sports. Softball head coach, Donley Canary, and Kevin McMillan, head coach of women’s basketball, were recognized as coaches of the year in the Ohio Valley Conference. We were also fortunate to have record numbers of student-athletes recognized for outstanding academic and athletic performance.

I could not be prouder of our continued improvement in the quality of the learning experience for our students. The dedication of our faculty and staff is clearly indicated by increasing levels of achievement among our students. We function as a Tier One Southern master’s institution and hold a very competitive position among our peer institutions. We do have room to improve, but we have every right to be positive and proactive as we pursue our multiple goals focused upon academic rigor, student-faculty community/professional engagement, and applied research.
Features

Health Care is a Mission for Stephen Mansfield.
He is president and CEO of Methodist Health System in Dallas, Texas.

Degree Fulfills Dream for Bartlett Detective, Musician and Father
David Jones, a.k.a. Webb Dalton, joined the university's largest graduating class as he completed a degree that he began pursuing almost 30 years ago.

The Lifetime Canvas of Sidney Carter
Former football player, Sidney Carter, is now a successful artist in Atlanta, Ga.

Fresh Start Means Success for JCPenney Store Manager
Jayne Adcock is an award-winning manager of the JCPenney store in Union City, one of the company's smallest and most successful store locations.

News Briefs

Departments

Athletic Communications ................................................................. p. 20
University Advancement ................................................................ p. 29
The Real Deal: Alumni Relations .................................................. p. 30
Alumni Notes ................................................................................ p. 32
In Memory ...................................................................................... p. 35
Health Care is a Mission for Stephen Mansfield

As far as management philosophies go, Dr. Stephen Mansfield’s is pretty simple: every employee deserves a great leader. The 57-year-old president and CEO of Methodist Health System, North Texas, has applied this approach from his first chief executive’s position at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon, Tenn., to his position today leading a health system that covers service areas with more than five million people. Mansfield’s work is more than a career – it’s a mission to help people in a rapidly changing health-care environment.

It’s fair to say that Mansfield (MBA ’86) has seen a lot and accomplished even more during his health-care career. He was born in the old Martin Hospital and lived in Martin until he left to live in Jackson in the early 1970s. His mother was among the first hired when Volunteer Hospital in Martin opened. She worked in the business office and helped him secure a job mowing the hospital’s grounds. After graduating from Martin High School, he learned of an opening in the hospital’s

Mansfield’s work is more than a career – it’s a mission to help people in a rapidly changing health-care environment.
admissions area, got the job and began work at the admissions desk.

While working in admissions, he made friends in respiratory therapy, an emerging profession. Jackson State Community College offered a two-year degree in respiratory therapy, so his pursuit of a health-care career began in earnest with his goal to become a respiratory therapist. After earning his associate degree, he knew he wanted to continue his education, and he enrolled in Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kan., where he earned a bachelor's degree in health-care administration. His next goal was to pursue an MBA degree through UT Martin, and after taking some prerequisite business courses, he entered the program in 1984.

“I think my MBA program at UT Martin was one of the best collegiate experiences that I’ve had,” he said. He took classes mostly at night while working full time at Baptist Hospital in Union City, where he was director of respiratory therapy and later became administrator of the hospital’s home-health agency. In all, he spent 14 years as a care provider. After finishing his MBA in summer 1986, he left patient care and accepted his first hospital CEO position that fall at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon. This began an association with the Baptist Memorial Health Care System in Memphis that spanned more than 20 years.

Building Leadership Experiences

Mansfield described the Huntingdon hospital as “a small operation” where he knew all of the employees very well, including the doctors. He was involved in decisions great and small, including knowing which foods were served. “I probably learned more in my three years at Huntingdon than I have in any three-year period in my life, just because that was a pretty big step up for me,” he said.

Three years later, he went to Oxford, Miss., where he was involved in “growing a regional referral health-care system.” The hospital’s history was one of a city-county hospital that had joined the Baptist System in 1989. He went there as the first CEO and grew the hospital by recruiting new physicians and establishing new programs.

After Oxford, he moved to Memphis where he headed the Baptist Regional System, which gave him the opportunity to work with different boards in a system that included some 15 hospitals. He also ran what is now Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis, the largest hospital in Memphis at the time and one of the largest in Tennessee. This allowed him to manage what he described as a large hospital with a complex medical staff “that did pretty much every specialty that could be done.” Then, in 2000, he left the Baptist system to become CEO of the St. Vincent Health System in Little Rock, Ark., his first CEO position at the helm of a multi-hospital system. He also worked for Catholic Health Initiatives, a large corporate parent, which according to the company’s Web site, is now the nation’s second-largest Catholic health-care system.

Leading Methodist Health System

In October 2006, Mansfield became head of his seventh health system as he was welcomed as president and CEO of Methodist Health System. Methodist has six hospitals in the Dallas area and a seventh scheduled to open later this year. The company has approximately 6,500 employees and about 1,500 physicians affiliated with its hospitals. “For the last three years, it’s been Dallas’s fastest-growing health-care system. We’ve been very fortunate, and we’ve had great years financially the last several years,” he said. Included in the financial success was a $20 million gift last December from the Sammons Dallas Foundation, the largest gift in the system’s history.

Mansfield sees fund raising and “friend raising” as important priorities for a health system CEO. “We’re very dependent on philanthropy. With the cuts in insurance and so forth, it’s hard to do everything you’d like to do just taking care of patients,” he said. “You need revenue sources from philanthropy, and so it has become an increasingly important role for a hospital president.”

Besides financial success, Mansfield points to other accomplishments since his arrival. “We’ve doubled our size in three years, so that’s certainly something that we take a lot of pride in,” he said, adding, “More significantly, our employees have selected us as a top-100 best place to work in health care.” This was affirmed by surveys conducted for the Dallas Morning News, the Dallas Business Journal and Modern Healthcare that showed Methodist Health Systems as a “best place to work in Dallas and nationally.” Additionally, Methodist was selected two years ago by Modern Healthcare “as one of the top most-improved hospital systems in the country,” he said.

Putting People First

All of Mansfield’s CEO positions have been with church-based health systems, and this is consistent with strong personal

continued on page 6
beliefs about faith and healing. He believes that health-care employees should view their work as a ministry and not just a job. “A ministry in health care is all those added things, the extra things that you do that really touch another person at a time when they’re so vulnerable, when they’ve lost their health,” he said. “And when I get letters, and I get lots of letters from patients and family members who had an experience with one of our hospitals, I tell my staff frequently that I never remember getting a letter that pointed out somebody who was doing their job. I get letters when people are doing their ministry, because it’s above and beyond. It’s unexpected.”

Mansfield takes his servant-leader approach to the hospital floor through MBWA, or “management by walking around.” He recalled Jack Welch, former General Electric chairman and CEO, “saying that he never got as much time out of his office with his staff as he wished he had,” so Mansfield schedules at least two hours on his calendar weekly to spend time with hospital staff. “As hard as I try, and as much as I work with my calendar to try to get staff face time, I never feel like I get enough,” he said.

Finding time to cover all of his bases is a challenge, including his commitment to community service. After normal business hours, he can usually count on up to three evening events during the week. He serves on several boards, is chair of the Health Care CEO Forum, and attends many luncheons, fund-raising events and social events for Methodist, prompting him to note, “It’s a lifestyle. It’s not a job.”

He has plenty of support to stay grounded, relying heavily on his wife, Marilyn (’79), an educator and author, who attends many events with him. “Marilyn’s very supportive, and she realizes that my nature is such that I’ve got to be just an eyelash from overwhelmed to be happy,” he said. Mansfield also relies on a stewardship committee from his board to advise him on community-service commitments.

**Health-Care Reform Brings Change**

At the day’s end, Mansfield’s primary concern is providing leadership for Methodist Health System as historic change takes place in the nation’s health-care system. President Barack Obama’s signing of health-care reform legislation in March will dramatically change health-care delivery and consumption. Mansfield sees good, bad and many unknowns as reform takes shape, and he credits public opinion during the 2008 presidential campaign for driving reform. “The number one domestic issue according to all the polls that needed to be addressed … was health care, a need to reform health care.”

One of the issues, he said, was that health care was consuming a sixth of the country’s gross domestic product (GDP), which was placing the U.S. at a competitive disadvantage. Also, he said that “health insurance premiums were rising at four times the rate of wages in America, so health care was becoming unaffordable.” He added, “The number one reason for personal bankruptcy in America was related to health care, a catastrophic health-care event where someone went to the hospital and didn’t have enough insurance, or didn’t have any insurance, and ended up losing everything they’d worked for. And the horror stories were just everywhere, and so we had a lot of momentum going into the fall of 2008 to reform health care.”

Besides cost, Mansfield noted that health care has grown overly complex. “I have been an advocate of reforming our very broken, patched-up health-care system for years,” he said. “I think we keep putting patches on top of patches. There’s no more opaque, confusing transaction in our society than going to the hospital and trying to pay your bill for that.”

What has emerged isn’t perfect. “But I come back to a fundamental belief that continuing on the course we were on was unacceptable, and we’d taken a position to reform our health-care system before it was totally collapsed and broken, and that’s always difficult,” he said. “It’s a lot easier to see the need when it’s in total disrepair versus when it’s declining in its performance, which is where we were as a health-care system.”

A major challenge is changing a health-care system designed decades ago to address acute illnesses, those health problems that are treated and the patients get well. Today, he said that 75 percent of health-care expenditures are for chronic illnesses caused by poor health habits, such as choosing the wrong foods, lack of exercise and smoking. “We live longer, and these patients need to be treated on a longitudinal-continuum basis, but we still have this health-care system that is totally equipped to take care of them on an acute episode, not their chronic illness.” He added, “It’s going to cause health systems like Methodist to have to integrate more tightly with our medical staffs that have largely been independent of one another because of the way particularly Medicare reimburses physicians and hospitals.”
Mansfield said that major changes in health-care delivery are phased in over 10 years, so providers and consumers have time to adjust to reforms. First-year changes are primarily related to health insurance – such as covering children through age 25 and insurance providers not being allowed to drop people because of pre-existing conditions.

The more dramatic changes for hospitals occur in 2013 and 2014 when “our reimbursement starts to be affected by how we perform from an outcomes perspective, which is a good thing.” He explained, “If patients are discharged and come back to the hospital in a 30-day period, then there’s a penalty for that. If you get an infection while you’re in the hospital, there’s a penalty for that. And you’ll be paid for the way you perform, and so the thought is that if you attach payment to performance, that you’ll get better performance. I agree with that, and I think it’s the right thing to do.”

Then in 2014, Mansfield said “the 32 million uninsured Americans begin to get access to insurance, either through commercial insurance or an exchange or through the expansion of the Medicaid program.” Today, 15 percent of Methodist patients don’t pay for their care because they don’t have insurance or the financial means to do so. “So, if you reduce that … substantially, which we should be able to do, that should take some pressure off Methodist,” he said. “We (Methodist) should be able to lower employer premiums, and that should allow, then, more people to purchase health insurance, and it should also take our (the nation’s) GDP spend-down below 16 percent, which will make us more competitive in a global economy.”

