Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi inducts new members

The following Benton County residents recently were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines:

- Allyson Bell of Camden initiated into The University of Tennessee at Martin chapter.
- Taylor Douglas of Holladay initiated into The University of Tennessee at Martin chapter.

These residents are among approximately 32,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors, having at least 72 semester hours, are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff, and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Founded in 1897 at the University of Maine and headquartered in Baton Rouge, La., Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline honor society. The Society has chapters on more than 300 college and university campuses in North America and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

More About Phi Kappa Phi

- Since its founding, more than 1.25 million members have been initiated. Some of the organization's more notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist David Baldacci and YouTube cofounder Chad Hurley. The Society has awarded approximately $15 million since the inception of its awards program in 1932. Today, $1 million is awarded each biennium to qualifying students and members through graduate fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, member and chapter awards and grants for local and national literacy initiatives.

McNairy County student receives scholarship to attend UT Martin

A McNairy County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2014-2015 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

- Caitlyn King, daughter of Jeff and Carla King of Ramer, will be a freshman. She received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship/Workship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn., 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.
SOYBEAN FESTIVAL LINEUP — Lee Brice performs at the Stagecoach Music Festival on Sunday in Indio, Calif. Tennessee Soybean Festival organizers announced this week that Brice will headline a stellar lineup and perform in Martin on Saturday, Sept. 6. Brice’s hit single, “I Drive Your Truck,” won song of the year last month’s Academy of Country Music Awards. (Photo by Chris Pizzello/Invision/AP)

Brice to headline Soybean Festival

By BRAD GASKINS
News Editor

Lee Brice is coming to Martin — and he’s bringing country music’s song of the year with him. He takes the stage Sept. 6 as the marquee performer of the 21st annual Tennessee Soybean Festival.

Some of Brice’s hits include “A Woman Like You,” “Love Like Crazy,” “Hard To Love,” “I Don’t Dance” and “I Drive Your Truck,” selected as song of the year at the Academy of Country Music Awards in April.

“One of our greatest challenges every year is to make that lineup as good as it was the previous year,” said David Belote, the festival’s lead planner. “We really work hard to make sure that we can do that. Some years you wonder if you’re going to be able to get it done or not. I think we have another very, very good lineup. We’ve got the No. 1 country song of the year coming at us.”

Also booked throughout the week are The Cadillac Three, Audio Adrenaline and the Little River Band.

SOYBEAN FROM PAGE 1

The Cadillac Three will perform Tuesday, Sept. 2. Their sound hovers between radio-ready country anthems, hard-and-heavy rock and traditional Southern Folk. Members include native Nashvillians Jaren Johnston, Neil Mason and Kelby.

Audio Adrenaline, a contemporary Christian rock band, will perform Wednesday, Sept. 3. The band officially started in 1986 and went on to win a Grammy and Dove Award. The group parted ways several years ago but reemerged with several new members in 2012.

Soybean Festival organizers said they are close to booking a band for college night, which is Thursday, Sept. 4.

The Little River Band performs Friday, Sept. 6. Formed in Melbourne, Australia in 1975, the band achieved success in America between 1976 and 1983 with the singles “It’s a Long Way There,” “Help Is on Its Way,” “Happy Anniversary,” “Reminiscing,” “Lady, Cool Change,” “Lonesome Loser,” “The Night Owls,” “Take It Easy On Me,” “Man On Your Mind,” “We Two” and “The Other Guy.”

Worldwide album and CD sales now top 30 million.

Belote said the Soybean Festival committee is pleased with the lineup.

“Sometimes these things work out nice and people think you had a whole lot to do with it, but you don’t,” he said. “It’s flat out luck when it happens, but that’s a good thing. We’re going to have a good time. It will be good like it always is.”

He added, “We’re in a good position. It has worked out for another year. I really feel like we’ve got as strong a lineup as we’ve ever had.”

While booking the bands was crucial, organizers have plenty of planning left to do, including rolling out some new events for the 21st annual festival.

One new event in the works is a guitar painting contest in which participants would paint Soybean-themed art on an old guitar. Festival committee member Katie Smith is credited with pitching the idea.

Smith, who is also the coordinator of student organizations at UT Martin, is working with UT Martin art professor Jason Stout to bring the idea to fruition. One idea is to have UT Martin art students judge the entries.

“They’ve established the guidelines for this and are going to promote it,” Belote said. “Everybody has worked real hard.”
‘Sassy’ Rebecca Russell Jones continues cookbook tour

BOOK TOUR — Rebecca Russell Jones proudly displays a copy of her book, “Sassy in the Kitchen.” Her cookbook tour continues this month, beginning in Middle Tennessee.

By JOE LOFARO Special to The Press

Rebecca Russell Jones, the author of “Sassy in the Kitchen,” continues her cookbook tour.

The month of May will open in Clarksville for the author better known as Sassy.

“The Queen City is where I grew up, lived, loved almost everything about going to school, cherished my friends and neighbors, rode around town on Friday and Saturday nights until curfew time came, danced ‘till the music stopped and talked way too much in class during high school when I should have been listening more.”

Jones said she will never forget her hometown, “Clarksville is a place where I will always remember my humble ‘roots’ and through the years have learned to cherish my past. The mere thought of returning home brings back the vintage of aromas, a simple heritage and times when just holding hands mended more than a prescription.”

It all began in Clarksville and you can read about how Sassy (Jones) became the person she is in the cookbook itself. “Most of who I am began in the kitchen and I’m still in God’s design as unfinished,” Sassy said.

“It’s going to be a grand visit. I’ll see three of my former home economics teachers from high school and some others who are especially dear that inspired me to believe in myself,” she said.

Jones, who teaches at Milan High School, started cooking at 6 years old. When she was 10, she was planning meals with her mother, who was a beautician.

“I grew up as a ‘country girl’ – poor and proud,” Jones said. “By the time I was in junior high school, I realized that most girls didn’t know a slotted spoon from a measuring spoon.”

Jones said she would do just about anything for her mama. When it was time for college, Jones went

from Milan to UT Martin. Her mama wanted her to go away for school and Jones wanted to as well. UT Martin was just far enough away.

“Everybody else makes plain food,” Jones’ son Harris said. “When you cook, you always think about what everybody likes. You even ask them if they are on a diet. “You try new recipes, too, and make it all fun. You decorate your food, like when you make me pancakes in shapes.

“You’re just sassy,” Harris said.

After signing first edition copies of the cookbook before Christmas at Kirkland’s Antiques Gift Interiors and Lighting in Martin, Sassy has soared.

The cookbook is now in 28 states, Australia, England, Denmark and Germany.

“I wanted to be a teacher and I dreamed of having my own classroom teaching students how to cook.” Jones admired the teachers because they had pretty jewelry, high heels and “even purses to match,” she said.

Jones graduated in 1973 from UT Martin and earned her master’s degree, too. She has experience in teaching culinary and hospitality to students ranging from ages 5 to 75.

“Whether you are a novice cook, experimental of haven’t succeeded just yet,” Jones said she delights in sharing her legacy of cooking.

“Some recipes are from my four decades of culinary preparation in the classroom as a home economics teacher and other recipes are from devoted family members who taught me to take great pride in the art and science of cooking,” Jones said.

“A percentage of the proceeds from ‘Sassy In The Kitchen’ during May, this Mother’s Day month, go to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital as a celebration for the life of my son, Harris, as a cancer survivor,” she said.

...
MOVERS AND SHAKERS — Members of Delta Sigma Theta recently attended the 16th African American Leadership Conference held in Jackson. The event was sponsored by WestStar. Delta Sigma Theta members continue to be movers and shakers in their communities since its inception in 1913. Those attending included (from left) Toya White, Deidre Powell, Chasity Watson, Deborah Boyd, Marchell Gardner, Joyce Washington, Susie Gray, Tiarra Williamson, Cassie Lowery and Alma Carter.

CARLS SPEAKS — Dr. Alice Catherine Carls, professor of history at UT Martin, recently spoke to the Martin Kiwanis Club about the Holocaust. An in-depth and educational presentation was given. Learn more about the Martin Kiwanis Club at martinkiwanisclub.org or check out their Facebook page.
Rebecca Russell Jones, the author of Sassy in the Kitchen, continues her cookbook tour. The month of May will open in Middle Tennessee, Clarksville, for the author better known as Sassy.

"The Queen City is where I grew up, lived, loved almost everything about going to school, cherished my friends and neighbors, rode around town on Friday and Saturday nights until curfew time came, danced until the music stopped and talked too much in class during high school when I should have been listening more." Jones said she will never forget her hometown. "Clarksville is a place where I will always remember my humble 'roots' and, through the years, have learned to cherish my past. The mere thought of returning home brings back the vintage of aromas, a simple heritage and times when just holding hands mended more than a prescription."

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The Clarksville events will be 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Friday, May 2, at Smith-Trahren Mansion (Tastings and cookbook signing), and 2 - 4 p.m., Sunday, May 4, at Gingham Cafe (Recipe tastings and cookbook signing).
Four Obion County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2014-15 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

They include:
- Desarai Akers, daughter of Johnny and Angela Akers of Troy, who will be a freshman. She received the Harold Conner Scholarship.
- Kayla Michelle Eason, daughter of Tammy Eason and Rodney Eason of Union City, who will be a senior. She received the Raymond & Maxine Bratcher Award and the Robert G. & Elizabeth Latimer Award.
- Danielle Gansereit, daughter of Kurt and Joyanne Gansereit of Union City, who will be a freshman. She received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship/Workshop.
- Samantha Wallace, daughter of Tim and Sandy Wallace of Troy, who will be a freshman. She received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship/Workshop.
- Tre Hargett to speak at UTM graduation
The University of Tennessee at Martin commencement will today with Secretary of State Tre Hargett delivering the commencement address. The ceremony is set for 11 a.m. in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, and 769 graduates are eligible to receive diplomas, according to a news release.

A live commencement webcast will be available courtesy of the OVC Digital Network at http://www.ovcdigitalnetwork.com/showcase/?Live=1579. Immediately after commencement, a reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse.

Hargett was elected by the General Assembly to serve as Tennessee’s 37th Secretary of State in 2009 and was re-elected in 2013. He is the chief executive official of the department of state with oversight of more than 300 employees. He also serves on 15 boards and commissions, on two of which he is the presiding member, impacting every department and agency in state government, the release said.

Each graduate received up to six free tickets to admit his or her guests. Any tickets not claimed Friday will be distributed to the general public at a designated area outside the Elam Center beginning at 9 a.m. today.

Overflow seating with a video and audio feed of the ceremony will be provided in the fieldhouse for all guests without tickets.
Hargett tells UTM grads next challenge is servant leadership

Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett told hundreds of graduates at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Saturday that they each have the responsibility of sharing their talents with the world around them in an effort to pay forward that which has been shared.

Hargett delivered the spring commencement address at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, according to a news release from the university.

"The challenge for each of us now is looking for ways that we can demonstrate the type of servant leadership that is so sorely needed but too often lacking in our culture," Hargett said. "Unfortunately, we live in a world that doesn't encourage this type of leadership. It inundates us with messages that tell us we all deserve the biggest house, the fastest car, and to be the CEO of the company by the time we are 25 years old."

Hargett said that graduates constantly hear they should have everything they want, and they should have it now.

"Let me tell you from my own personal experience that one of the most difficult lessons any college graduate has to learn is that (unlike college) promotion doesn't come with each calendar year," he said. "It may be hard to accept that after four years of work, you probably will have not risen to the rank of 'seniors' in the organizations you join to start your career."

Hargett told graduates and guests to reach their potential they must give beyond themselves. "We have to be in touch with the world. We need to always search for ways that we can help others in the same way that others have helped us."

Hargett also encouraged collaboration. "We have an obligation to the community at large to be willing to engage in civil dialogue and collaborative action rather than re-treating to our own little bubble and acting as if the affairs of the outside world don't affect us."

Lastly, Hargett told graduates to be people of integrity.

"Adhere to your core principles," he said. "It is incumbent upon leadership to be transparent and share the 'why' with others. Giving others context for your decision-making goes a long way in creating buy-in for your ability to lead. If you demonstrate integrity in your decision making, others may not always agree with you, but they will trust you. Only exceptional people work to improve the lives of others."

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UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed the audience and presided over the event, the release said. Rakes and Katie High, vice president of academic affairs and student success at UT Knoxville, conferred the degrees.
Secretary of State addresses UT Martin graduates

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ADDRESS FROM PAGE 1

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"We have to be in touch with the world. We need to always search for ways that we can help others in the same way that others have helped us."

"I would add that you cannot subscribe to the cynical axiom that one person can't make a difference," he said.

"I know that this graduating class will lead. You will bring new energy and fresh ideas in your respective communities. Lead by example. Find ways to involve others so that you can multiply your efforts. If you have the right motives and the right spirit, anything is possible."

He told the graduates to question the world's needs and examine what is the right path forward and not settle for the status quo. "You have to follow through."

The Secretary of State encouraged collaboration. "We have an obligation to the community at large to be willing to engage in civil dialogue and collaborative action rather than retreating to our own little bubble and acting as if the affairs of the outside world don't affect us."

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Paraphrasing the Book of John, Hargett said, "He must become greater, we must become less."

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Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, welcomed the audience and presided over the event. He asked graduates to stand and applaud those who supported them through their college experience.

Rakes and Dr. Katie High, vice president of academic affairs and student success at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, conferred the degrees.
Mary Beard
A woman of many accomplishments

STAINED-Glass — Mary Beard has owned a stain glass window business since 1984, but her talents and interests certainly are not limited to stain glass creations, such as the one above. She has a variety of interests and is involved in various activities, serving in a variety of roles throughout the community.
By BENITA EVANS
Special to The Press

To look at Mary Beard, one might see a successful, strong entrepreneur who enjoys spending time in her garden and with family. Spend 30 minutes with her and you see a woman who has accomplished things in her life that most just wish they had.

Beard has a stained glass window business that she started in 1984. She says, "I wasn't teaching when we moved here. I had a friend that had a glass business here and she called me one day, and said, 'You're not teaching, come learn how to do stained glass.' I said, 'OK.'" She continued, "People always ask me if I took classes to do this? I tell them, 'No it was on the job training.'"

When her friend sold her business, Beard and a few others bought her out. She says, "I am the only one left."

When asked if it is relaxing, Beard says, "Some of it is relaxing, others not so much." She works on everything from little pieces to big church windows. Due to health issues, she is not doing as much stained glass as she normally does, but she is better and plans to get caught up very soon and start working on Christmas pieces.

She now works in the Writing Center at University of Tennessee at Martin, which she says is great because she can still work with the students and not have to worry about tests and grades as she did when she start at UTM in the '80s. She began working in the International program and moved to regular curriculum and taught freshman classes.

Now she works about 20 hours a week helping students write the papers they dread writing.

Beard assists her husband, Bob, as the UT Martin Rifle coach, and she also teaches it to 4-H club kids. She says she and her husband were on the rifle team when they met. When they moved to Martin in 1982, ROTC needed a rifle coach. Her husband took that position and she later became the coach for the women's team. She says it took too much of her time, so now she helps sometimes.

UT Martin's rifle program is the only one left in the area. The other is at Murray State. She says recruiting for the team is national but without a lot of money, completion for good shooters is tough.

She does like working with the 4-H kids. She says they are ambitious and eager to learn. She says when they turn 10 they can learn to shoot.

They learn to shoot Olympic style, which uses specific guns for the completion. This is also the type of shooting the UTM team does. Beard says, "I get calls sometimes with people wanting to join the team, and I ask, 'Do you shoot Olympic?' When they ask what that is, I say, 'You cannot be on the team.'" According to her, most people think if you can squirrel hunt you can be on the rifle team and that is not the case.

Above everything else, she is a grandmother of four kids. She loves it, and when people ask her if she is afraid the little ones will get hurt on the glass, she says, "No, they know not to touch it and not to go into my work space."

Mary Beard is an inspiration to so many women who want it all. She wears so many hats, this article would be too long to print. But an amazing woman she is.

If you are interested in Mary's Glass Work, you can go to the Martin business site for more information.
Hailee King of McKenzie graduated Saturday, May 3 from the University of Tennessee-Martin with a degree in Communications with a sequence in Public Relations.

She is the daughter of Gina and Kevan King of McKenzie. She is a 2010 graduate of McKenzie High School.

Hailee recently completed an internship at The McKenzie Banner as part of her course work at the university. During her internship, she wrote the Business Spotlight column for the newspaper. Her most recent spotlight was on Heartworks, owned by her grandmother, Linda Coleman.

As part of her internship, she also volunteered her services with the City of McKenzie, helping with special events. During the summer of 2014, she will work with the City, working with Jennifer Waldrop in economic development and special events.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies is offering a three-day advanced digital photography course from 6:30 to 9 p.m. today, May 13, and May 20 on the UT Martin campus. Techniques covered in the class will include light painting, high dynamic range (HDR) photography, panoramic photography and macro (close-up) photography, according to a news release. All shots will be taken in class, and no special cameras are required. Shooting will begin the first class period.

Dr. Tom Gallien will teach the course. The registration fee is $99 per person. Cameras and tripods are required.

For more information or to register, call ECOS at (731) 881-7082, or register at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php.
The Jackson Sun

The African-American Leadership Conference Outstanding Leader Award and Emerging Leader Award were presented at this year's conference, which was held in April at the West Tennessee Research and Education Center in Jackson. The Outstanding Leader Award was presented to George Mitchell, according to a news release. Mitchell organized the first Juneteenth Festival in Dyer County, was responsible for bringing a youth golf program to Dyersburg and volunteered in community service, including the YMCA, Salvation Army, school disciplinary board and a deacon at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church.

The award criteria notes that the nominee has made a positive impact in his city or county during the past year, has a strong record of leadership during the past five years in West Tennessee and embraces the importance of and provides effective leadership to the concept and practice of regionalism in West Tennessee.

The Emerging Leader Award was presented to Gem Bell, a supervisor for the Tekor Apex Tennessee Company and a 2013 WestStar graduate. Bell currently serves as chairman of the Boys and Girls Club of Brownsville, according to the release. He also serves on the board of directors for the Haywood County Chamber of Commerce, Haywood County Leadership, the library, the Boys and Girls Club of Jackson, First State Bank and Southwest Workforce Investment Act.

Bell was also the recipient of the Jonathan Fain Award, which was given by Haywood County for having the ability to cut costs in certain areas, according to the release.

The award criteria notes that the nominee has made a positive impact in his city or county during the past year, has a strong record of leadership during the past five years in West Tennessee, has been an active participant in the African-American leadership conferences and embraces the importance of and provides effective leadership to the concept and practice of regionalism in West Tennessee.
MMS 6th grader is top math student at UTM

A Milan Middle School 6th grader topped 120 contestants in a Math contest held April 22 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. William Carter placed 1st out of all sixth grade students in the competition. Over 20 schools competed in the event.

Several other MMS students fared well in the competition. Colin Klein placed 7th overall on the 6th grade level. In the 7th grade competition, Rachael Green tied for 4th, Addison Coleman tied for 6th, and Austin White 9th place.

Jack Parr had the highest score out of the 8th grade MMS students.

MATH CONTEST AWARD WINNERS - Four students from Milan High School earned top awards at the 58th Annual Statewide High School Mathematics Contest held at the University of Tennessee at Martin April 15. Pictured with Math teacher Pamela Guerrero (left), are (L-R), Austin Kirk, Savannah Fuqua, Kelley Field and David Lee.

Milan High students win awards at regional Math contest in April

By Steve Short

A group of students from Milan High School earned awards at the 58th Annual Statewide High School Mathematics Contest held at the University of Tennessee at Martin April 15.

The Milan students won a First Place award, two Second Place awards and one Third Place award.

The academic festival and competition is sponsored by the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association (TMTA) and held at regional sites.

Savannah Fuqua, a junior, won 1st place in Pre-Calculus. Kelley Field, a senior, won 2nd Place in Calculus. David Lee, a freshman, won 2nd Place in Algebra II. Austin Kirk, a senior, won 3rd Place in Calculus.

The students were accompanied by teacher Pamela Guerrero.

The annual, statewide Math contest is conducted as an academic festival where students represent their school in competition with other students at regional sites across Tennessee.

According to the TMTA organization, prior to 1957 several independent (and limited) contests in high school mathematics were held in various localities in Tennessee.

The Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association affected a merger of these contests in 1957 and began to sponsor a contest open to all public, private, and parochial high schools in Tennessee.

"This association is happy to conduct a statewide contest each year as one of its major projects," according to TMTA.

The major purposes of the contest are (1) to stimulate interest in mathematics by encouraging more students to include mathematics in their programs of study and, thereby, to raise the level of mathematics competence in Tennessee; and (2) to honor those students who are outstanding in their knowledge of mathematics through appropriate public recognition in their schools and their communities.
Fantasy Author Returns to Gibson County

By Logan Watson

Gibson native and author Alex Bledsoe returned to Gibson County last week to meet with fans at the Mildred G. Fields Memorial Library as the special guest of the Friends of the Library’s monthly “Book Review”.

Bledsoe, a graduate of Gibson County High School, read an excerpt from his novel “Wisp of a Thing”, the follow-up to the critically acclaimed “The Hum and the Shiver”, which was named one of the Best Fiction Books of 2011 by Kirkus Reviews.