Although he supports reform, Mansfield would rather see a plan with goals for becoming a healthier nation “and then create a system to get us from here to there.” To that end, the Methodist Health System leadership has decided to embrace health-care reform at the basic level. “We’ve taken a position at Methodist that by 2016, we’ll be the healthiest health-care system in America,” he said. An employee who chooses to smoke, doesn’t maintain a healthy weight or fails to address other risk factors will pay more for health insurance than someone who maintains a healthy lifestyle. This will be a five-year program that has already seen changes such as no smoking on campus and the elimination of transfats in foods served by Methodist hospitals. “We’re currently in an exercise program along with a lot of other businesses in Dallas called Live Healthy North Texas where our employees are incented to exercise and to eat correctly,” he added.

Leadership Amid Change

Mansfield is prepared to lead Methodist Health System through the changes that health-care reform will bring. Looking at the bigger picture, he is convinced that corporate leaders can make a difference in society.

Earlier this spring, Mansfield completed four national speaking engagements about “The Value of a Hope-full Culture” and “the role that CEOs and executive teams play in developing and maintaining and nurturing a hopeful culture.” His doctoral dissertation focused on “how hope plays into the effectiveness of a work group,” so his leadership beliefs are grounded in research. “That’s my campaign. I think that leaders, instead of whining about all that’s wrong, can do so much more for their organizations if they create a hopeful, optimistic view of the future for their employees,” he said.

In John Maxwell’s book The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader, the author says, “People don’t care how much you know, until they know how much you care.” From his days as a respiratory therapist to leading large health-care organizations, caring about people has driven Stephen Mansfield’s career and, more importantly, his personal mission. When he says that leadership matters, Mansfield is challenging himself at a time when the nation’s health-care industry needs its leaders the most. UTM

“It’s a lifestyle. It’s not a job.”
Simultaneously employing 20+ graduates from the same university probably sets some sort of record. But the connection does not stop there.

If the UT Martin Alumni Relations staff wants to host an impromptu event with little or no logistical challenges, then The Pictsweet Co. in Bells, Tenn., is the place.

Gathering a roomful of UT Martin alums would be as easy as announcing it over the headquarters intercom and making a couple of quick calls to employees just down the road.

At last count, 21 alums are employed by Pictsweet—all but five at corporate headquarters in Bells. The others are located on farms in surrounding counties.

Simultaneously employing 20+ graduates from the same university probably sets some sort of record. But the connection does not stop there. Almost all of the UT Martin alums have siblings, parents, children and extended family, who also are graduates of UT Martin. Many also have family members, who are not alums, working for the company. To say Pictsweet is family-oriented is an understatement.

Alums range from Johnny Parnell, corporate accounting manager, who graduated in 1971 and has been with the company for 27 years, to Brian Hawks, a December 2009 graduate who was hired in March.

The Pictsweet Company is a national processor and marketer of food products headquartered in Bells. Products are sold to supermarkets and to food-service institutions such as schools, hospitals, hotels and restaurants located throughout the United States and to United States military commissaries located throughout the world. Most of these products are sold under the Pictsweet brand while some are sold under Pictsweet customers’ labels.

Pictsweet is one of the largest processors of frozen vegetables in the world. Processing plants and cold-storage warehouses operate in Tennessee, California, Texas, Delaware and Utah. The company obtains fresh vegetables for processing from independent farmers as well as Pictsweet’s farms.

Controlling its vegetables from seed to harvest made graduates with agricultural degrees a natural for the company. There are field representatives, farm managers and research and development specialists constantly reviewing and
improving operations, developing new products and refining best practices.

But that’s just the start. Processing, packaging, marketing and sales, logistics and financial management have also attracted UT Martin graduates through the years.

A myriad of different reasons led the UT Martin grads to Pictsweet — a company many will remain with until retirement. Jeff Duck and Jim Berry were self-employed in warehousing/trucking and software development/education, respectively. Duck is now Bells warehouse manager, and Berry is IT senior developer. Both have been with the company for three years. Husband and wife, Brian and Gardner Lake, were agriculture graduates who lived and worked in Montana for several years before returning home to be closer to family and joining the company. Gardner is supervisor, administrative services, and Brian is assistant farm manager.

Parnell, a Jackson native, who resides in Medina, began as a cost manager. Pictsweet “has evolved significantly, through the years through acquisition and through new facilities,” he said, and added, “the technology in accounting has changed dramatically from adding machines to PCs.” He noted that products continue to evolve with what the consumer wants. “This is a great company to work for. The future is unlimited,” Parnell said.”

Partial to the brand, he said, “We eat the peas and carrots at my house because my wife makes a great homemade chicken pot pie with them.”

Parnell comes from what he terms “a very strong UTM family.” His wife, Doris, is an alumna. His son has bachelor’s and master’s degrees from UT Martin, and his daughter, completed her pre-pharmacy coursework prior to receiving her doctor of pharmacy degree at the UT Health Science Center. His brother, sister-in-law, brother-in-law and daughter-in-law also are alums. Parnell is very proud of his UT Martin business degree and added, “the university did a good job giving me the skills I would need later on.”

Lake oversees the daily operation of the corporate office, the service station and the company mail facility. When she graduated from high school, she said there was no question in her mind about where she would attend college. A “strong program in animal science” drew her to Martin. The Lakes also have several other family members who attended UT Martin.

She appreciates the way their lives have evolved since returning from Montana to be closer to family. “Here we are in Bells, Tenn., (at corporate headquarters) working for a nationwide company.”

Berry, who is glad he took the advice of College of Business and Public Affairs Dean William Baker to stay in accounting, appreciates his overall view of business as he carries out his responsibilities in software development, electronic data interchange and ecommerce. “This is the first time I’ve worked for

continued on page 10

Parnell is very proud of his UT Martin business degree and added, “the university did a good job giving me the skills I would need later on.”
California Linguine

**Ingredients:**
- 6 oz. linguine
- 1 tbsp. vegetable oil
- 2 cups Pictsweet Stir-Fry California
- 5 tbsp. water
- 1 tbsp. garlic, minced
- 1 can (2 1/2 oz.) black olives, sliced and drained
- 1 can (16 oz.) diced tomatoes, drained
- 1 tbsp. basil, crushed
- 1 tbsp. dried parsley flakes
- 1 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grated

**Cooking Directions:**
Prepare linguine according to cooking directions; drain and keep warm. Heat skillet over high heat; coat with oil. Add frozen Stir-Fry California, water and garlic to hot oil and stir-fry for three minutes. Reduce heat to medium; add olives, tomatoes, basil and parsley. Continue cooking while stirring for one minute. Add cooked linguine and Parmesan cheese. Gently toss to coat. Serve hot.

Dilled Pea Salad

**Ingredients:**
- 1 pkg. Pictsweet Green Peas
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup dill, chopped
- 1/4 cup chives, chopped

**Cooking Directions:**
Place frozen peas in a container and cover with water. Place on stove top and bring to a boil. Boil for three minutes; drain. Combine remaining ingredients; stirring well. Add peas and toss gently. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours. Serve cold.
UT Martin Graduates at PictSweet:

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**Butter Bean Barbeque**

**Ingredients:**
- 4 cups Pictsweet Butter Beans
- 8 slices bacon
- 1/4 cup Pictsweet Chopped Onions
- 1/2 cup celery, chopped
- 2/3 cup light molasses
- 1/2 cup catsup
- 1 tbsp. prepared mustard
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce

**Cooking Directions:**
Place frozen beans in container and cover with water. Place on stove top and bring to a boil. Boil for three minutes. Reduce heat, cover and simmer 30-35 minutes. Additional water may be needed during cooking. Drain. Cook bacon until crisp; reserve drippings. Crumble bacon into small pieces; set aside. In bacon drippings sauté onions and celery until tender; drain. Combine all ingredients, except bacon, and pour into a two-quart casserole. Top mixture with crumbled bacon. Bake uncovered at 350°F for 30 minutes. Serve.
and moved to Nashville, trading a basketball and books for a guitar on a full-time basis,” he said. “I lived in the back of my truck for about six and a half months at the Two Rivers Campground off Briley Parkway and then started playing with Loretta Lynn’s daughter, Peggy.” Jones played with her for several months, then formed a Nashville-based band and went on the road, performing between 200 and 250 dates a year.

“I met some good people and was very blessed in my music, playing and performing with some great musicians and artists,” he said. The list of performers that he and his band opened for reads like a who’s who of country music — names such as George Strait, Garth Brooks, Randy Travis, George Jones, Kathy Mattea, and the late Keith Whitley, just to name a few. But, he learned early on that the music business is tough and involves many personal sacrifices. He and his band were on the road several months at a time, and his girlfriend, whom he had met while performing at the Libertyland amusement park in Memphis, became ill and spent days at a time in the hospital as doctors tried to diagnose her illness.

By this point, Jones had been on the road playing music for about five years. He said that “it came down to keep chasing a dream or deal with the reality of the situation” in terms of supporting his girlfriend through her health problem. “I loved her, so I realized that I needed to put first things first, so I got off the road, and we got married.” She recovered within a year, but they were told that having a child would be difficult, if not impossible, because of her wife’s condition and the effects of her treatment. However, Jones said that “God had other plans,” and the couple’s son, Christopher, was born May 16, 1992.

Before Christopher’s birth, Jones had begun taking criminal justice classes at what is now Southwest Tennessee Community College while working at Shelby County Juvenile Court. His goal was to land a police department position, which happened when he was hired by the Bartlett Police Department. This, in addition to a part-time job and family responsibilities, meant that college would have to wait. “About a year and a half ago, I was having a
conversation with my son about how important an education is, and he needs to get his high school diploma, have a good GPA to get into college and pursue a degree.” Christopher then asked his dad if he had finished his degree. “I said, ‘No son, I didn’t. But I want better for you, and one of these days, I’m going to go back and finish.’”

Jones realized that he had “been saying the same canned response for the last 25 years” in promising that he would return to school. With three years of completed college courses covering three academic concentrations under his belt, he considered his options for finishing and learned about a retired inspector at the Bartlett Police Department who had taken online courses through UT Martin. He recommended that Jones contact Dr. Brian Donavant, a former Bartlett colleague who was now a UT Martin criminal justice faculty member. “And so I called Brian, and told him what I wanted to do, and told him I had 119 hours of college, and I wanted to go back. I wanted to finish.”

So Jones applied to UT Martin and began pursuit of an online Bachelor of University Studies degree in early 2008. The degree-completion program allowed Jones to count previous hours from the accredited institutions he had attended and pursue his remaining hours online. “Some of the classes have been very, very difficult, I mean especially the last two science classes. I have about pulled my hair out and probably aged five or 10 years,” he said. He took classes without a break, including the summers.