Both novels revolve around a mysterious race of mountain-dwelling people in the Smoky Mountains, called Tufa.

“I guess I’m considered a Southern writer,” said Bledsoe, who attended college at UT Martin. “I’ve written a lot of stuff that was set in Tennessee. The idea for the Tufa came from hearing stories about the Melungeons, a different race of people in East Tennessee.”

Bledsoe, who began writing in 1996, said that many of the first stories he wrote were about Tennessee. Two of his earliest novels, “Blood Groove” and “The Girls with Games of Blood” are about vampires set in 1970’s Memphis.

“Tennessee is an interesting place to write about,” said Bledsoe, “especially West Tennessee, because it’s been mostly untouched by other writers. This is a place I feel I can bring to life.”

Bledsoe said he considers himself a fantasy writer, and likes to give his books an air of “magical realism”.

After the reading, Bledsoe gave away several copies of his books and talked about his processes as a writer, stressing how important reading is, even though he sometimes has to make time to read in-between his “day job” and taking care of his three young children.

“If you don’t read, your writing becomes insular,” said Bledsoe. “When you read outside of what you write, your writing gets better.”

Bledsoe, who is currently working on his next novel, also took time during his trip back to the homestead to talk with prose-minded students at MHS during the school’s “Literary Lunch” program.

AUTHOR REVISITS HIS ROOTS - Gibson native and fantasy author Alex Bledsoe (right) recently returned to Gibson County as a guest of the Mildred G. Fields Memorial Library’s monthly book review, hosted by the Friends of the Library. On hand for the event was Bledsoe’s high school English teacher, Joe Palmer (left).
UTM FALL REGISTRATION — Josh Fields (right) and Dylan Cook (second from left), both of Milan, recently attended Summer Orientation and Registration (S.O.A.R.) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Fields and Cook, soon-to-be Milan High School graduates, will attend UT Martin in the fall. With Fields is his mother, Jane (third from left); and with Dylan is his mother, Melissa (left). Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for first-year students the week before classes). Additional S.O.A.R. dates are June 5 and 6, June 19 and 20 and July 18. For more information about S.O.A.R., call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1.

19-year-old earns college degree from UT Martin

Bosede Afolami received her finance degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin on May 3.

Originally from Lagos, Nigeria, Afolami and her family moved to the United States in pursuit of a better education and more career opportunities. Afolami was 13 years old when her family moved to Memphis and when she began attending high school. Her high school counselors encouraged her to apply to UT Martin.

Afolami participated in the Student Government Association, the Black Student Association, Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity, the African Student Association, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Financial Management Association. She was also a PEP (Peer Enabling Program) leader for three years.

"My first year being a PEP leader was my sophomore year. First of all, I was still 16, and they [her PEP class] were older than me. I was still a little bit shy," she said in a news release. "By the second year, you are their friend and mentor. I still talk to most of them."

Afolami hopes to eventually return to Nigeria.

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WestStar holds session in Trenton

By Danny Jones

WestStar Leadership Program from the University of Tennessee Martin held Session VI at Trenton City Hall Wednesday, part of a two-day series for Gibson and Crockett counties on energy, environment and technology. The session was designed to give an overall glimpse of how energy is produced and transported to homes and businesses, along with environmental issues, alternative energies and informing the class about how different technologies are making lives more efficient.

Opening remarks were given by Charley Deal, WestStar executive director; Gibson County Mayor Tom Witherspoon; followed by Trenton Mayor Tony Burriss; Milan Mayor Chris Crider; Medina Mayor Vance Coleman; and Kenton Mayor Virginia Davidson.

The 10:30 session on Technology and Utilities was given by Alex Smith, general manager Humboldt Utilities. At 11, the group departed to MacLean Power Systems in Trenton for a tour of the plant, then back to City Hall for a lunch in the Teapot Room.

At 1 p.m. Laura Campbell, vice president of Customer Delivery with TVA, presented a program on Power for Seven States, followed by Natural Gas Issues from Pat Riley, general manager of Gibson County Utility District.

Steve Holt, consultant, spoke on how technology can help with leadership at 2:30.

The group then traveled to the West Tennessee Agriculture Museum in Milan where a program on Irrigation Management in Agriculture was given by Dana Watford and Justin Milan with Tennessee Tractor. A farming equipment presentation/tour was conducted by Dr. Blake Brown, director, UT Research & Education Center.

Closing out the day was a reception at Garden Pleasures in Milan. Thursday’s activities were in Crockett County.

WESTSTAR SESSION – Session VI of the University of Tennessee at Martin included stops in Gibson County Wednesday. The session began at Trenton City Hall’s Teapot Room and included a lunch. Those from the county in this year’s class are Bill Joyner, Bradley Owens, Eric Allen, and Susan Taylor. They were joined by WestStar Executive Director Charley Deal (left), Program Coordinator Virginia Grimes and Administrative Secretary Jordan Jones. It was noted the county has the distinction of being the only West Tennessee county where every mayor including county mayor are WestStar alumni. Board of Trustee member Pat Riley and Emily Sullivan helped coordinate the session that included Crockett County on Thursday. Riley was instrumental in coordinating the first county session and has helped in all ensuing sessions. Photo by Danny Jones.
TN Secretary of State challenges UTMgrads

Tennessee Secretary of State Tre Hargett told hundreds of graduates at the University of Tennessee at Martin that they each have the responsibility of sharing their talents with the world around them in an effort to pay forward that which has been shared.

Hargett delivered the spring commencement address Saturday at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

"The challenge for each of us now is looking for ways that we can demonstrate the type of servant leadership that is so sorely needed but too often lacking in our culture," Hargett said.

"Unfortunately, we live in a world that doesn't encourage this type of leadership. It inundates us with messages that tell us we all deserve the biggest house, the fastest car and to be the CEO of the company by the time we are 25 years old."

Hargett said graduates constantly hear they should have everything they want and should have it now.

"Let me tell you from my own personal experience that one of the most difficult lessons any college graduate has to learn is that (unlike college) promotion doesn't come with each calendar year. It may be hard to accept that after four years of work, you probably will have not risen to the rank of 'seniors' in the organizations you join to start your career," he said.

He told graduates and guests that to reach their potential, they must give beyond themselves.

"We have to be in touch with the world. We need to always search for ways that we can help others in the same way that others have helped us," he said.

"I would add that you cannot subscribe to the cynical axiom that one person can make no difference."

"If I know that this graduating class will lead, you will bring new energy and fresh ideas in your respective communities. Lead by example. Find ways to involve others so that you can multiply your efforts. If you have the right motives and the right spirit, anything is possible," he said.

He told the graduates to question the world's needs and examine what is the right path forward and not settle for the status quo.

He also encouraged collaboration.

"We have an obligation to the community at large to be willing to engage in civil dialogue and collaborative action rather that retreating to our own little bubble and acting as if the affairs of the outside world don't affect us," he said.

He also told graduates to be people of integrity.

Finally paraphrasing scripture from the book of John, Hargett said, "He must become greater, we must become less."
COLLEGE GRAD — David Wharton participated in commencement exercises Saturday at the University of Tennessee at Martin in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. His daughters, Casey Talbert (left) and Libby Wharton, and grandmother, Rose Andreozzi, were in the large crowd to witness spring commencement.

Area students headed to UT Martin

Two Henderson County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2014-2015 academic year to attend UTM, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

• Ashley Beth Mays, daughter of Marla Dickson and Marty Mays, of Scotts Hill, will be a freshman. She received the Estes Kefauver Scholarship and the Dean’s Scholarship.

• Caitlyn Walker, daughter of Rebecca Walker, of Sardis, will be a freshman. She received the Harold Conner Scholarship.
Hester chosen as 2014 FFA West Tennessee Star Farmer

Described as a man with a powerful work ethic, deep passion for agriculture, and magnetic humbleness, Reed Hester was recently chosen as the 2014 FFA West Tennessee Star Farmer. From Finley, Tenn., Hester is currently a freshman at Dyersburg State Community College, and plans to transfer to the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in agriculture business. The son of Jimmy and Amy Hester, Reed is working to become an equal partner in Hester Farms, which is a 2,400-acre, row-crop farming operation in western Dyer County. He also has built a small herd of registered Charolais cattle.

According to Dyer County High School FFA Advisor Dan Smith, Reed has been an exceptional student and businessman and has a bright future ahead of him.

"Reed Hester is one farmer to watch out for in the near future," said Smith. "He has a fervent determination and true love of agriculture that he expresses in his actions as well as in his heart. Reed is also surrounded by very loving, positive, and hardworking family members, who help strengthen his remarkable abilities of multi-tasking his FFA career activities, farming numerous acres, and producing a few awesome Charolais cattle. He has been a true example of a dedicated agriculturist, a

Reed Hester is joined by his family following the presentation of the FFA West Tennessee Star Farmer award. Pictured from left are Connor Hester, Amy Hester, Anna Glynn Hester, Reed Hester, and Jimmy Hester.
Continued from Page 1

leader in FFA, and quickly becoming a leader in the agriculture community in West Tennessee. I have been so blessed and proud to have had the opportunity to know Reed and his family. I would like to see many more students who desire to be agriculturists and help change the world along with Reed.”

Smith said Reed has been very active in the Dyer County FFA Chapter, where he has served on several officer teams and competed in numerous career development events, which includes livestock judging, parliamentary procedure, ag sales, creed, and opening and closing ceremonies. He has attended both state and national FFA conventions and has been to Tennessee FFA Leadership Training Camp four times.

Reed is also very active in the Tennessee Soybean Promotion Board, where he is still the youngest member. He is also a member of the Tennessee Cattlemen’s Association, American International Charolais Association, and currently is serving as the president of the Tennessee Junior Charolais Association. He has been on the Dyer County Junior Fair Board for six years. He is also a member of Ducks Unlimited, Wild Turkey Federation, and Delta Waterfowl.

Reed Hester and advisors, pictured from left: Richard Ross, Lynsey Butler, Hester, Dan Smith.

Reed’s Supervised Agriculture Experience program is Diversified Agricultural Production where he produces corn, wheat, soybeans and beef cattle. He has been working on Hester Farms since he was 6 years old, and became a partner in the operation four years ago. In 2010, he started by raising 100 acres of soybeans and 50 acres of wheat. In 2013, he grew his operation to 395 acres. It consisted of 240 acres of soybeans, 155 acres of corn, and 50 acres of wheat that was double-cropped with soybeans. Reed also has a breeding cattle operation consisting of nine head of registered Charolais cattle.