Things became really tough last semester when his work caseload grew to the point that he considered dropping the course. “I kept telling myself, if I drop it, then I’m going to have to take my science somewhere else, and I’m going to have to take three more classes here, and I don’t have the money, nor do I have the time. … I’d be going backwards, and so I stayed in and pulled through it.” A single parent for many years, he also faced the challenges that many adult students have in juggling a job and a family responsibilities. Christopher, a junior at Arlington High School, was old enough to drive, which made it possible for him to get to school and football practice, providing Jones with more time to focus on school.

While life and school were happening, Jones’ part-time music career had flourished since his return to performing in 1993. He had been off the road for about four years when he connected with a high school friend who needed a lead singer and guitar player for a band, so he quit a part-time job and started performing again. Later, while on police duty, he met Red West, who had worked as Elvis Presley’s bodyguard. Jones told him that he was a musician, and West asked to hear some of Jones’ music. Impressed, “Red had made some phone calls to some of his friends in Nashville and set up some studio time,” Jones said. “Red also suggested I change my name. Since Red was in the movie Roadhouse with Patrick Swayze, he was partial to the name ‘Dalton’ (played by Swayze in the

continued on page 14
continued from page 13

1989 film).” Jones then went through his dad’s old records that included Faron Young, Ray Price and a Webb Pierce album. “Red and I discussed it and settled on ‘Webb Dalton.’ I have been using the name since ’93.”

His Memphis-based band covers material from country to rockabilly to rock-and-roll and blues, as well as performing his original songs. Although he still has a passion for performing, the life of a part-time musician isn’t easy. “You can go out to my truck right now. I got it loaded down with sound equipment, and you know who sets it up,” he said. “You know, it’s not just going on stage and plugging my guitar in. There’s a lot of time and effort that goes into it (performing). But it’s worth it. I enjoy it. If I didn’t, I obviously wouldn’t do it.”

He also enjoys his law enforcement career, which produced an unforgettable experience earlier this year in Bartlett. He was at his desk Jan. 7 when a call came through about a child who had fallen through the surface of an icy pond. Several boys were playing football on the ice when it broke; two of the boys made it to safety, but one did not. They reached the grandfather of one of the boys who called for help. Jones and two other detectives headed to the scene to see if they could assist.

When they arrived, things didn’t look good for the missing child, 10-year-old Reese Wagner, who was still under the ice at the bottom of the pond. At this point, Reese had been under for more than 20 minutes, Jones recalled. A small, tarp-covered boat just happened to be in the backyard of one of the houses next to the pond, so they uncovered it, pushed it down the hill and launched the boat. Jones and two other police officers were inside the boat, and firefighters were standing by on the pond’s bank. If the experience of a child being underwater for more than 20 minutes wasn’t stressful enough, the boat was taking in water because there was no drain plug. So, moving quickly, Jones used an eight-foot fireman’s pole to drag the pond that ranged in depth from eight to 10 feet, which meant Jones had his arms underwater for long periods of time while searching. Repeated passes through the water produced only debris and limbs. However, on one pass, he felt that he had something, and upon pulling the object to the surface, he saw a camouflage jacket and the boy, and Jones yelled, “I got him!” They pulled Reese into the boat and took him to shore where paramedics were able to get a heartbeat inside the ambulance at the scene.

Jones visited the hospital the next day where Reese was in intensive care. He didn’t get to see Reese, but he met his dad. “I wanted to see him with his eyes open. … It would’ve obviously been difficult emotionally for the family, friends and emergency personnel if Reese did not make it.” There was a lot of praying going on, Jones recalled, and a “Pray for Reese Wagner” Web page added to the people who were praying, he said.

Jones returned early the following week and found Reese’s dad standing by his bed holding his son’s hand. Reese was in an induced coma to prevent pneumonia, and the next thing that happened is nothing short of miraculous. “… I was standing there, and Reese opened his eyes and looked up and reached his hand out to me.” Reese’s dad told Jones that Reese wanted him to hold his hand, so Jones took his other hand. And, to Jones’ surprise, the dad told him that Reese wouldn’t have asked for his hand unless he recognized him. The only interaction that Jones had ever had with Reese was that day at the pond. Jones describes the experience as an “absolute miracle,” and he gives credit to God and other rescuers at the scene for saving the boy’s life.

Not all days are this rewarding, but Jones is pleased with where his life is headed. “I just did it backwards. You know, most folks, they get their degree and they go to work, and they get their experience. I’ve gotten my experience and then got my degree. …”

In fact, he’s so proud of his degree that Webb Dalton’s performance tour schedule on his band’s Web site (www.myspace.com/webbdaltonmusic) included a May 15, 2010, stop for UT Martin’s commencement. There might be a good song that can be written about how this story ends, but for now, the sound of his name being called as David Jones received his college degree was music to his ears. UTM

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“You know, it’s not just going on stage and plugging my guitar in. There’s a lot of time and effort that goes into it (performing). But it’s worth it.
Fresh Start Means Success for JCPenney Store Manager

The perfect opportunity was there for the taking. Jayne Adcock ('89) had accepted a position as an assistant with JCPenney at the company’s headquarters in Plano, Texas. However, when the time arrived to leave West Tennessee, she turned down the promotion. Her promising retail career with the company appeared over. Today, she’s the award-winning manager of the JCPenney store in Union City. In an unlikely scenario, Adcock is leading one of the company’s smallest and most successful store locations, all because she knew when to walk away.

The oldest of three children, Adcock was raised in Troy and attended Obion County Central High School where she graduated in 1985. She was a cheerleader her junior and senior high years, the same time period in which legendary boy’s basketball Coach Jimmy Whitby was leading the Rebels to an eventual state championship in 1986. Inspired by the team and the way Whitby coached, she continued to attend games, even during her years after high school. “We could be behind 10 points with a minute left to go, and come back and win ballgames,” she remembered. This taught her the value of never giving up, a philosophy that has served her well in later years. “I don’t always have to win, but I really like to, and I really think I can at anything I do,” she said. “Much of that came just from things I observed from

continued on page 16
him (Whitby) doing through sports, not that I was the one playing, but I was the one cheering.”

Adcock entered UT Martin in fall 1985, the first in her family to attend college. She was active in Chi Omega Sorority in which she held several leadership positions.

The university opened a new world for her both socially and culturally. “I think sometimes your education is your exposure to things outside the norm that helps you grow and become more open-minded,” she said. The sorority “pushed me to be better at things and give my all.”

An entry in Adcock’s high school yearbook stated that she “was going to UT Martin to be an interior designer.” However, when she started taking classes, the fashion world caught her attention. She also had a part-time job in Union City’s Dollar General Store that included a small clothing area where “she absolutely loved to change the clothing around.” Even better, sometimes her arrangements caused items to sell, which fed her interest in retail fashion merchandising.

She later enhanced her resume by taking a part-time job at a small women’s clothing store and through a summer 1988 internship with Dillard’s in Memphis. She left the clothing store in February of her senior year for a part-time position at the newly opened JCPenney store in Union City. Her plan was to leave West Tennessee for “a bigger, better place” after completing college. After graduation, she was hired as a management trainee in the company’s Jackson store.

“Basically, what the company did was give you a checkbook with X amount of money, and your job was to go and buy merchandise, bring it in, and sell it at a profit,” she said. She also was responsible for hiring and training store associates in sales and customer service. Although she dreamed of going to a large city to work in retail, JCPenney offered more store-level opportunities than other well-known retailers at the time, she said.

Adcock continued on the fast track as she was promoted to a basic logic merchandise manager, a district position that covered 35 JCPenney stores in five states. She remained in Dyersburg, traveled to other stores, and advised them on presentation and other aspects of selling women’s accessories. This change happened in 2000 at a time when the company began restructuring by moving decision-making from the local stores to the corporate level. Her dream job then became a reality as she was offered a company buyer’s position, which meant overseas travel and a move to Texas.

“Well I was thrilled to death,” she recalled. But, when the time came, she just couldn’t make the move. The Dyersburg store had held a big going-away party for her, and she had not told anybody about her misgivings related to the change. “I just could not get a peace about it, even though that’s what I’d always wanted,” she said. Complicating her situation further was that she carried all family benefits through her job.

So, with no back-up career plans in place, Adcock worked her last day Aug. 31, 2001, and left the company. She became a stay-at-home mom with daughter, Ali, for the next seven years and admittedly “learned a lot of life lessons the hard way, especially when it came to finances.” Still, she had no regrets, and she remembers how her husband, Steve (’89), who now works for Illinois Central (Canadian National) Railroad, supported her during this transitional time.

Surprisingly, Adcock didn’t burn any bridges with her decision to leave the company, which continued to call “probably once or twice a year with the opportunities to come back.” Eventually, she received a call from a former co-worker who was district manager at the time, telling her that the store manager’s position in Union City was open. The position seemed perfect, as it didn’t require any moving or traveling. Even so, she saw the position as a major move for someone with her background. “… I was very strong with people skills and merchandise skills, but I didn’t know beans about operations,” she said. In the end, she accepted the job and rejoined the company in December 2007.

Not surprising is that the company has changed significantly since she first joined JCPenney. She said that competition for the consumer-clothing dollar is fierce because consumers have many shopping options. “What makes the customer want to come back to your store, that’s what you got to figure out, and that’s what you’ve got to win at,” she said. “It’s also doing more with less.” More people
now work part-time hours than full-time workers with benefits.

Adcock oversees 32 employees, and she uses her cheerleading skills for training and motivating employees. Included among current employees are part-time college students from UT Martin and Dyersburg State. Of the nine UT Martin students, three are pursuing her academic emphasis in fashion merchandising. JCPenney tends to favor hiring business graduates, but she has encouraged the company to also consider family and consumer sciences graduates. Two of her college students want to transfer and continue with the company, so she's helping them find work at other store locations.

Adcock's students appreciate the opportunities they have and respect her leadership and business skills. Melissa Hammond received her business degree in May 2007 and is now pursuing a master's degree in education. She describes Adcock as "an excellent manager" who is "very goal oriented." Hammond added, "She (Adcock) has a lot of college students, so she's really good about working around our schedules. That can't be easy." Jen Wayman, a senior management major from Nashville, has gained from the experience beyond earning a paycheck. "Oh, it's great," Wayman said. "It's made me more outgoing. … (There are) a lot of opportunities here."

Adcock gives all of the credit for the store's success to her associates. The Union City store, known as a "P Store" or procurement store, is the smallest in her district of 15 stores located from Memphis to Nashville. Her store has enjoyed two consecutive successful years, and she believes that the tough economy in which people couldn't travel to shop helped her store's business. Even when gas prices eased, she believes that the store won over repeat customers because of how they were treated and because of overall satisfaction with the Union City location. “Last year (2009), we did the most volume the store has ever done in its 21 years,” she said. The store’s success hasn’t gone unnoticed as she received the JCPenney Chairman’s Award, the highest company honor, in 2008 and 2009. She was also named 2009 District Store Manager of the Year, an award based on customer service scores, as well as sales and profit.