Soybeans are Reed’s primary cash crop, which are rotated with corn and conventionally tilled. Corn is another important crop in Reed’s crop-rotation program. His corn is planted on irrigated ground and is no-tilled. Winter wheat is planted in the fall following corn. He works vigorously with a crop consultant to help determine the correct management practices for winter wheat on his operation.

He has also built an established herd of registered Charolais cattle and developed a deep appreciation for the cattle industry. His main focus has been to purchase high quality females and increase his herd through utilization of artificial insemination and embryo transfer.

Reed is looking forward to returning to Hester Farms as a full partner. Some of his future goals are to add commercial cattle to his beef operation while striving to increase crop yields and produce high-quality Charolais cattle.
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"The challenge for each of us now is looking for ways that we can demonstrate the type of servant leadership that is so sorely needed but too often lacking in our culture," Hargett said.

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Hargett said that graduates constantly hear they should have everything they want, and they should have it now.

"Let me tell you from my own personal experience that one of the most difficult lessons any college graduate has to learn is that (unlike college) promotion doesn't come with each calendar year. It may be hard to accept that after four years of work, you probably will have not risen to the rank of 'seniors' in the organizations you join to start your career."

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"We have to be in touch with the world. We need to always search for ways that we can help others in the same way that others have helped us."

"I would add that you cannot subscribe to the cynical axiom that one person can't make a difference," he said.

"I know that this graduating class will lead. You will bring new energy and fresh ideas in your respective communities. Lead by example. Find ways to involve others so that you can multiply your efforts. If you have the right motives and the right spirit, anything is possible."

He told the graduates to question the world's needs and examine what is the right path forward and not settle for the status quo. "You have to follow through."

The Secretary of State encouraged collaboration. "We have an obligation to the community at large to be willing to engage in civil dialogue and collaborative action rather than retreating to our own little bubble and acting as if the affairs of the outside world don't affect us."

Lastly, Hargett told graduates to be people of integrity. "Adhere to your core principles. It is incumbent upon leadership to be transparent and share the 'why' with others. Giving others context for your decision-making goes a long way in creating buy in for your ability to lead. If you demonstrate integrity in your decision making, others may not always agree with you, but they will trust you. Only exceptional people work to improve the lives of others."

Paraphrasing the Book of John, Hargett said, "He must become greater, we must become less."

Hargett was elected by the Tennessee General Assembly to serve as Tennessee's 37th Secretary of State in 2009 and re-elected in 2013. He is the chief executive officer of the department of state with oversight of more than 300 employees. He also serves on 15 boards and commissions, on two of which he is the presiding member, impacting every department and agency in state government.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, welcomed the audience and presided over the event. He asked graduates to stand and applaud those who supported them through their college experience.

Rakes and Dr. Katie High, vice president of academic affairs and student success at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, conferred the degrees.
LYLE JONES, a professor at the University of Tennessee at Martin Ripley Center, has been using the internet software application, Skype, to connect his students with the lead attorney in an ongoing death penalty case more than 1,000 miles away. The Criminal Justice Ethics course, offered during the Spring semester, experienced technology and innovation at its best as they questioned and conversed with not only the lead attorney in a murder case but also the crime and courts reporter covering the trial daily via Twitter feed.

Throughout the semester, the students were assigned to follow a murder case in which a mentally ill individual consumed stimulants and, according to his testimony, communicated with the devil. The accused specified that the devil had instructed him where to find a vehicle for escape; he crawled into a garage, entered a home, and killed a nurse as she fought him. The accused confessed his guilt and willingly accepted that he would be put to death by the state for his crime. The defense attorney approached the convicted and persuaded him to fight for his life rather than accept the death penalty.

Professor Jones instructed his ethics students to follow the case on Twitter as it unfolded through the feed from the local crime and courts reporter. Students were to develop their own questions as to the ethical issues raised in this ongoing case. A few poignant discussions included, the death penalty being used for recompense of the mentally ill, an attorney convincing a convict to allow them to fight for his life once he was resolved to die, the amount of state money that would be spent to bring this trial to court. The students also discussed the bias a reporter faces and how this reporter corrects for his own bias in covering the trial.

The class gathered Tuesday, April 29th, in the lecture hall at UT Martin Ripley Center for their final project. The students were brought face to face with the defense attorney in this case and the crime and courts reporter covering the case. Professor Jones broke through all the limitations, distance can cause, as he logged in to the Skype Internet application to call each of these guest speakers. Students engaged with professionals, had their questions answered and continued discussion. "Technology gives me access to bona fide experts that I wouldn't have if I had to rely only on those I can bring into the brick and mortar facility," Professor Jones said. Jones makes a point of including technology and discussion with experts into his classroom exercises. Guest speakers in the past have included a public defender from Florida, an appellate attorney from New Mexico who had experienced a recent Supreme Court victory among many others. Jones has been practicing law in Tipton County since 2006 and is currently running for Public Defender, 25th Judicial District of Tennessee. Professor Jones has served as an adjunct professor at the UTM Ripley Center since 2006.

Amanda Ford, a UT Martin student studying forensics at the Ripley Center, was among the students in the class. "Conversing with professionals from thousands of miles away, added such innovation to the classroom, it was surreal. What an amazing experience!"
ALEX WILSON, son of Steve and Terri Wilson, of Ripley, graduated May 3rd from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a bachelor of arts degree in public administration. He plans to pursue his master’s degree in public administration in the fall through the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. In his time at UT-Martin, he served as the student body president for two years, vice-president for one year, and has been working for the UTM Office of Housing for four years. He plans to begin working as a residence hall director on the UTM campus this fall, while taking online courses for his master’s degree. The grandson of Mack and Billy Curtis, he hopes to return to his hometown of Ripley, and at some point in the future, pursue the position of County Mayor.

Locals earn degrees at University of Tennessee, Martin

Several Wilson County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

From Mt. Juliet, graduates were Abby Lynn Archie, Lauren M. Bean and Jennifer Rebecca Seagraves.
Local residents receive degrees from UT Martin

Several McNairy County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Adamsville - Mallory Dawn Leath, Fayten Desiree Mardis, Bethany Renee Martin, Cody Michael Williams, Joseph Kerby Gray, Tonya Rachelle Whitney
- Ramer - Mallory Leigh Holt, Robert Blake Reeder
- Selmer - Anna Alisha Coln, Jessica LeAnne Holmes

Wesley Joseph Johnson, Easton Finley Knight, Ashley Nicole Moore, Raymond Joseph Murby III, William Breckinridge O'Neal, Jessica Ann Ryan, Marlee Coughran Taylor, Samantha Lynn Wheatley, Dakota Madison Yalda

Stantonville - Justin Lynn Jones, Lani Clair Rinks

LOCAL RESIDENTS RECEIVE DEGREES FROM UT MARTIN

MARTIN, Tenn. -- Several Madison County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

The student receiving a graduate degree was:
Jackson -- Miranda Joy Goldsby.
JENNIFER LYNN PARRISH, of Carmel, was among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

Several Weakley County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

- Dresden — Candice Nicole Baker, Charles Edward Brewer, Tiffany Dawn Browning, Erica Elizabeth Glisson, Alayna Shae Owens, Colleen Elizabeth Perkins, Michael B. Ruff, Zachary L. Terry, Precious Elizabeth Turbeville and Shane Matthew Turbeville;

- Dukedom — Jennifer Marie Mansfield and Elizabeth Autumn Tompkins;

- Gleason — Riley Elizabeth Auvenshine, Preston Daniel Frazier, Chelsey Elise Morris, Candice Nicole Prince and Katie L. Snider;

- Greenfield — Dakota Ray Betts, Brittany L. Blackburn, Katelin Beth McCall, Stephanie Denton Sellers, Ty Samuel Smithson and Linda Kay Sullivan;


- Palmersville — Clarence Tyler Meeks, Jannie Elizabeth Reed and Crockett Dwain Stephens;

- Sharon — Tracey Lynne Crossno.

The students receiving graduate degrees were:

- Gleason — Karen Lee Fowler;

- Martin — Yunmei Kuang, Michael Logan Musser, Ashley Shiffler, Elizabeth A. Williams and James Logan Wright.

UTM’s office of Extended Campus and Online Studies and the UT Martin Reading Center will be offering a reading clinic for students in grades 2-12 who need extra support and practice in reading.

Students will receive one-on-one tutoring from a UT Martin student who is majoring in teacher education. A research-based reading program which provides good results is used.

The June sessions will meet at 9, 10 and 11 a.m., noon, 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. During the June session students will meet twice per week for one hour per meeting. Classes will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Parents interested in reserving a seat for their student this summer can call the Extended Campus and Online Studies Office at (731) 881-7082.
Being a 19-year-old college student isn’t unusual, but being a 19-year-old college graduate is something special. Bosede Afolami walked across the University of Tennessee at Martin commencement stage May 3 to receive her finance degree. During the ceremony, Afolami was honored as one of the three Meek Award winners. The Paul and Martha Meek Award honors graduating seniors who demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities while attending UT Martin. The award is the only award presented at commencement.

Originally from Lagos, Nigeria, Afolami and her family moved to the United States in pursuit of a better education and more career opportunities. Afolami was 13 years old when her family moved to Memphis and when she began attending high school. Before Afolami graduated from Ridgeway High School, she sought help to learn more about her options for higher education.

“I was so new to America. I didn’t know how the university systems worked. I didn’t know how to apply,” she said. “My counselors in high school helped, and they said, ‘Apply to any UT System school. They’re good.’”

“My first year being a PEP leader was my sophomore year. First of all, I was still 16, and they [her PEP class] were older than me. I was still a little bit shy,” she said, adding, “By the second year, you are their friend and mentor. I still talk to most of them.”

When it comes to her education, Afolami always had an idea of what she wanted to study. “In Nigeria there’s a limited amount of things to do. When you’re young, folks ask you what you want to be when you grow up,” Afolami said. “I always wanted to be a banker.

“As a finance major, I can do anything, and I want to be a financial analyst.”

Though Afolami hopes to eventually return to Nigeria, she has discovered what makes her life in Tennessee feel like home. “Growing up in Nigeria was amazing. My family, my friends are still back there,” she said. “I had a community of family with me.

“Martin and Memphis have a small community where everybody knows each other.”

Bosede Afolami has a head start on achieving her dream to work in the financial industry. Earning a college degree at the age of 19 will do that for you.

The more she learned about UT Martin, the more she realized how right her counselors were. “Everything started with Welcome Weekend with our PEP leaders,” she said. “I thought, ‘This is it!’” Incoming freshmen participate in the Peer Enabling Program, known as PEP, to help with the transition from high school to college.

Afolami became active on campus, participating in the Student Government Association, the Black Student Association, Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity, the African Student Association, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Financial Management Association. In addition to the organizations with which she was involved, Afolami was a PEP leader for three years.