The company values good employees, and for this, Adcock respects corporate management, which made difficult personnel decisions during the tough economy. In February 2009, the company decided not to give raises, and she had to tell her associates. She assured them that rewards would come if they continued to work hard. “Sure enough, we did. We had a great year, and the company came and gave everybody a bonus that actually would have been bigger than what their merit increases would have been anyway,” she added. “When you feel confident with your leaders and superiors, it just makes you want to work hard, and it makes you want to do a good job. And I have the utmost respect for anybody that’s above me.”

To understand her store’s success, nobody need look any further than Adcock’s morning pre-sales meetings. "I set the tone for them, and they set the tone for the customer. You choose how your day’s going to be," she said. "But we try to find something positive, and then we try to focus on any obstacles that we might have." Her cheerleading skills come into play as she sometimes leads the stockroom employees with a “door to floor” cheer, which brings new meaning to the store process for getting merchandise to store displays. She believes in making the workday fun, so associates experience everything from cheers to contests. "They might say a lot of things, but they can never say they’re bored," she said, laughing.

The holidays are especially challenging to morale as workloads increase. Many stores don’t have budgets, let alone time for Christmas parties. Given the great year that the store had in 2009, she created a “Red Carpet Event” for a Christmas celebration, a black-tie evening complete with award presentations held at a local church. Although maybe viewed as “cheesy” to some, she said, “Money’s not everything to everybody. Sometimes just a pat on the back is enough. I think if you went and talked to any of them they would tell you, there’s a strong sense of family here, and that’s an advantage to being in a small store.”

“Do unto others as you’d have them do unto you” is the philosophy on which JCPenney built his company. Jayne Adcock still applies The Golden Rule with associates and customers of a company from which she once walked away, only to return and experience true success. UTM
Sidney Carter’s career was waiting for him. He’d had a “brush” with it as a youth and dabbled with it at other times, but when it came time to make a decision, he chose to pursue football. Carter said that like other young football players, he hoped to play professionally.

“It’s funny how you work in these different places and look for a job,” said the Atlanta artist. “He (God) already gave me my job. I just had to learn to listen.”

Carter grew up in Florida, the youngest of 10 children. He credits two of his brothers for the love of art and football. Randall, a U.S. Department of Agriculture interior designer, would sit around the house drawing, letting Sidney watch. “He’s responsible for getting me into painting and drawing. He would bring me up to Washington and enter me into contests.” As a result of that exposure, Sidney was even offered a scholarship to go to one of the nation’s largest art schools—Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C. “But I chose to go on and pursue football.”

His brother, Hunter, an engineer, had played football at UT Martin and secured a tryout for Sidney that resulted in a walk-on football scholarship after stints at two other colleges. He graduated in 1989 with a B.S. degree in arts and sciences.

Sidney sold his first artwork at 12 to the mother of one of his lifelong friends. “I started doing little drawings for people while I was at Martin. I would ask $20 … $50, whatever. I knew then that I could make a living at it — could probably do well at it.”

When he graduated, he took a computer graphics job in Knoxville. “I would leave on Fridays and go to art festivals, and pretty soon my art started making more money than I was making on the job. In a few months I left, and everything has been climbing since then. About 10 years later, I had my own art gallery.”

Three themes guide his artwork — faith, family and his African-American heritage. When he launched his professional career, Sidney admits he had a one-track mind. “People are not as into it now, but when I first started … black art really started taking off. My goal was to be one of the most well-known black artists. I realized a little later that I was limiting myself. So now … I characterize myself as just a fine artist. I do it all.”

His favorite subjects represent family and everyday life. “I come from a big family, so that’s what I can really relate to.”

That’s also where Norman Rockwell — his favorite artist as a young painter — came in. He was a favorite because his paintings depicted people in familiar settings. “I used to do a lot of people, and I would try to give a message through my paintings. And that’s what he did. He spoke through his paintings. He had a lot of humor in it, but it was everyday life.”

He still gets inspiration from Rockwell and other artists, but added, “As I grew, I wanted to be known for what I do. What every artist tries to find, I think, is themselves and something they can be known for. So that’s where I am now.”

Sidney has several “modes” of painting. While he waits for his next inspiration, there’s no down time. He paints musical instruments. “When I have a break, that’s what I do because it doesn’t take a lot of thought. While I’m creating these, my next detailed painting will come to me. I try not to waste time because once you enter a career, and this is what you do for a living, … it’s up to me to pay my bills myself. I’ve got to keep working at all times.”

“Working” includes painting, building canvases and framing (a skill he learned early on while working at a craft shop), along with promoting and operating a gallery and traveling to art shows.

Sidney gets some of his best ideas while driving hours to shows and exhibitions. “I have plenty of time to think.” He carries two small leather books all the time and makes quick sketches when he has an idea.
He has a drafting table in his basement so he can work at home and a studio in the gallery. On a typical day, he gets up early and paints until time to take sons, Sidney 14, and Anthony 12, to school. Then, he heads to the gym to work out and then to the gallery to paint until 3 p.m., when it’s time to pick up his sons and drop them off at home. He returns to the studio to work.

“I always tell people I don’t work. I don’t have a job, because this is heaven to get to do what I want to do—to wake up and paint. I’m free. That’s when I’m at my happiest, when I’m painting. I turn on some music and paint all day long.”

Ask Sidney if he has a favorite painting and he’ll laugh and tell you, “The one that sells first.” Answering seriously, he’ll tell you it’s “Grandma’s Hands,” prints of which he no longer sells. It was an early piece, before his artwork “took off.” He gave a reproduction of it to his UT Martin assistant football coach, Jerry Reese, New York Giants senior vice president and general manager.

A large Sidney Carter mural graces the University of Maryland Nyumburu Cultural Center in College Park. Alonzo Mourning, former NBA player; Tra Thomas, NFL player; director Spike Lee and actor Dorian Harewood, all have purchased his paintings. John Jacob, former National Urban League president, who retired as Anheuser Busch executive vice president of global communications, met Sidney and bought three of his paintings at an art show last year. Recently, Jacob returned to the same art show to say “hello” to Sidney and see if there was another painting he and his wife “must have.” They purchased another one. “Sidney’s work somehow just speaks to me and my wife,” he said.

In recent years, Sidney was surprised to see a couple of his college classmates at an art show. They had asked him to do some drawings for them while in college. They told him that they held onto them all these years and said, “I knew you were going to be an artist.” He added, “Since I started doing my artwork professionally, a lot of my (UT Martin) teammates … have supported me.” Knowing that teammates and classmates remembered his art reminds Sidney that UT Martin “was a little different.” He added, “I wasn’t a very studious person … and that was one of the things that kept me from being successful at the other schools.” At UT Martin, he was encouraged to succeed off and on the field. “It wasn’t just about football,” he said, speaking of former coach Don McLeary and others. “Even when we won the conference championship … those guys that wanted to go on and continue getting their degree, … he made sure they finished. So with UT Martin, I know there was some caring. That’s what I took with me.”

His wife, Cheryl Anthony Carter, (’84), and sons also provide an abundance of support. While he wants Sidney and Anthony to be well rounded academically, musically and in extracurricular activities, he involves them in his world of art. The two sketchbooks that hold all his ideas will someday be theirs. All his paintings, regardless of whether or not he decided to reproduce and sell them, are saved on CDs. If something happens to him, his family “has those to go to and create and still make a living,” he said.

“Right before Christmas, I took my kids on an art show with me. They get a kick out of people coming up and buying artwork.” He also shares his awards and prize money when he returns from shows. “I make them a part of it. I tell them ‘we’ won.” Now, when he returns from a show, they ask, “How are ‘we’ doing?”

Sidney tries to pass on that type of caring, mentoring young artists and helping them pursue their careers in art. “I have this thing that I say: If I’m so fortunate to make it to the gates of heaven, and I can see God standing there and … He says ‘job well done, but who did you bring with you’? That’s real success.”

Three themes guide his artwork — faith, family and his African-American heritage.
Athletic Communications

Bull Riding National Champion Says Thanks to UT Martin Alumnus

Somewhere en route to winning the national championship in bull riding at the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyo., June 19, senior Jeff Askey called UT Martin alumnus Dave Waltz, (‘80), and said thank you.

Waltz came to UT Martin to ride bulls in 1978-79. He bought his National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) membership card and learned with each ride.

Remembering the old adage, “You always have to get off,” Waltz would put his hand in the middle of the bull’s back, on top of the worn pad for protection. He would have the rope pulled tight. Without thinking he would nod his head for the two men working the chute, his free hand in the air and the other with a death grip on the bull. All he needs for a good ride is eight seconds.

“If you have to think about it, you’re going to get thrown off,” said David Vowell, (‘74), also a former UT Martin bull rider.

While at a professional rodeo in Virginia, Waltz met UT Martin cowboys Tony Coleman, (‘76, ‘82), and Byron Woodard, (‘77). The two convinced Waltz to leave Pennsylvania and enroll at UT Martin so he could rodeo. Coleman went on to win back-to-back regional bareback championships and a national all-around title. He became the team’s first coach. Woodard came to UT Martin from the U.S. Army where he had gained plenty of rodeo experience.

After almost two years at UT Martin, Waltz decided to return to the professional circuit. He won four American Professional Rodeo Association bull riding championships (1981, ’83, ’84 and ’86), and in 1986 he won the all-around cowboy title. Waltz retired from competing in professional rodeos after 15 years, but he is still very much involved in the sport – he’s taught his son Tyler and Askey how to ride bulls. Tyler and Askey grew up in 4-H showing horses. Tyler even competed in youth rodeos. It was the younger Waltz who lured Askey to riding rough stock, and it was Dave Waltz who taught him how to ride.

Askey said he was 13 when he rode his first bull, Van Halen 222, in a Keystone Youth Rodeo. He also rides bareback horses. The Pennsylvania native took advantage of what Dave Waltz taught him and went to Northeast Oklahoma A&M Junior College.

Askey’s technique, his success and a former cowboy, Lee Jay Larmon, from Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College is how UT Martin head rodeo coach, John Luthi, found out about Askey.

For the past two seasons, Askey, who calls Beech Creek, Pa. home, has been riding bulls and bareback at UT Martin. As a junior in 2009, he finished fifth in the nation and helped the UT Martin team finish ninth in the country.

“Bull riding is mostly mental,” he said. “You can go out and beat yourself up worrying about the standings instead of going out and doing what you are supposed to do.”

Askey continues to ride professionally now that he has graduated. He used to mix his day with classes, rodeo and studying. The animal science major’s class load included anatomy, physiology and microbiology. “I always had good grades,” Askey said. “I learned early on that I have more opportunities if I have good grades.”

In addition to finishing fifth in the nation in bull riding at the 2009 CNFR, Askey was the recipient of a $1,800 scholarship for the highest grade-point average — a 3.92 GPA — of all the men competing at the CNFR from a four-year university.