Afolami said of her most valuable experiences at UT Martin, being a PEP leader, a peer counselor who helps mentor new students, made the biggest impact on her life at UTM.
YOUNG GRADUATE — Bosede Afolami, 19, walked across the University of Tennessee at Martin commencement stage May 3 to receive her finance degree. During the ceremony, Afolami was honored as one of the three Meek Award winners. The Paul and Martha Meek Award honors graduating seniors who demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities while attending UT Martin.

REGISTRATION — Annabelle Cormia of Martin recently attended Summer Orientation and Registration (S.O.A.R.) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Cormia, a soon-to-be Westview High School graduate, will attend UT Martin in the fall. With Cormia is her mother, Susan. Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for first-year students the week before classes). Additional S.O.A.R. dates are June 5 and 6, June 19 and 20 and July 18. For more information about S.O.A.R., call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1.
Florida Atlantic University recently conferred the degree of Doctor of Philosophy on Marcus Bright at Commencement Exercises in Boca Raton, Fla.

Dr. Bright pursued his Ph.D. in the area of public administration from the College of Social Inquiry and Design. His dissertation title was “An Inquiry into Scott’s Institutional Theory: The Relationship between Sports and Academics in Urban and Public High Schools.”

Dr. Bright received a master’s degree in public administration from Florida International University in Miami, a bachelor’s degree in government and world affairs from the University of Tampa, and is a 2002 graduate of Westview High School.

Dr. Bright is the executive director of Education for a Better America (EBA). EBA has launched a series of nationwide initiatives designed to increase the pursuit of post-secondary education, increase civic engagement, prevent school dropouts, increase the pursuit of S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) careers among urban youth, and promote health and wellness across the United States.

He is also a frequent contributor to the Huffington Post and has spoken across the country at universities, prisons, and other venues on a variety of topics related to civic engagement, education, and social justice.

Dr. Bright is the son of Phil and Vanessa Bright of Martin, grandson of the late Burnell Simmons (former assistant professor of education at the University of Tennessee at Martin) and Lula Cole Simmons of Alamo and the late William T. Bright and Georgia Braxton Bright of Fayetteville.

He is the brother of Marcia Bright Parker and Marion Bright of Los Angeles.
Bosede Afolami, left, of Memphis, Jamie Arnett (second from left), of Bartlett, and Taner Swinea (second from right), of Waynesboro, received Paul and Martha Meek Awards presented at May 3 commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Dr. Margaret Toston, right, vice chancellor for student affairs, presented the awards, the only awards announced during commencement.

The Meek Award is a cash award given to graduating seniors who have demonstrated outstanding qualities of leadership while at UT Martin and is made possible by the children of Paul and Martha Meek.

Paul Meek served as UT Martin chancellor from 1934-1967.

All three recipients distinguished themselves as leaders in the ways they have served their student colleagues, the university and the community.

Sarah Appleton receives Amy Spain Scholarship

Sarah Appleton, of Jackson, a first-year student at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, has received the Amy Elizabeth Spain Scholarship for 2013-14.

Appleton is a 2013 graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she majored in political science, according to a news release. She was a student ambassador and a member of the UT Martin Intercollegiate State Legislature, where she served as a delegate from 2010-2012 and participated in the 41st, 42nd and 43rd TISL General Assemblies as a lobbyist, senator, treasurer and a lobby EEO, respectively.

Appleton served as president for the UT Martin’s TISL delegation in 2012. She was also a member of the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at UT Martin, the release said.

Appleton is a native of Jackson, where she graduated from Home Life Academy. Her parents are Robert and Kelli Appleton.

The scholarship was established in memory of U of M law graduate Amy Spain, who died in an automobile accident in 1995. It is awarded on the basis of academic merit, a commitment to community or professional service and personal industriousness. Spain earned a law degree from the U of M in 1989, then served as a law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge James D. Todd, according to the release. In 1990, she became an assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee. Spain organized mock trial competitions for Memphis high school students and served as adjunct professor of legal methods and writing at the U of M.

Additional gifts to the fund in Spain’s memory can be made by contacting Holly Hazlett, law school director of development, at (901) 678-4726 or hbeuke@memphis.edu.

For more information about the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, visit www.memphis.edu/law.
West TN crafts featured in first Arts in the Park

Three-day event was held in conjunction with Strawberry Festival in Humboldt

By Beth Knoll
mbyrd@jacksonsun.com

Anthony Martin removed a sliver of metal from a smoking forge and began hammering, creating orange sparks from the heated metal as he pounded the sliver into a nail.

Martin, who has worked as a blacksmith for about 20 years, demonstrated the art of colonial blacksmithing Sunday as part of the exhibit he and his wife, Kim, featured at Arts in the Park, a three-day event held in Bailey Park in conjunction with the West Tennessee Strawberry Festival in Humboldt.

“At the time, blacksmithing was the highest-paid job in town,” said Martin, noting that his favorite period of history was colonial America. “I’m kind of a history nerd, in case you couldn’t tell.”

Libby Lynch, chairwoman of the event, said Arts in the Park featured 14 vendors and 23 artists, ranging from potters to soap makers. Several musicians also performed during the weekend.

Festival president Mike Hawks wanted to bring a new element to the festival through the Arts in the Park, Lynch said, which helped feature fine arts in West Tennessee.

“I’m a firm believer in the value of good craft,” said David McBeth, associate professor of art at the University of Tennessee at Martin, who made pottery at the event.

McBeth said he was the juror of Arts in the Park, a job that allowed him to select artists for the event. He also chose the best booth at the event, which was Tim Pace’s Eco-Art metal recycling.

For Paula Ragland, owner of Polly’s Pen Whimsical Name Art, drawing is a form of therapy.

Ragland, a writing teacher, said drawing helps keep her mind fresh as she grades research papers. While she began selling her artwork in 2012, she began drawing customized names of her nieces and nephews long before then.

“The nieces and nephews are grown up now, but they still have the artwork hanging up in their house,” Ragland said.

Shari Yetto and Shae Murphey, co-owners of S & S Aroma Emporium, also began their business recently, selling candles, soap and an expanding line of body products.

“For me, it’s fun to have a business to see the end result,” said Yetto, who began making soap years ago. “Figuring out how to do it and being creative gives me a sense of pride, especially when it’s something you can use.”

Beth Knoll, 425-9641

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Anthony Martin, a blacksmith, works at his forge at Arts in the Park in Humboldt on Sunday. BETH KNOLL/THE JACKSON SUN
David McBeth creates an apple baker at his booth at Arts in the Park in Humboldt on Sunday. BETH KNOLL/THE JACKSON SUN
'Yoga for a bad back' course offered at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies will offer a "yoga for a bad back" course from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday on the UT Martin campus.

The workshop will explore sequences of yoga postures proven to have a lasting positive effect on chronic back pain, according to a news release. Participants will look at their shoes to learn how to spot subtle misalignments in their everyday gait that cause or aggravate back pain. Other factors, such as leg-length difference and hip/shoulder height, will be discussed as other clues.

From there, participants will practice specific yoga postures within the level of comfort for them, with personally tailored modifications offered to each student. This holistic and individualized approach to curing back pain is built around the idea that the backbone really is connected to the knee bone, the release said.

Each student will be given an easy-to-follow notebook, which illustrates and explains the sequence. Yoga mats are not provided, so participants are asked to bring their own. All other props will be provided.

The workshop is best suited for those with chronic condition or those who experience occasional flare-ups, the release said. It is not suited for those experiencing a condition in an acute state.

Kate Healy, director of Martin Yoga LLC, will instruct the course. The registration fee is $20 per person, which includes a color printed manual of the postures, sequences and techniques learned in the workshop with references, so participants may practice at home. The protocols are specific for specific health conditions.

For more information or to register for the class, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082, or register at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php. To find out more about Martin Yoga LLC, visit www.martinyoga.org.

UT Martin offers 8-hour handgun carry course

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies will offer a handgun carry course from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday on the UT Martin campus.

The eight-hour course will present the student with the minimum requirements mandated by the state to obtain a handgun carry permit, according to a news release. The class will cover the use, operation and basic cleaning of a handgun. The first four-hour block will be devoted to classroom instruction and the written exam. The second four-hour block will be for firing range instruction and the practical exam.

The student must score a minimum of 70 percent on both the written and practical exam to successfully complete the class, the release said. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to apply for a handgun carry permit from the state of Tennessee.

Terry Guthrie, a state-certified handgun instructor, will instruct the class.

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

For more information or to register, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082, or register at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php.
Most West Tenn. schools report improved numbers

By Nichole Manna
nmanna@jacksonsun.com

Four local colleges are celebrating their success after the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation released its “Crime on Campus” reports, which showed an overall decrease in college campus crime across the state from 2012 to 2013.

Statewide campus crime decreased 11.6 percent, according to the report.

Overall reported crime offenses at Union University, Jackson State Community College, the University of Tennessee at Martin and Freed-Hardeman University went down from 2012 to 2013.

Bethel University in McKenzie had an increase in burglary reports — from seven reported incidents to 15 — while other types of reported crimes on its campus remained the same or decreased slightly. Lane College saw a decrease in assault, weapons and drug violation reports, but an increase in robbery and burglary reports. Robbery reports increased from four incidents to 10.

Data was not collected in 2012 or 2013 for the University of Memphis at Lambuth.

Bryan Carrier, acting dean of students at Union University, said Union officials are pleased crime reports decreased on their campus in 2013.

“The division of Student Life and the department of Safety and Security have made an increased effort to educate our campus community on the importance of good personal safety habits, including but not limited to safeguarding personal property, being aware of surroundings, knowing shelter-in

See CRIME, Page A5

While Freed-Hardeman University transitioned into having its own police department, the current director of safety and security, Rodney Weaver, said he continues to hire security personnel with a law enforcement background and training.

“What this does is it helps in the early detection of any issues or any situations that may come up,” Weaver said about his staff being law enforcement trained. “It also provides a better atmosphere for campus...it also helps to serve as a deterrence because many of us are known in the community and people know we have law enforcement experience.”

Reported offenses on Freed-Hardeman’s campus have continued to decline since 2012. In 2013, nine offenses were reported. Of those, there were five assault offenses, one more than what was reported in 2012. Weaver said the new report looks worse than what it is because of how schools are required to report offenses to the TBI.

On the incident that happened, it was a verbal altercation,” Weaver said. “When you get 1,200 people living together, not everyone is going to get along all the time. It had to be reported as an assault because of how the TBI requires their reporting.”

Weaver said his department also has started using bicycles to patrol.

“We’re just now implementing a bike patrol on campus, which will allow us to cover ground in a quicker manner than being on foot,” he said. “A lot of times we have two, maybe three people working and we only have one vehicle. We’ll be able to cover a lot more ground.”