The 22-year-old maintained his focus this past year as he achieved two big goals – winning the Ozark Region bull riding title and the college national rodeo title.

Askey won the Ozark Region bull riding title in May, and used an 86.5-point ride in the first go at the CNFR to advance to the championship short round where he went eight seconds on China Grove for 88.5 points and the national championship.

Now that school is finished, Askey will try to make a living on the pro rodeo circuit, something that he was doing while he was a student. Nine months into 2009, Askey won $30,000 in prize money, a bulk of the earnings came from the Professional Bull Riding (PBR) circuit. “It’s tough to compete in the PBR when you’re in school,” he said.
The challenges of competing on the collegiate level and the pro circuit were evident the first week of the 2009-10 college season. Askey competed at the Missouri Valley College (MVC) Rodeo in Marshall. After his Thursday night ride, he worked the bull-riding event at Altamont, Ill., in a pro rodeo. He went back to Marshall for the finals of the college rodeo on Saturday and then drove all night to compete in a pro rodeo at Farmington, Minn. He started the college rodeo season off by winning the bull riding average at the MVC rodeo.

It's no wonder people such as Dave Waltz and David Vowell say, “Kids today have it made. They have so many ways to learn – videos, schools, junior rodeos. Back then, all we could do is learn the basics, maybe watch a rodeo on television or if we were fortunate go to a rodeo school.”

Askey said Waltz and Vowell are on target. “We have a lot more resources than they had back then … bucking machines and practice bulls.”

As Askey goes through his chute procedures he tries to relax. “It's all muscle memory. I will use my knees and my legs,” he said. “I try not to worry about the other riders. I worry about the bull and myself.”

UTM Tennis Alum Wins National Doubles Championship

Born in Birmingham, England, Wride was the first-ever left-handed player to play for head coach Dennis Taylor at UT Martin. Taylor, who is in his 23rd season at the helm of the Skyhawk tennis program, was not shocked to hear the news of Wride's magical run through the tournament. “He was left-handed, and he seemed to have an advantage playing doubles,” Taylor said. “He would get tremendous angles on his shots that would draw his opponents off the court.”

Wride put together a 75-71 overall record at UT Martin, earning All-Ohio Valley Conference honors as a freshman in 1998 and again as a senior in 2001. He played the majority of his singles career at No. 1 (35 of 78 matches), but it was evident that doubles was his specialty. He held a 40-28 career doubles record as a Skyhawk, playing 47 of his 68 matches at No. 1.

Before joining the UT Martin program, Wride was the Birmingham Player of the Year and was ranked among the top 25 players in England in 1996.

After graduating, Wride has coached tennis and competed in tournaments. Off the court, he earned his master's degree from the University of Memphis in 2005 and was employed as a research associate at the school from 2004 through 2007. Currently, he is the lead clinical research associate at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, a position he has held since 2007.

“I am glad to see Tom having success after college,” Taylor said. “So many times an athlete's career ends once they leave college, but I’m glad Tom has found a venue to showcase his talents.”

UTM
Wilbur Edmiston, (’62), came to the University of Tennessee Martin Branch from Munford with a desire to play football and get an education. He left with a lot more, but the first year was tough.

“I had worked for two years after I graduated from high school and decided that I needed a college degree,” Edmiston said. “I borrowed $250 from my grandmother and thought I would get the balance paid by earning a football scholarship.”

Edmiston was devastated when he was cut from the team after the first two weeks of practice. After considering his options, he went back into Coach Bob Carroll’s office and begged for another chance. Coach Carroll was impressed by his determination and gave Edmiston that chance.

“As a coach, it was very rewarding to see Wilbur develop into an outstanding and versatile player,” Carroll said. “His determination, pride, hard work and mental toughness enabled him to excel as a running back, kick returner, punter and defensive back.”

Edmiston went on to become one of the most outstanding football players in UT Martin history, making all-conference two years in the Volunteer State Athletic Conference. He still ranks third among running backs in points scored in a season (64), fourth among running backs in points scored in a career (157) and second in points scored in a game. He ran for four touchdowns and a two-point conversion in 1961 (26 points) against the Missouri School of Mines (now the Missouri University of Science and Technology). Those rankings are even more impressive considering that the football team only played an average of nine games per season from 1959-62. Edmiston was inducted into the UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame in 1988.

Not only did Edmiston leave UT Martin in 1962 with a degree in secondary education (history) and a prominent place in the football record book, he met his future wife, Peggy, who was also a student at the time. Peggy became a successful public administrator and ultimately was director of community services for Shelby County. She was asked to serve as a state commissioner by two governors but gave preference to family priorities and continued her career in Shelby County until her death at the age of 62. Peggy received the UT Martin Distinguished Service Award in 1999, which recognizes meritorious contributions by an individual on the local, state and national level.

As a tribute to the experiences of “walk-on” athletes like himself and in memory of his late wife, Edmiston donated $50,000 to establish the Wilbur and Peggy Edmiston Walk-on Endowed Scholarship. The endowment’s income will fund a scholarship for a football, baseball or men’s basketball student-athlete who initially participated without any athletic scholarship. In addition, the student-athlete must demonstrate a need for financial assistance.

“I am so proud that Wilbur is leaving this legacy, and I hope many other athletic alumni will contribute to this endowment as a tribute to their own experience or the experiences of other teammates they know,” said Phil Dane, director of intercollegiate athletics. The walk-on athlete experience is an important part of any successful athletic program because it exemplifies the real history of intercollegiate athletics.”
Women's Basketball Overachieves

The women's basketball team, under the direction of first-year head coach Kevin McMillan, posted an 11-19 overall record (8-10 OVC) and advanced to the Ohio Valley Conference postseason tournament as the No. 4 seed where it lost in the semifinals to No. 1 Eastern Illinois, 65-51.

“I couldn’t be more proud of the team though. We overachieved in many ways but also showed what is possible when everyone buys into a program and plays for each other,” McMillan said.

The women's roster included eight players at the end of the season. Three players suffered season-ending injuries before the Christmas break.

Junior Alecia Weatherly and freshman LaBrica Ward both earned spots on the OVC All-Newcomer Team, while McMillan was named the conference's coach of the year.

Weatherly became one of the top stories in the entire conference this past season when she returned to the game of basketball as a junior at the Division I level, having not played since her senior year of high school in 2006. She went on to have a very productive season, scoring more than 12 points and pulling down nearly six rebounds a game. She also emerged as the team's leader and hit the game-winning three-pointer against Tennessee Tech that snapped the Skyhawks' OVC record 29-game losing streak.

Women's Rodeo Wins First Regional Title Since 2004

The UT Martin rodeo team piled up 3,106 points after 10 regional rodeos to win the Ozark Region for the first time since 2004.

The UT Martin women finished first in four of the 10 regional rodeos, taking the team title at West Alabama, Northwest Mississippi, UT Martin and Arkansas-Monticello. The women were second at Missouri Valley College, Southern Arkansas (fall) and Southern Arkansas (spring).

By virtue of winning the Ozark Region, the UT Martin women advanced to the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) in June at Casper, Wyo. UT Martin's women recorded their best-ever finish at the CNFR in 1993 when they were tied for eighth.

Softball Team Wins OVC Title, Sets New School Record For Wins

The UT Martin softball team posted a 47-11 overall record, the winningest season in school history. En route to the impressive final record, the Skyhawks claimed the Ohio Valley Conference regular season title and earned the right to host the OVC tournament where an automatic NCAA berth was awarded to the winner. The Skyhawks suffered a 10-1 loss to Jacksonville State in the tournament championship game.

Megan Williams and Paij Lintz earned the OVC's Player and Pitcher of the Year awards, respectively. They were joined by head coach Donley Canary, who was named the conference coach of the year. The regular-season champion Skyhawks are only the sixth team in league history to sweep player, pitcher and coach of the year honors from the OVC.

Williams and Lintz were both also selected to the All-OVC First Team and were joined by Laurie Lindow, Jenny Bain, Laura Roberts and Kate Vanderham. In all, UT Martin had six first-team members, making up half of the 12-member team. Megan Van Arsdale earned a spot on the All-OVC Second Team, while Vanderham, Kalah Mathis and Jordan Garrett were all named to the OVC All-Newcomer squad.

Equestrian Team Rides in Fourth Consecutive VENC

Freshman Kara Bergenty scored two points in the first round of the 2010 Varsity National Equestrian Championships (VNEC) and UT Martin, seeded 7th, turned in a higher raw score than 10th seed Kansas State. However, it was not enough for the Skyhawks to claim a win in the first round of the Hunter Seat Championship at Heart O' Texas Fair Complex in Waco, Texas, as Kansas State defeated UT Martin, 5-3.

UT Martin battled Kansas State to a 2-2 draw in Equitation over Fences. Bergenty, from Farmington, Conn., and freshman Katie Miranda, from Summerfield, Fla., scored for the Skyhawks. Kansas State won the Equitation on the Flats 3-1.

This is the fourth consecutive year UT Martin has advanced to the VENC. utm
Former NFL Players, WNBA Head Coach Among Hall of Fame Inductees

UT Martin will induct eight people into the athletics Hall of Fame, Oct. 16, during the 27th annual Letterwinners Club and Hall of Fame Breakfast in the university’s Student Life Center. The induction ceremony will be held in conjunction with UT Martin Homecoming activities. (See page 31.)

The induction class includes Rachel Ahlers (volleyball 1999-2002); Tony Champion (football 1981-84); Kelly Pendleton DeVilder (women’s basketball 1998-02); Lin Dunn (pioneer 1965-69); Cliff Sturdivant (baseball 1969-71); Carl Summers (wrestling 1969-71); Fred Thomas (football 1995); and Lindsey Vicknair (volleyball 1999-02).

Ahlers helped the UT Martin volleyball team to back-to-back Ohio Valley Conference regular-season championships in 2001 and 2002, along with an OVC tournament title and a berth in the NCAA tournament in 2002. She was a three-time All-OVC first-team selection. Ahlers graduated ranked No. 2 all-time on the program’s career kills list with 1,196, and she still holds the single-season record for kills in a season with 429 in 2001.

Champion was one of the most prolific and productive players in UT Martin football history. He played for head coaches Lynn Amadee and Fred Pickard and was a four-year letterman. He caught 72 passes for 1,531 yards and 14 touchdowns in 25 career games. After UT Martin, he signed a free agent contract with the NFL’s Dallas Cowboys. He also played for the San Diego Chargers and Green Bay Packers. However, Champion is well known for his career in the Canadian Football League, where he played for the Hamilton Tiger-Cats from 1985-88 and 1990-92. The two-time Eastern Division all-star caught 74 passes for 1,216 yards in 1986 and 14 touchdowns in 1987. He helped the Tiger-Cats win the Grey Cup.