Another goal Weaver has for 2014 is to have a security presence on campus 24/7 every day. He said that’s been done by hiring more security officers and be reworking the schedule.

Jennifer Glass, director of public relations for Bethel University, released the following statement from the school regarding its rise in crime.

“Our commitment to keeping students safe involves daily assessment of processes and adjustments for optimal outcomes. With that being said, this particular report is a very useful tool that allows us to see trends and address them. The bottom line for us is the safety of our students, and we will consult with other institutions and agencies as well as study these trends to determine the most effective measures for improvement.”

Responses from Jackson State Community College and Lane College were not immediately received.


Nichole Manna, 425-9657
MSSD Social Work Program receives award

The Milan Special School District was recently awarded the 2013-2014 “Field Agency of the Year” by the University Of Tennessee Martin School Of Social Work. On hand to accept the award was District Wide School Social Worker Amber Shelby. The award was given to Milan for being an exemplary field agency in mentoring interns and hosting volunteer placements.

The Social Work Department of Milan Special School District has over a 20 year history of collaboration with UT as a hosting field agency for undergraduate and graduate level degree seeking social work interns. Interns this semester included Chelsea Brasher, recent BSW graduate of UTM, and Amanda Killebrew, recent MSW graduate of UTK.

“We congratulate Mrs. Shelby for being the main recipient of this award” reports MSSD Supervisor Marilyn Goodman. “She is a dedicated employee who exudes energy and enthusiasm in her role as the district wide social worker. Her positive attitude and commitment to the profession prove a sincere desire to assist our students and their families.” Shelby, a MHS alumna, is a graduate of UT Martin and of UT Knoxville, where she was awarded a Master’s Degree in Social Work. She is licensed as a Certified Master Social Worker and as a School Social Worker in Tennessee.

Melanie Morales is also employed in the district as a School Social Worker serving children with disabilities. Morales, also a MHS alumna, is a graduate of Lambuth University and received her Master’s Degree in Social Work from Union University. Licensed as a School Social Worker in Tennessee, Morales’ position is funded through a Tennessee Department of Education IDEA Discretionary Grant.

“The District is very fortunate to have the opportunity to employ two former MHS graduates, both of whom chose to remain in Milan after completing their advanced degrees. These employees are providing very specialized services to our students and their families” reports Goodman. “They are to be congratulated for receiving this award.”

Local students receive degrees from UTM

MARTIN, Tenn. – Several Gibson County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Bradford - Corey Cain Crocker and Colby Crockett Roberson
- Humboldt - Blake Anthony Brittain, Donnie Mack Cook, Brittany Nicole Peeler
- Milan - Tyler S. Doyle, Wendi Michelle Goodwin, Aubrey

Medina student earns scholarship to UTM

MARTIN, Tenn. - Madeline Grace Moore, daughter of Roy and Melissa Moore, of Medina, has received the Alyss Granger, Anna Katherine Hardin, Lara Beth Mangrum, Meagan Elizabeth Massengill, Jessica Len Mathis, Kelsey Jean McAlexander, Mary Kate Pannell, John Matthew Parks, Joshua Luke Postoak, Chelsea Gibson Quinn, Chasiti Renee-Nicole Rice, Ross Franklin Smith.


Students receiving graduate degrees were:
- Medina - Nicholas Newsome.
- Milan - Jenna Lane Wallace.

UTM McWhorter Scholarship/Workshop. Madeline will be a freshman at UTM this fall.
WestStar leaders visit Milan Ag Museum

WestStar Leadership Program from the University of Tennessee Martin held Session VI at Trenton City Hall Wednesday, part of a two-day series for Gibson and Crockett counties on energy, environment and technology. The session was designed to give an overall glimpse of how energy is produced and transported to homes and businesses, along with environmental issues, alternative energies and informing the class about how different technologies are making lives more efficient.

Opening remarks were given by Charley Deal, WestStar executive director; Gibson County Mayor Tom Witherspoon, followed by Trenton Mayor Tony Burris; Milan Mayor Chris Crider; Medina Mayor Vance Coleman; and Kenton Mayor Virginia Davidson.

The 10:30 session on Technology and Utilities was given by Alex Smith, general manager Humboldt Utilities. At 11, the group departed to MacLean Power Systems in Trenton for a tour of the plant, then back to City Hall for a lunch in the Teapot Room.

At 1 p.m. Laura Campbell, vice president of Customer Delivery with TVA, presented a program on Power for Seven States, followed by Natural Gas Issues from Pat Riley, general manager of Gibson County Utility District.


The group then traveled to the West Tennessee Agriculture Museum in Milan where a program on Irrigation Management in Agriculture was given by Dana Watford and Justin Milan with Tennessee Tractor. A farming equipment presentation/tour was conducted by Dr. Blake Brown, director, UT Research & Education Center.

Closing out the day was a reception at Garden Pleasures. Thursday’s activities were in Crockett County.
Milan nursing students recognized by UT Martin

The Mirror Exchange, Tuesday, May 13, 2014

MILAN STUDENTS GET PINNED - Nursing students completing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree were recognized May 2 during the annual Pinning Ceremony at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event marked the 22nd BSN class to graduate from the university and included 24 students who received degrees May 3 during UT Martin’s spring commencement. Dr. Mary Radford, nursing department chair, is pictured with the following Milan students who received nursing pins: Chelsea Quinn, Mary Kate Pannell and Kelsey McAlexander.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014

LOCAL NURSING GRADUATES — Nursing students completing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree were recognized May 2 during the annual Pinning Ceremony at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event marked the 22nd BSN class to graduate from the university and included 24 students who received degrees May 3 during UT Martin’s spring commencement. Dr. Mary Radford of Gleason (from left), nursing department chair, is pictured with the following Weakley County students who received nursing pins: Erica Glisson of Dresden, Amy Olds of Martin, Ashley Grimes of Martin, Linda Sullivan of Greenfield and Katie Snider of Gleason. Not pictured: Tracy Crossno of Sharon.
UT Martin's Heather Butler named OVC Female Athlete of the Year

http://www.nashvillesportsnetwork.com/ 2014/05/14/

[1] Brentwood, Tn - UT Martin senior guard Heather Butler has been selected as the Ohio Valley Conference Female Athlete of the Year for 2013-14 in voting by the league's athletics directors and sports information directors.

Butler will receive her award at the League's annual Honors Brunch on May 30th in Nashville. The Male Athlete of the Year (Eastern Illinois quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo) was announced on Monday.

[2]

UT Martin's Heather Butler named OVC Female Athlete of the Year (OVC Sports Information)

Butler, who is currently playing with the WNBA's San Antonio Stars, broke the OVC's all-time scoring record this season in finishing her career with 2,865 career points, which ranks 16th in NCAA women's basketball history.

Named the OVC Player of the Year, Butler earned first-team All-OVC honors for the fourth-straight season in leading the Skyhawks to a school-record 24 victories, the OVC regular season title, its fourth-straight OVC Tournament Championship and its fourth-straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

During the season she averaged 23.6 points per game which ranked ninth nationally. She scored in double figures in all 129 games of her career, marking the second-longest streak in NCAA history. She also made 392 career 3-pointers, tying the NCAA all-time record. She scored 44 points in a game this season to tie the UTM single-game record; during the season she also set Skyhawk records for 3-point field goals made in a game (9), career field goals made (958), career field goals attempted (2,417), career 3-pointers made (392) and career 3-pointers attempted (1,074).

Butler was one of five finalists nationally for the Nancy Lieberman Award and was named OVC Player of the Week a league-best five times during the season. She was also a Senior CLASS Award first-team All-American selection, a CoSIDA Academic All-American, an OVC Scholar-Athlete and a nominee for the AllState WBCA Good Works Team.

Other nominees for the award included Austin Peay senior forward Tatiana Ariza, Belmont senior middle blocker Allison McCoy, Eastern Illinois volleyball/softball player Reynae Hutchinson, Eastern Kentucky junior pitcher Leanna Pittsenbarger, Jacksonville State senior pitcher Tiffany Harbin, Morehead State senior defensive specialist Leslie Schellhaas, Murray State senior golfer Delaney Howson, Southeast Missouri senior goalkeeper Ashton Aubuchon, SIUE senior track and field athlete Jatavia Wright, Tennessee State sophomore track athlete Clairwin Dameus and Tennessee Tech senior guard Diamond Henderson.

The OVC first awarded a Female Athlete of the Year in 1981.
Local residents receive degrees from UT Martin

Several Decatur County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Bath Springs - Emily Marie Keeton
- Decaturville – Dale D. Brown Jr., Tina Darlene

The student receiving a graduate degree was:
- Parsons - Ryan Wade Lackey.

Local residents earn degrees from UTM

Several Gibson County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees are:
- Humboldt – Blake

The students receiving graduate degrees are:
- Humboldt – Beth Ann
- Medina – Nicholas

Patterson and Athalia Boroughs Taylor
UNIVERSITY SCHOLAR — Chelsea Boyd of Union City was recognized earlier this month for completing the University Scholars program at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Among the program requirements is completion of a senior project in cooperation with a faculty member. She was joined by Dr. David Carithers, her faculty mentor and associate professor of English. Miss Boyd received a bachelor's degree during spring commencement exercises. She is the daughter of Brad and Cindy Boyd.

NURSING GRADS — Nursing students completing a bachelor of science in nursing degree were recognized recently during the annual pinning ceremony at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event marked the 22nd BSN class to graduate from the university and included 24 students who received degrees during UT Martin’s spring commencement. Among them were (from left) Levi Griffith of South Fulton and Lisa Carnes of Union City, who were joined by Dr. Mary Radford, nursing department chair, following the ceremony.
Students finish nursing program

Nursing students completing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree were recognized May 2 during the annual Pinning Ceremony at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event marked the 22nd BSN class to graduate from the university and included 24 students who received degrees May 3 during UT Martin’s spring commencement. Dr. Mary Radford, left, nursing department chair, joins Anna Mills of Ripley following the ceremony.

UTMartin announces local honor students

The University of Tennessee at Martin has announced their honor roll for the Spring 2014. To be eligible a student must take at least 12 hours of credit. The Chancellor’s Honor Roll must have a grade point average of 3.2 though 3.49, high honors must have 3.5 though 3.79, and highest honors must have 3.8 through 4.0.

Students from Gates with High Honors are Austin Kissell and Tonya Paris. Eunice Lumley of Gates received Highest Honors.

Students from Halls with Honors are Jameson Smith, Calvin Steel, Hailey Watts, and Thomas Wright. Students from Halls with High Honors include Kelly D. Archer, Tonya Fisk, Nicole Hinsley, Derek Rodenhouse, Tania Steel, and Amber Roark. Halls students with Highest Honors are Jennifer Akins, Bradley Cain, James Cherry, Shelby Gean, Johnathan Miller, Lisa Olds, Briana Patrick, and Darian Thompson.