DeVilder was a four-year letterwinner at UT Martin, and she helped the Skyhawks gain a berth in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament four consecutive seasons. As a freshman, she was a member of the first-ever OVC regular-season championship team that also earned a berth in the Women’s National Invitational Tournament (WNIT). She was the recipient of the OVC’s 2001 Steve Hamilton Sportsmanship Award.

Dunn never played basketball at UT Martin because there were no formal competitive teams for women while she was a student. She played intramural sports and went on to coach in the college ranks for decades. She coached at Austin Peay, Ole Miss, Miami and Purdue. She sported a 447-257 win-loss record and a .635 winning percentage. She took teams to the NCAA Tournament seven times and the Final Four once. She began her professional coaching career with the Portland Power in the American Basketball League in 1996. She served as head coach and general manager of the Seattle Storm of the WNBA. She was named head coach of the Indiana Fever in 2007, and she guided the 2009 team to the Eastern Conference Championship.

Sturdivant played outfield and catcher. He sported a .316 career batting average. He was named UT Martin’s most valuable player in 1970 with a .374 batting average, 10 doubles and five home runs. He was also named to the All-Volunteer Scholastic Athletic Conference (VSAC) team in 1970. In 1971, Sturdivant helped UT Martin win the VSAC baseball championship and advance to the NCAA Mideast Regional Tournament.

Summers wrestled on UT Martin’s first wrestling team in 1969-70 and also in 1970-71. He served as the team captain both seasons for head coach Bud Reiselt. He compiled an impressive 14-3 dual-meet record in both the 190-pound and the heavyweight classes. Before Summers wrestled at UT Martin, he served in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Navy Cross, two Silver Stars, three Purple Heats and the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for Bravery.

Thomas played one season for the Skyhawks (1995). He earned All-Ohio Valley Conference first-team honors and recorded 69 tackles and four interceptions. He was the 47th pick in the 1996 NFL draft, the highest pick ever in UT Martin history. He was picked by the Seattle Seahawks in the second round. Thomas signed with the New Orleans Saints in the winter of 2000. He received the New Orleans Saints Ed Block Courage Award in 2002. He played in 156 NFL games and started in 80 during 12 seasons. He recorded 424 career solo tackles and 360 total tackles, 13 interceptions and 73 pass deflections. Thomas announced his retirement from the NFL in 2009.

Vicknair helped the UT Martin volleyball team to back-to-back Ohio Valley Conference regular-season championships in 2001 and 2002, along with an OVC tournament title and a berth in the NCAA tournament in 2002. She is the only volleyball player to be a four-year All-OVC selection. She graduated as the career-record holder in assists (5,050) and still holds that record by more than 1,700 assists. Vicknair graduated as the OVC all-time assists leader and still ranks No. 4 all-time.
It’s a recreation center for students and funded by students. The new $16.5 million, 96,000-square-foot Student Recreation Center was officially opened Feb. 3 with University of Tennessee Interim President Jan Simek and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes among those participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Gina McClure, Office of Campus Recreation director, credits students for making the center a reality and points to the much-needed space as a means to have consistent recreational time without competing for time and space with classes and athletics.

Student Recreation Center Integral Part of University Community

The new facility includes four basketball courts that can convert into volleyball and badminton courts, a walking/jogging balcony, three racquetball courts, a fitness center with state-of-the-art equipment, a classroom, a multipurpose and aerobics room, locker rooms, equipment checkout space and an office suite.

The center was built primarily for students, as student fees are the funding source.

Lyle, Cook, Martin, of Clarksville, and Fleming Associates of Memphis, served as project architects in a joint venture, and A&K Construction Co., of Paducah, Ky., built the center.
Dr. Angie MacKewn has a passion for recycling, and her volunteer recycling work for UT Martin and the surrounding area has earned her a Love Community Service Award from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. MacKewn, an associate professor of psychology, was selected from a group of Tennessee higher-education nominees. She received the award April 29 at a THEC reception in Nashville.

Awards went to five faculty/staff members and five students who excel in volunteer work and community service activities. The Tennessee General Assembly created the recognition programs in 1991 for faculty, staff and students at public and private two- and four-year post-secondary institutions. In 1993, the General Assembly funded the program by presenting $1,000 cash awards to future recipients. The awards are named for the late Tennessee Rep. Harold Love, who sponsored legislation to create the recognition program.

“Angie joined the UT Martin faculty almost seven years ago, and during her time here, she has taken a lead role in educating people about recycling and waste minimization,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. “Recycling previously existed at the university, but through the hard work of Angie and many others, recycling efforts have greatly expanded in recent years. She is a true volunteer in every sense as she translates her passion for recycling into action.”

MacKewn’s volunteer work goes beyond participating in recycling events. She and others worked to move the university’s recycling facility to a larger building three years ago. Since the move to the former National Guard Armory building on Moody Street in Martin, the items accepted for recycling has expanded to include plastics, glass, scrap metal and cell phones. The recycling percentages for UT Martin have grown to nearly a 35 percent rate per person.

MacKewn has also been part of several grants to place recycle bins in K-12 schools, host sustainability conferences at UT Martin and expand the recycling facility. She was successful in obtaining a Tennessee Department of Transportation litter grant award and worked with Dennis Kosta, the university’s custodial manager, to obtain three consecutive Walmart community environmental grants and a growing-gardens grant to place several garden plots near the residence halls. For three years running, MacKewn has led the university’s participation in “Recyclemania,” an international competition among colleges and universities in Canada and the U.S.

MacKewn also helps to organize Earth Week activities and Earthfest, a community celebration of the earth and sustainable practices. Events include live music, food, competitions among scouting groups for their recycling efforts, a “swap cycle” in which people swap out goods for free, a recycle run and recycled art contests. The university’s recycling facility also schedules monthly “recycle days” during which volunteers collect recycling from area residents who drop off materials at the university’s recycling facility.

“I’m extremely fortunate to work with such great people at UT Martin who support recycling,” MacKewn said. “Their efforts are making the campus and community more sustainable.”

MacKewn’s recognition brings the total to 26 students, faculty and staff members from UT Martin recognized by the THEC Love Community Service Awards programs.
UT Martin Infuses State With $138.5 Million in Income, Supports More Than 3,800 Jobs

UT Martin brings at least $138.5 million annually in income to the state of Tennessee and supports more than 3,800 jobs, according to a study released in May. The study by the Center for Business and Economic Research at UT Knoxville also found the university generates an estimated $15.1 million in state and local tax revenue each year.

UT economists, led by CBER director Bill Fox, analyzed data from fiscal year 2008 to estimate the economic impact of the UT System overall and the individual impact of the campuses in Knoxville, Martin, Chattanooga, the Health Science Center in Memphis and the Space Institute in Tullahoma. The economic impact studies focused on direct employment and income data.

The university's payroll for FY 2008, including salary and benefits for 2,152 full-time and part-time faculty, staff and student employees, was $53.9 million. The effect of payroll spending was $107.8 million and accounted for approximately 762 additional jobs.

The $16.3 million UT Martin spent on goods and services in the state led to $10.5 million in income for the state and the creation of 256 additional jobs.

Students spent approximately $47.7 million, accounting for $20.2 million in income and 674 jobs. The study did not include visitors attending non-athletic events.

And that is likely a conservative estimation of UT Martin's impact, according to the study.

“The university also enhances the culture of each community through the arts, athletics and continuing education opportunities,” said UT Martin Chancellor, Tom Rakes. “UT Martin provides enhanced access through university centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley and Selmer, as well as offering a menu of online programs for working adults. This access serves to build a better-educated work force in Tennessee.”

The UT Martin Campaign Steering Committee members present a check to Chancellor Tom Rakes for $43 million. It represents the amount raised to date by the UT Martin campus in the historic UT Campaign for Tennessee, which ends in 2011. UT Martin was the first campus in the UT system to meet its campaign goal, not once, but twice. Pictured, from left, are J. Houston Gordon, UT Martin Campaign honorary chair; Dr. Lew Dougherty, UT Martin Campaign co-chair; Dr. Jan Simek, UT interim president; Jim Haslam, UT Campaign for Tennessee chair; Chancellor Rakes and Ray Smith, UT Martin Campaign co-chair. Other campaign steering committee members not pictured include: Jim Ayers, UT Martin Campaign honorary chair; Bill Blankenship, Crawford Gallimore, Charlie Moore, Dr. Ron Kirkland, Dr. Margaret Perry, Newell and Bettie Graham, Betty Smith; and Bettye Giles, Dr. Jerald Ogg and Charley Deal, UT Martin Family Campaign co-chairs.

Chancellor Tom Rakes, right, accepts a donation from Bill and Sandra Murray for the Kelly Murray Portfolio Management Room and Investment Fund. The trading room, located in the College of Business and Global Affairs, is named in memory of Kelly Murray, an alumnus, whose leadership and passion for finance and investments inspired the creation of the facility. The room and the new trading fund are thanks to a series of donations from the Murray family and friends.

The UT Martin Media Center in the Paul Meek Library became the “Steven E. Rogers Media Center” in memory of Rogers, former library director and professor emeritus, in recognition of his 32 years of service to UT Martin, including eight years as library director. After his death in 2008, family and friends established the Steven E. Rogers Library Endowment with gifts and pledges totaling more than $50,000. From left, are Chancellor Tom Rakes, Lauren Rogers, Steve’s daughter, Linda Butler, library acquisitions librarian and Steve’s widow, and Jon Rogers, Steve’s son.
Let us know what you’re up to!
Please also use this form to update your address if it has changed.

Full Name (include maiden name, if applicable): _______________________________________

Years Attended: ________ through ________  School/College of: _______________________

Degree(s): __________________ Major: ____________________________________________

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Your Email Address: ____________________________________________________________

Would you like your Email address published in Campus Scene?  Yes □  No □

Full Name of Spouse: ___________________________________________________________

Did your spouse attend UT Martin?  Yes □  No □

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The Colonel Robert Brock Briggs and Barbara Demlow Briggs Endowed Scholarship

During the last 40 years, Robert (Bob), ('69, '71), and Barbara Ann (Demlow) Briggs, ('70, '72), have often talked about how attending UT Martin changed their lives forever. Both received their bachelor's and master's degrees in education from UT Martin.

Bob and Barbara Briggs know from personal experience that a college education opens the door to opportunities that are not accessible to individuals with only a high school education. This knowledge was the inspiration for the $1.5 million bequest in their estate. This generous pledge will establish the Colonel Robert Brock Briggs and Barbara Demlow Briggs Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship is designated for undergraduate math education students and Northwest Tennessee math teachers obtaining their master's degrees.

“Although the number of students has doubled since I attended UT Martin, the campus and students still retain the charm that UT Martin is known for. It is truly a special place for special people who desire a quality education,” Barbara said.

“My education at UT Martin was a successful investment that has paid for itself many times over,” Barbara said. “One of the main reasons I chose to attend UT Martin was the positive relationship between the individual faculty members and the individual student. They were there to provide guidance and options when asked, but they let you grow as an individual by making your own decisions.”