Students from Ripley with Honors include Danyail Boyd, Lauren Childress, Jeb Ewer, Shelbi Fowler, Casey Harrell, Betty Henderson, Hailey Holcomb, Cynthia Holland-Peete, Brenda K. Jackson, Jeffery Manes, Dustin Rose, Crystal Smith, Tierra Stone, Jenny L. Vaughan, and Cameron Worley. Ripley students with High Honors are Tatum Carmack, Paula Chipman, Crystal Cooper, Kelsey Fee, Demetria Harding, Marianne Hassman, Nealy Hutchins, Marchelle Jones, Rachel Medford, Briana Newman, Austin Rorie, Rhonda Savage, Kala Smith, Erica Snipes, and William Wilson.

Students from Ripley with Highest Honors include Vivian Bridges, Jessica Carver, Alyssa Dennis, Tina Edwards, Amanda Ford, Edward Gaines, Olivia Gaines, Angela Harrell, Denita Helm, Shelby Hendren, Karly Hines, JC Holman, Zach Lankford, Brandy Latham, Phyllis Leake, William Masburn, Constance Mason, Anna Mills, Nathaniel Newlin, Samantha Scott, Sheila Whitehorn, and DeOndra Wynn.
Several area residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus May 3.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees from Hornbeak were Jacob Ray Bloodworth, Austin Wade Hopper, Mollie Jewel Scott; Kenton, Ken Sevier Covington II, Caleb Michael Poore, Marion Elisabeth Reed; Obion – Jeremy Kyle Green, Amanda Lynn Jones, Maria De los Angeles Rodriguez; Rives, Ebony Nicole Jenkins, and Brittany Nicole Lyell Twilbeck.

From South Fulton, Jessica A. Baker, Katherine Renee Bivens, Colin Skylar Cherry, Sheridan Lynn Daniels, Levi Elliott Griffith, Sarah Nicole Howard, Charles Andre Ingram, Brooke Nichole Kane, David Q. Klinefus, and Zachary Kyle Nabors received degrees.

From Troy, Whitney Nicole Bennett, Terry Gage Chapman, Barbara Joyce Cox, Jackquelyn Krystal Hayes, Kisha Darlene Kelly, Nathaniel Sleath Kendall, Brandon Jacob King, Laurie Beth Kissell, Matthew Guy Roberson, and Lucy Ashton Simpson received degrees.

From Union City, Rance D. Barnes, Chelsea Elizabeth Boyd, Kyle Hopkins Byassee, Lisa Marie Carnes, John C. Castellaw, Kimberly Joyce Crule, Chelsie H. Darnell, Bradley Cortez Davis, Meagan Nicole Eason, Joshua Blake Ferrell, Rhonda Lynn Hawks, Ashley Elizabeth King, Mallory Ann Martin, Chelsey Ann Mathis, Jessica Lyn Morris, Logan Addison Parker, Alexandra Nicole Rapp, Kelsey Mesha Reed, Aubrey M. Reedy, William James Regan, Michael Gerard Rudy, Jacob Hamilton Shumate, Andrew J. Speed, Samantha D. Storey, Delina Kaye Tiltman, Stephanie J. Veatch, William Philip Wesner, and David Brett Wharton received degrees.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees from Fulton were Cheryl L. Pepple and Adam Russell Vaughan.

The students receiving graduate degrees were, from Kenton, Curtis Wagoner Cochran, and Union City, Rebekah Joy Lewis, Michael Durale Lockridge, and Leela Shea Spurlock.

OBION COUNTY NURSING STUDENTS RECOGNIZED IN UT MARTIN PINNING CEREMONY – Nursing students completing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree were recognized May 2 during the annual Pinning Ceremony at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event marked the 22nd BSN class to graduate from the university and included 24 students who received degrees May 3 during UT Martin’s spring commencement. Pictured are, left to right, Levi Griffith, of South Fulton, and Lisa Carnes, of Union City, Tenn., and Dr. Mary Radford, nursing department chair, following the ceremony. (Photo submitted)

ART LESSONS - Students from the UTM Visual Arts Department visited Carr Elementary for a special art lesson focused on the design and creation of cartoon books. UTM students participating included Sienna Byars, Stephen Crosby, Amber Gentry, Kat Hoffer, Melanie O’Neil, Alex Stover, Cate Walter and Desiree Wheeler. (Photo submitted)
UT Martin's Butler Earns Spot on San Antonio Stars

5/15/2014 3:10:06 PM

After dominating the competition and setting school, conference and national records, University of Tennessee at Martin senior guard Heather Butler has earned a spot on the WNBA's San Antonio Stars. Butler becomes the first player in UT Martin and Ohio Valley Conference history to play in the WNBA.

Butler, a native of Medina, Tenn., earned a spot on the Stars training camp team prior to the season before being named to the squad's 12-player roster. Butler joins the Stars first round pick and Notre Dame standout Kayla McBride as the only rookies to make the veteran led squad, beating out two draft picks and several undrafted free agents.

"This feeling is absolutely amazing," said Butler. "It is such a dream come true. Nobody understands how hard the road to get to this level is until you do it yourself. This journey has been difficult but I am so excited for where I am right now. Since I was little, this has always been the goal and it is surreal that it is in my hands now. I am excited to get the season underway."

Knowing that even with the expanded rosters by the WNBA for the 2014 season, making the 12-player squad was going to be an uphill battle heading into training camp. Butler made the most of her opportunities in camp, averaging five points in 11 minutes per game. She scored a preseason-high seven points and two rebounds in a 76-75 loss to the Tulsa Shock.

With her numbers ranking sixth on the squad, Butler went into the final days of preseason with the hopes of making the squad. Her dreams became reality during film session this afternoon. "When we walked into watch film this afternoon, coach scanned the room and told us that we were the 12 players that he was going to start the season with," said Butler. "As soon as his words sunk in, I was in complete shock."

In her time as a Skyhawk, Butler broke the OVC's all-time scoring record this season as she finished her career with 2,665 career points, which ranks 16th in NCAA women's basketball history.

Along with being named the OVC Female Athlete of the Year just yesterday, Butler was named the Tennessee Sports Writers' Association Women's Basketball Player of the Year and OVC Player of the Year. Butler earned first-team All-OVC honors for the fourth-straight season in leading the Skyhawks to a school-record 24 victories, the OVC regular season title, its fourth-straight OVC Tournament Championship and its fourth-straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

During the season she averaged 23.6 points per game which ranked ninth nationally. She scored in double figures in all 32 games of her career, marking the second-longest streak in NCAA history. She also made 392 career 3-pointers, tying the NCAA all-time record. She scored 44 points in two games this season to tie the UT Martin single-game record, during the season she also set Skyhawk records for 9-point field goals made in a game (9), career field goals made (959), career field goals attempted (2,417), and career 3-pointers made (392).

Butler was one of five finalists nationally for the Nancy Lieberman Award and was named OVC Player of the Week a league-best five times during the season. She was also a Senior CLASS Award first-team All-American selection, Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame Female Amateur Athlete of the Year, a CoSIDA Academic All-American, an OVC Scholar-Athlete and a nominee for the All-State WBCA Good Works Team.

Butler and the Stars will open the 2014 season on Friday, May 16 when they travel to play the Atlanta Dream. The Stars will have their home opener on Saturday, May 17 against the Tulsa Shock.
UT Martin’s Heather Butler honored by league, TSWA

The Jackson Sun

UT Martin senior Heather Butler won two more awards Wednesday, adding to a decorated career.

The guard from Medina was named Ohio Valley Conference Female Athlete of the Year, the second Skyhawk to earn that honor and first since tennis player Caroline Groves in the 1994-95 school year.

She also was voted by the Tennessee Sports Writers Association as the women's basketball player of the year.

Butler scored a conference record 2,865 career points, 16th most in NCAA history. She led UT Martin to four consecutive OVC tournament titles and NCAA tourney appearances.

Butler is now on the roster for the WNBA’s San Antonio Stars. She is the first UT Martin player and second Ohio Valley Conference player to be invited to a WNBA training camp, according to the conference.

Eastern Illinois quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo was named OVC Male Athlete of the Year.

Belmont guard J.J. Mann won TSWA men's basketball player of the year.

Tennessee's Cuonzo Martin, now at California, was named men's basketball coach of the year and Chattanooga's first-year coach Jim Foster won women's basketball coach of the year.

Butler Makes History; Earns Spot on WNBA Roster

By news admin

Story Created: May 15, 2014 at 10:49 PM CDT
(Story Updated: May 15, 2014 at 10:49 PM CDT)

JACKSON, Tenn. – University of Tennessee at Martin’s Heather Butler has added another footprint to her legacy.

Butler was named OVC Female Athlete of the Year and TSWA women’s basketball player of the year.

Butler is the first player in UT Martin and Ohio Valley Conference history to play in the WNBA.
Local Students On Honor Roll


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

ANNA MILLS, of Ripley, pictured with Dr. Mary Radford, left, nursing department chair, was among the nursing students recognized May 2nd after completing a bachelor of science in nursing degree. A pinning ceremony was held at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event marked the 22nd BSN class to graduate from the university and included 24 students who received degrees May 3rd during UT Martin's spring commencement.

Tammi Jo Swearingen named to chancellor's honor roll

By Staff Reports
Posted May 15, 2014 @ 4:35 pm

HORSEHEADS

Tammi Jo Swearingen of Horseheads has been named to the chancellor's honor roll with highest honors at the University of Tennessee at Martin for the spring 2014 semester.

To be named to the chancellor's highest honor roll, a full time student is required to achieve a 3.8 grade point average.

For more information, visit www.utm.edu.
Devin Michael Earhart, of Dover, was recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

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

An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.

Lt. Col. Steve Elliott will be the guest speaker for the University of Tennessee at Martin Memorial Day program set for 9 a.m. May 23 in front of the Hall-Moody Administration Building on University Street.

This will be the 14th annual Memorial Day commemoration at UT Martin. Elliott grew up in Alabama. In 1993, he graduated from the U.S. Military Academy and was commissioned as a second lieutenant of field artillery. After five years of active service at Fort Stewart, Ga., he joined the National Guard and began graduate school at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

He completed his Ph.D. in mathematics and became an assistant professor at UT Martin in 2005. Since then, he has deployed to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom and to Djibouti for Operation Enduring Freedom.

He currently commands the 1st Battalion, 238th Field Artillery, and he continues to teach mathematics at UT Martin.

He and his wife, Holly, have two sons, Cannon, 6, and Connor, 1. They live in Martin.