Barbara Briggs certainly knows the value of a quality education. She taught Algebra II in Anne Arundel County Maryland public high school for 34 years. During that time, she was named a Master Teacher of High School Mathematics. Barbara also coached the women's high school basketball team for 13 years. During that period they won four regional basketball titles and one state title. She was appointed chair of the math department three times, retiring in June 2006.

Barbara had two outstanding role models in math and basketball. “Sandra Gossum and Bettye Giles had a profound effect on my future. Sandra made math enjoyable, and, as a result, I enjoyed teaching math for my entire professional career. Bettye Giles was ahead of her time in that she saw the potential of developing women’s skills in sports.”

Bob Briggs credits UT Martin with providing him the opportunities to develop as a leader and manager through active participation in organizations such as ROTC, Student Government Association and Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. He also credits several faculty and staff members with helping establish the foundation on which he built a successful career.

“My freshman year, I lived in one of the men’s residence halls, and my residence floor counselor was Nick Dunagan, who later became chancellor of UT Martin,” Bob said. “Nick showed me how to take brief class notes and use the limited time available to study more efficiently. Col. George Freeman, professor of military science, provided guidance and practical experience in problem solving and decision making, as well as the art of effective listening. Additionally, Dr. Phillip Watkins provided invaluable guidance when I was treasurer of the Student Government Association in 1969.”

Bob served three years as a first lieutenant in the military intelligence branch of the U.S. Army and was assigned to the National Security Agency. He served as a cryptologic electronic warfare officer. He was one of the first officers to advocate use of computers in the interception, decoding and analysis of foreign intelligence information.

During the next 21 years, he held numerous Army Reserve command and staff positions. His last assignment was to the general staff, 97 USAR command, serving as the deputy chief of staff for information management. Robert retired at the rank of colonel in December 1995.

Bob also worked for 35 years at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., primarily in information management. His last assignment was as assistant director for policy and planning, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Department of Justice. He retired from this post in July 2006.

Among Bob's many great memories of UT Martin, one in particular stands out. “My best UT Martin experience occurred in September 1966, in a Brehm Hall biology lab,” he said. “A beautiful young lady walked up to me and said, ‘Would you like to be my lab partner?’ That was the beginning of a relationship that has lasted over 44 years. We were married in July 1972, and are still young at heart and believe each day is a new adventure that we share together.”
The Real Deal

What a year we have experienced in Alumni Relations! So many individuals have provided us assistance over the year by hosting alumni events, helping locate lost alumni, planning reunions and coming back to campus to participate in events! And on March 20, the UT Martin Alumni Council voted to create the UT Martin Young Alumni Council to support the programming needs of our alumni under the age of 32. By the year 2013, approximately half of our alumni base will be under the age of 40. I know we all believe we will forever be young, but frankly speaking, the youth have the older folks outnumbered!

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The UT Martin Young Alumni Council met in June to discuss young alumni needs, wants and what they expect from their alma mater and how our office can use the current level of resources to meet those demands. Andrew Hart (’04) was appointed chair. This group has the energy needed to engage our largest group of alumni, but they also know the importance of traditions and the need to build support for their university. While the task of engaging any alumni base is sometimes challenging, this task will be easier because this council is the face for the group, the voice of reason and the ears for unmet needs. I challenge all of the young alumni under the age of 32 to get involved and support the efforts of this new council. You are the future of our university.

I also want all of the “not-so-young” alumni to know that you can still expect your alumni office to have programming that meets your needs, as well. While we do not plan to establish an “Old Alumni Council,” we will continue to offer special reunions for certain class years, planned giving seminars and other social activities. I hope you will continue to support UT Martin, the alumni office and all of our volunteers as we try to engage you in our alumni programming.

I hope to see you at one of our planned events during the upcoming school year and express that you are welcome to visit us any time.

– Charley Deal, Class of ’92, ’96

The class of 1960 was inducted into the UT Martin Golden Grads during a special dinner at the Paul Meek Library. Dr. Margaret Perry, (’61), was the guest speaker and Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the induction ceremony.

Bill and Roberta Blankenship, (’55 UTMB), hosted an alumni reception in May in Sandestin, Fla. Interim President Jan Simek, left, and Bill, right, briefed alumni from each campus on exciting developments throughout the UT system. Some of the many guests included Jason and Daphne (’99) Havens, Wilbur Edmiston (’63), Ed Williamson (’47) and Dorothy Berthelot (’75).

On May 10, the Big Orange Caravan rolled into the Dallas/Ft. Worth UTAA Chapter meeting at Las Colinas Country Club in Irving, Texas. Prior to the event, Pat Head Summit met with fellow UT Martin alumni for a pre-dinner reception. She is pictured with three UT Martin Chi Omega sorority sisters, left to right, Lori Semby Wolfe, (’83), Shari Lashlee Moore, (’83), and Tracey Stuard Harness, (’84), along with local UTAA chapter president, Robert Shafer, also a UT Martin alum, (’77). Chancellor Tom Rakes, Len Solomons and Charley Deal also attended the reception.
Calendar of Events for Alumni Relations

**July 31**
UT Martin Alumni Council Fall Meeting
Alumni Center

**August 27**
Legacy Luncheon
(For all first-time legacies)
Paul Meek Library

**September 4**
UT Martin vs. UT Knoxville Football game
Knoxville

**October 15-17**
HOMECOMING

**November 11**
Nashville Alumni Reception

Local senior send-off parties are being scheduled. If you would like to host a party for freshmen in your community, please contact the alumni office.

**2010 Homecoming Schedule**

**Friday, October 15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Golf Tournament</td>
<td>Sharon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15 PM</td>
<td>Rope pull Championships</td>
<td>By Pacer Pond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Alumni Dinner and Awards</td>
<td>Chancellors’ Suite, Alumni Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 PM</td>
<td>Pyramid and Pep Rally</td>
<td>Elam Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Saturday, October 16**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>Letterwinner’s Breakfast and Hall of Fame Inductions</td>
<td>Alumni Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td><strong>QUAD CITY OPENS</strong></td>
<td>UT Martin Quad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Live Music on the Coca-Cola Music Stage by</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Memphis-based Webb Dalton Band (See story on page 12.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Football Team’s Hawk Walk</td>
<td>Quad by Paul Meek Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Football game vs. EKU</td>
<td>Graham Stadium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sunday, October 17**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Walk in the Quad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>Homecoming Brunch</td>
<td>University Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Homecoming to Have International Flare...**

UT Martin’s 2010 Homecoming will be the background for the 30th anniversary of the UT Martin-Hirosaki University partnership. The event will begin Thursday evening with a city of Martin reception for all past student exchange groups and conclude on Sunday with a free concert featuring two professional Shamisen players. A Shamisen is much like the American banjo. For more information about this historical event, please contact Kyoko Hammond at 731-881-7484. All past participants of the exchange program sponsored by the university or the city of Martin are encouraged to attend.

Lemoyn Robinson, (’93), received the president’s gavel from UT Martin Alumni Council president, Jimmy Settle, (’88). Robinson will preside over the UT Martin Alumni Council beginning July 1. A list of current volunteers as well as past presidents of the council can be found at www.utmforever.com.

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John Eisterhold (left) and Chancellor Larry McGehee (right) with Hiroshi Yamamoto, the visiting professor from Hirosaki University in fall of 1970.
1959

David Owen Patterson, (’59), right, retired from the Pentagon’s Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) in 2004, where he was program manager for the Advanced Lithography program. Technologies developed in the program are now being used to produce leading-edge computer circuits. This program was recently cited as one of the 10 major technology advancements in DARPA’s 50-year history. Other DARPA developments cited in the top-10 list include the Internet, GPS, the stealth bomber and the cruise missile. He and his wife, Joan, live in Virginia Beach, Va., and they have three grown sons: Alan, Richard and Rodney. Email: dpatterson10@cox.net

600 children were served in 2008 at Christmas. She and her husband, Alvin, live in Dresden.

1977

Michael Jacobs, (’77), was named senior communications advisor to the assistant secretary of environmental management at the U.S. Department of Energy. He will provide advice to senior management in the planning, preparation and implementation of program communication strategies, organize media events and foster effective working relationships with intergovernmental organizations, special-interest groups and the general public. The program is focused on the environmental cleanup of the national nuclear weapons complex. He was the 1991 recipient of the UT Martin Outstanding Young Alumni Award. He lives in Alexandria, Va. Email: mj_nchof@hotmail.com

Nancy Ann McLeary Stephenson, (’77), is an employment counselor with the state of Tennessee. She and her husband, Richard, live in Jackson and have two grown children: Laura and Phillip. Email: sanna7780@hotmail.com

1978

Donna Wilson King, (’78), is an elementary supervisor with the Hardin County Board of Education. She lives in Savannah with her husband, Bobby. Email: 2kings@charter.net

1961

Lou Ann Anderson Powers, (’61), is chair and founder of Santa’s Helpers. For 14 years, the charity has been providing new clothes and toys for needy children in Weakley County. More than 32

Mitzi Harris Smith (’81) of Blytheville, Ark., received a doctor of education degree in educational leadership May 8 from Arkansas State University. Smith, who has been a teacher and high school principal 28 years, taught English and Advanced Placement classes at Newport High School, South Pemiscot High School, Gosnell High School and Union City High School before becoming principal eight years ago at South Mississippi County High School. She has also served as a part-time instructor at Arkansas Northeastern College. She left her position at South Mississippi County Schools on July 1 to become director of curriculum at another area school. She is married to Herb Smith (’81), who is the assistant to the publisher at the Blytheville Courier News. The Smiths have two children who are also teachers. Daughter Ashley Gallant is a third grade teacher at Central Elementary School in Blytheville, and son Chris Smith is a teacher/coach at Obion County Central High School in Troy.
Every dollar matters. Any department, college or sport are completely tax deductible! Please consider your continued support of our campus is greatly appreciated and welcomed. Gifts to the UT Martin Campus Fund or to legacy students were also presented during the annual Legacy Luncheon. Your experience on campus and help us meet the needs of students like you. Every dollar matters.

1979

Marilyn Mansfield, (79), is an educator and author who lives in Dallas, Texas, with her husband, Dr. Stephen Mansfield (MBA, ’86), president and CEO of Methodist Health System (see story in this issue of Campus Scene). A school teacher in public and private schools for more than 25 years, she has written a book titled Being Me, Being Free, her first children’s book. “My hope is this book will be of benefit to all of us, both children and adults, to better understand ourselves, which will lead to a greater understanding and acceptance of others,” she said on her Web site. The Mansfields have a daughter, Meredith Grace, who is a student at Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

1983

Capt. James “Jamie” Hopkins, (’83), was announced in December 2009 as the new commanding officer of the Vanderbilt Naval ROTC. He earned a political science degree from UT Martin, and after graduation, completed Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Fla., in 1983 and earned his Wings of Gold in 1984. He also earned a master’s degree from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at National Defense University. He has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal. He and his wife, Alison, have two daughters: Stephanie, 15; and Natalie, 12. (courtesy Vanderbilt University)

1985

D magazine named Dr. Jane Kao, (’85), one of the “Best Pediatric Specialists in Dallas 2010.” The list was published in the magazine’s April issue. She was the 2009 recipient of the UT Martin Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

1987

Curtis Mansfield Jr., (’87), was promoted to captain of the Jackson District of the Tennessee Highway Patrol. The announcement was made by the Tennessee Department of Safety. A native of Medina, he has served as acting captain of the Jackson District since March 1, 2010, and previously served as acting captain of the Jackson District in 2003-04. Commissioned as a trooper in November 1988, he began his career as a road trooper in Decatur and Madison counties. He and his wife, Kim, have two daughters and reside in Jackson.

1989

Ken Buntin, (’89), taught art in public schools in North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida and also in haeg-wons (private schools) in Suwon and Yangpwong, South Korea. He lives in Lavergne. Email: kenbuntin@gmail.com

Floyd Tyler, (’89), started PreservePartners, LLC, a research-driven investment management firm based in Memphis. Prior to forming the firm, Tyler held various positions at Gerber/Taylor Capital Advisors from 1999 to 2009, including director of research, investment management consultant and president of Gerber/Taylor Associates, its $13 billion investment management consulting subsidiary.

1994

Dana Pegues-Pointer, (’94), joined PreservePartners as director of fund operations and chief compliance officer. She previously was vice president and senior account analyst with FTN Financial, a national broker-dealer and a division of First Tennessee Bank, and served in multiple roles during her 15-year tenure there.

1996

Heather Stigall Hart, (’96), and her husband, Christopher, (’95), live in Brentwood with their two children: Sophie, 7; and Sadie, 4. She is a sales representative with Shire, and he is assistant dean and basketball coach at Franklin Road Academy. Email: hart1316@comcast.net

1997

Leah Park Cannon, (’97), received a master’s in liberal arts and science from Vanderbilt in 2009 and has skated two seasons with the Nashville Rollergirls. She lives in Nashville.

Megan Madden, (’07) was named the 2009 Dyersburg/Dyer County Woman of the Year in 2010. She is an assistant vice president at Security Bank where she manages marketing, public relations, business development and community involvement. She volunteers with the Mission March, the Christmas Parade, Relay for Life, Chimes for Charity, Salvation Army, United Way, and the Downtown Fall Festival and Relay for Life in Dyer County. She is active in the Dyersburg Kiwanis Club and HOSTS mentoring at Dyersburg Primary School and also serves on the Dyersburg State Annual Fund Committee, Healthy Woman Advisory Council, Chamber Diplomat program, the YMCA board and the Dyer County Fair Board. She graduated in 2010 from the Barret School of Banking in Memphis.

continued on next page
Police Officers Honored

Several UT Martin criminal justice graduates have earned individual recognition for their work. Eric Rivera (‘05) was named Officer of the Year for the Montclair Police Department (Calif.); Jennifer Owens (‘06) was named Officer of the Year for the Martin Police Department; and Justin Weaver (‘08) was named Officer of the Month for November 2009 for the Collierville Police Department.

Chris Crider, (‘97), above, is mayor of the city of Milan. He was awarded the 2003 Northwest Tennessee Development District Legislator of the Year while in the Tennessee House of Representatives and was secretary of the House Republican Caucus 2007-08. He and his wife, Terri, have a 10-month-old son, Jack. Email: chriscrider@bellsouth.net

Brandon Dodds, (‘97), recently published a book, Victory Dance: A Solution for Iraq and More Common Sense Foreign Policy. He is also running for governor of Tennessee as an independent candidate. The Web site is www.doddsforsgov.com. He lives in Newbern with his wife, April Baker Dodds, (‘98), and their three sons.

Stacey Lessenberg Storey, (‘99), is a customer service manager with Smurfit-Stone. She and her husband, Thomas, live in Medina with their children: Hayden, 7; and Ryder, 3 months. Email: sstorey1@click.net

2000

Traci Wright Tate, (‘00, ’04), is a school counselor at Medina Elementary. She was awarded Elementary Counselor of the Year from the Tennessee School Counselor Association in November 2009. She also received an Alumnae Certificate of Merit from Zeta Tau Alpha in April 2009. She and her husband, William Tate, (‘92), live in Humboldt. They have two children: Mary, 10; and Marshall, 5.

2001

Clarence William Clark, (‘01), lives with his wife, Kristy, in Covington, where he is a farmer and she is a teacher with Tipton County Schools.

2002

Julie Bellfuss, (‘02), earned a master’s degree and is a Knowledge Bowl coach at Covington High School. She lives in Ripley with her husband, Joseph. Email: jbeilfuss@tipton-county.com

2005

Calandria Ellison, (‘05, ’07), was selected Teacher of the Week in West Tennessee by television station WBBJ in December 2009. She lives in Denmark, with her son, Landon Cole, 3. Email: calandriae@yahoo.com

Correction

Dr. Buddy Bibb, (‘79) was incorrectly titled in the last edition of Campus Scene. His actual title is Director of Instruction for Tipton County Schools.

2006

Dacci Meyer, (‘06), joined the CAMPUSPEAK team as the Spring 2007 lectures intern. After a brief position at a local non-profit, she returned to CAMPUSPEAK in December 2007 as lectures coordinator, and in the Summer of 2008, she started her current position as creative marketing coordinator. She is attending graduate school at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where she will receive a Master of Arts in English: Technical Communication Option in fall 2010.

2008

Adam Trull, (‘08), who has a political science degree from UT Martin, was named this spring as a Presidential Management Fellow at the Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University. Last summer, he was employed by the Department of State’s Bureau of Political-Military Affairs where he worked with staff from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the National Security Council and several members of Congress. Most recently, he spent time in Japan researching issues surrounding the U.S.-Japanese alliance. Email: atrull@bush-school.tamu.edu utm
Former Skyhawk Greats Enjoy Professional Basketball Seasons in the NBA and NBADL

Former Skyhawk men’s basketball players Lester Hudson ('09) and Jared Newson ('06) both saw their professional seasons finish up this year in the first round of the NBA Developmental League Playoffs. Hudson, playing his rookie season in the NBA, began the year with the Boston Celtics who had drafted him with the 58th overall pick in the 2009 draft but was claimed off waivers by his hometown Memphis Grizzlies midway through the year. In 16 games with the Celtics, Hudson averaged 4.4 minutes per game, scoring 1.4 points a night. To gain more experience at point guard, Hudson was sent to the NBA Developmental League’s Maine Red Claws, an affiliate of the Celtics, where he played five games, averaging 14.6 points and nearly five rebounds a night.

After Hudson was waived by the Celtics, he was picked up by the Grizzlies less than 24 hours later. In only his second day with the team, Hudson logged a season-high 21 minutes against the Minnesota Timberwolves, where he scored nine points and pulled down four rebounds. He followed that up two weeks later with a career night at home against Kobe Bryant and Los Angeles Lakers. He played 12 minutes against the Lakers but in that time he scored 13 points, including a pair of deep three-pointers, while also shutting down Bryant on defense. Later in the year, Hudson was again sent to the NBADL, this time to the Dakota Wizards, to gain experience.

In 15 games with the Wizards, Hudson became the D-League’s 13th leading scorer with 16.5 points per game, while also pulling down 6.3 rebounds and dishing out 4.2 assists. He helped lead Dakota into the playoffs, where he stepped up his scoring to 18 points a night, but it wasn’t enough as Dakota fell to the Austin Toros in game three of the three-game series.

For Newson, it was his first season to play in the United States since graduating from UT Martin in 2006. After all-star international seasons in Germany and Australia, Newson returned to the United States and the NBADL’s Bakersfield Jam, which is an affiliate of the Golden State Warriors and LA Clippers. Newson appeared in 20 games for the Jam, averaging 10.6 points and 4.2 rebounds along with a season-best 34 points against the Utah Flash before being traded to the Sioux Falls Skyforce, which is the affiliate team of the Minnesota Timberwolves and the Miami Heat. With the Skyforce, Newson appeared in 26 games, starting 13 and averaging 8.2 points and 3.6 rebounds. He scored double figures 10 times, including 31 against the Springfield Armor. Newson also helped guide his team to the NBADL Playoffs, but the Skyforce ultimately fell to the Tulsa 66ers in three games. UTM

Florence Elliott Hills, (UTJC '31), died on Nov. 9, 2009, at Shannondale Nursing Home in Knoxville. She was the first director of women’s physical education at UT Martin.

Dr. Vivian Bowie Pilant, ('65), retired director of school food services for the state of South Carolina and pioneer and champion of child nutrition, died March 29, 2010, in Huntsville Hospital in Alabama. Her 30-year career in school food and nutrition services in three states included a school district in Tennessee, a major city school district in Florida and two state agencies in South Carolina. She served as state nutritionist for the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program for two years. She worked with the South Carolina Department of Education for 20 years, the last 18 as the state director of school food services administering child nutrition, food distribution and nutrition education and training programs. She served on several national advisory committees and panels; made presentations on child nutrition issues to a variety of organizations; appeared on the NBC Today Show, C-Span’s This Morning; and testified before Congress five times. During 1994-95, she was president of the American School Food Service Association, a 65,000-member nationwide organization of food service personnel and was president-elect of the South Carolina Nutrition Council. In October 1994, she was honored by the governor for her service to the state with South Carolina’s highest civilian award, the Order of Palmetto. In 1996, she was recognized as Outstanding Dietitian in the Columbia Midlants Dietetic Association, received a National FAME award in 1997 for her contributions to the Child Nutrition Program, and the Medallion Award from the American Dietetic Association. Courtesy of http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/thestate/obituary.aspx?n=vivian-bowie-pilant&pid=141340271!ixzz00CxHYkKG.

Laurel Jones Childs, ('81), died Dec. 6, 2009. She was a teacher for 27 years and led eight trips around the world with People2People Student Ambassadors. She was a regular columnist for the Lake County Banner and an occasional contributor to the Commercial Appeal. She also wrote an online journal that chronicled her battle with ovarian cancer.

Roman Scott Moore, ('07), died Feb. 23, 2010, in Columbia. The Maury County native was a 2003 graduate of Columbia High School and earned a criminal justice degree from UT Martin. He was a youth services officer with the Middle Tennessee Juvenile Detention Center. (courtesy Oakes and Nichols Funeral Home)

Chace A. Wimberley, ('08), of Dyer, died Dec. 15, 2009, in a motorcycle accident in Martin. He was a May 2008 graduate with a degree in philosophy. He was also a Sigma Chi Fraternity alumnus and a founding member of the UT Martin chapter. (courtesy of The Pacer)


Tavarious Ingram, a South Side High School senior from Jackson and a UT Martin dual-enrollment student, died in a traffic accident on May 8, 2010.
IT'S ALL IN THE FAMILY!

TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS VS UT MARTIN SKYHAWKS
NEYLAND STADIUM • SEPTEMBER 4, 2010

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