Capt. Troy Shoemaker, a professor of Military Science and Leadership at UT Martin, will serve as the master of ceremonies. Dr. Roberto Mancusi, assistant professor of music, will perform the national anthem and Gerry Gallimore will offer the invocation. Rodney Freed, instructor in communication, will offer the benediction.

Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, will welcome guests.

The UT Martin Department of Public Safety and Martin Police Department will be responsible for the gun salute, while the UT Martin Army ROTC Battalion is responsible for the playing of “Taps.”
UT Martin names local students to spring semester Chancellor’s Honor Roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2014 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. To be eligible for Chancellor’s Honor Roll recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor’s Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Adamsville
- Lauren L. Barber, Highest Honors
- Hilary B. Combs, Highest Honors
- Zachary S. Congiardo, Highest Honors
- Kamala O. Dalton, Highest Honors
- Brittany J. Dowdell, Highest Honors
- Todd B. Gean, Highest Honors
- Joseph K. Gray, Highest Honors
- Sidney T. Holfin, Highest Honors
- Sarah M. Johnson, Highest Honors
- Bethany R. Martin, Highest Honors
- Alaina Y. McCall, Highest Honors
- James K. McDaniel, Highest Honors
- Tammy R. Moraga, Highest Honors
- Chloe G. Mullins, Highest Honors
- Jake D. O’Brien, Highest Honors
- Benjamin T. White, Highest Honors
- Brandyn L. White, Highest Honors
- Kory S. White, Highest Honors
- Estelle M. Wright, Highest Honors
- Bethel Springs
- Karrie A. Duncan, Highest Honors

Adamsville
- Randal H. Graves, Bethel Springs
- Robin Chelsea M. Kiester, Bethel Springs
- Christopher A. Lambert, Bethel Springs
- Courtney B. Lobb, Bethel Springs
- Jeffery D. Mitchell, Bethel Springs
- Rachel M. Reinke, Bethel Springs
- Cassandra N. Rogers, Bethel Springs
- Sherry A. Taylor, Bethel Springs
- Megan S. Wade, Bethel Springs

Albany
- Bradley M. Chism, Ramer
- Emily L. Haendel, Ramer
- Ashley A. Hollingsworth, Ramer
- Mallory L. Holt, Ramer
- Samantha D. Lambert, Ramer
- Robert B. Reeder, Ramer
- Grant B. Saun, Ramer

Arkadelphia
- Mallory L. Stutts, Ramer
- Lacey I. Ballard, Ramer
- Tammy M. Blakely, Ramer
- Bryan E. Burks, Ramer
- Keaton Burney, Ramer
- Austin R. Chesniece, Ramer
- Anna A. Coln, Ramer
- Bonda M. Cummings, Ramer
- Brady H. Dancer, Ramer
- Gabrielle B. Dickerson, Ramer
- Jerry L. Emmons, Ramer
- Hannah D. Godfrey, Ramer
- Jessica L. Holmes, Ramer
- Kelsey L. Hutson, Ramer
- Meredith N. Jaggers, Ramer
- Julie A. Johnson, Ramer
- Melody L. Klaproth, Ramer
- Melissa K. Noles, Ramer
- Shannon M. Pauley, Ramer
- Sarah E. Redding, Ramer
- Trenton T. Thomas, Ramer
- Phyllis S. Wadsworth, Ramer
- Savannah L. Williams, Ramer
- William M. Wilson, Ramer
- Tim S. Winton, Ramer

Atwater
- Melissa L. Anderson, Ramer
- Gabe H. Bledsoe, Ramer
- Kori M. Blankenship, Ramer
-湛 R. Brasher, Ramer
- Chad W. Bussey, Ramer
- articles
- Chris K. Deason, Ramer
- Celeste T. Dugger, Ramer
- Bethany L. Flatt, Ramer
- Landon A. Henry, Ramer
- Johnny N. Jones, Ramer
- Benjamin L. Kizer, Ramer
- Emma E. Leonidas, Ramer
- Samantha J. Morgan, Ramer
- Maribeth N. Priest, Ramer
- Chesten D. Ulrich, Ramer
- T. W. Wills, Ramer
- Andrew D. Wills, Ramer
- Jordan E. Yarbrough, Ramer

Benton
- John P. Glover, Ramer
- Justin L. Jones, Ramer
- Sarah J. Killingsworth, Ramer
- Ashley L. Mize, Ramer
- Elizabeth D. Jones, Ramer
- Victoria E. Key, Ramer
- Morgan E. Kinchen, Ramer
- Candace D. Kirby, Ramer
- Joseph R. Landreth, Ramer
- Julie D. Lawson, Ramer
- Jami L. Miller, Ramer
- Ashley N. Moore, Ramer
- Amber S. Nixon, Ramer
- Charles M. Rankin, Ramer
- Lawrence T. Reed, Ramer
- Teresa A. Smith, Ramer
- Macee K. Taylor, Ramer
- Marlee C. Taylor, Ramer
- Christopher H. Teague, Ramer
- Hannah L. Wagoner, Ramer
- Stantonville, Highest Honors
- Nathaniel C. West, Ramer
- Kimberly N. Williams, Ramer
- Zach T. Woolworth, Ramer
- Dakota M. Yald, Ramer
- John P. Glover, Stantonville
- Justin L. Jones, Stantonville
- Sarah J. Killingsworth, Stantonville
- Melanie Pickens, Stantonville
- Rachel A. Pittman, Stantonville
- Lani C. Rinks, Stantonville
- UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.
Enville Student completes University Scholars Program

Brittany Bishop, of Enville, was recognized May 3rd for completing the University Scholars program at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Among the program requirements is for each scholar to complete a senior project in cooperation with a faculty member. Dr. Mark Simpson, her faculty mentor and professor of geography, joined Brittany, who received a bachelor's degree later that day at spring commencement exercises.

AWARD PRESENTED — The Department of Military Science and Leadership award ceremony was held recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin in the Boling University Center Russell Duncan Ballroom. Aline Roberts (right) presented the Daughters of American Revolution ROTC award to Cadet Kristen Mitchell, a health and human performance major, from McKenzie. Cadet Mitchell is a member of the Tennessee Army National Guard and participates in Simultaneous Membership Program. The James Buckley Chapter, DAR, was pleased to present this award to Cadet Mitchell.
Online Master’s of Education in counseling rated among best

Best Online Colleges has named the Online Master of Science in Education with a major in counseling at the University of Tennessee at Martin among the best in the nation for 2014. The listing can be found at BestOnlineColleges.org and includes 34 schools sorted by affordability, flexibility and efficiency.

UT Martin is the only Tennessee college or university included in the online counseling program list.

BestOnlineColleges.org used data from the National Center for Education Statistics and evaluated it against a unique set of parameters to determine the list. Other factors considered for developing the list include accreditation, graduation rates, satisfaction with school choice, and student debt.

“We’re pleased to be listed among the best online graduate programs in the country for school and clinical mental health counseling,” said Dr. Betty Cox, associate professor and chair for the UT Martin Department of Educational Studies. “A growing demand exists for qualified counselors, and our program does an excellent job preparing individuals for this important field.”

UT Martin’s program offers concentrations in school counseling and clinical mental health counseling within the counseling major. The program can be completed online, but students attend a four-day residency to begin the program and continue in the program.

Each student is also required to complete a semester-long, supervised practicum and 600 hours of internship. These requirements are designed to help build a student’s understanding of counseling and prepare him or her for school counseling and clinical mental health careers.

More information about the degree program can be found at www.utm.edu and search “counseling.” Interested persons can also call the UT Martin Education Graduate Programs office at (731) 881-7128.

ENGINEERING GRADUATE — Phillip Thompson (center) of Martin was inducted into the Order of the Engineers at a ceremony prior to the recent University of Tennessee at Martin commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and to adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. Ed Wheeler (left), Department of Engineering chair and professor, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, dean of the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, made the presentation.

LingualKidz’ course offered at UT Martin

UT Martin’s Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies will be offering LingualKidz, a foreign language day camp, for children and youth, ages 6-12, from 8:45 a.m. - 3 p.m. on June 13 at the main campus.

LingualKidz is a one-day camp including introductory instruction in both Spanish and French. Participants will learn about language and culture through play, song, stories, and arts and crafts. Lunch will be provided as a cultural bazaar learning experience.

Students will be divided into two age groups for class, then will come together for a special presentation for parents at the end of the day. Students will check in from 8:45-8:55 a.m. From 9-11 a.m., Group 1 will focus in Spanish, while Group 2 will focus in French. Lunch class will last from 11:00 a.m.-noon. From noon-2:00 p.m., the groups will switch, with Group 1 in French and Group 2 in Spanish. The presentation for parents will be from 2:30-3 p.m.

Heidi Hinman and Valerie Hendley will instruct the camp. Hinman is a 2008 alum of Westview High School. In 2011, she graduated from Murray State University with a B.A. in Spanish Education. Hendley is a French native who has lived and worked in the United States for over 20 years.

The cost is $35 per student, plus a $10 supply fee paid to the instructors at class. For more course information, a parent’s letter or to register, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082 or register online.
UTM's Butler chosen as top female in OVC

BRENTWOOD — UT Martin senior guard Heather Butler has been selected as the Ohio Valley Conference Female Athlete of the Year for 2013-14 in voting by the league's athletics directors and sports information directors.

Butler will receive her award at the league's annual Honors Brunch on May 30 in Nashville. The Male Athlete of the Year, Eastern Illinois quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo, was announced on Monday.

In addition, Butler has also been named the Tennessee Sports Writers Association Women's College Basketball Player of the Year. She will be honored during the organization's business luncheon on July 11 as part of the annual TSWA Convention.

Butler, who is currently playing with the WNBA's San Antonio Stars, broke the OVC's all-time scoring record this season in finishing her career with 2,865 career points, which ranks 16th in NCAA women's basketball history.

Named the OVC Player of the Year, Butler earned first-team All-OVC honors for the fourth-straight season in leading the Skyhawks to a school-record 24 victories, the OVC regular season title, its fourth-straight OVC Tournament Championship and its fourth-straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

During the season she averaged 23.6 points per game which ranked ninth nationally. She scored in double figures in all 129 games of her career, marking the second-longest streak in NCAA history.

Butler also made 392 career 3-pointers, tying the NCAA all-time record. She scored 44 points in a game this season to tie the UTM single-game record.

During the season, she also set Skyhawk records for 3-point field goals made in a game (9), career field goals made (958), career field goals attempted (2,417), career 3-pointers made (392) and career 3-pointers attempted (1,074).

Butler was one of five finalists nationally for the Nancy Lieberman Award and was named OVC Player of the Week a league-best five times during the season. She was also a Senior CLASS Award first-team All-American selection, a CoSIDA Academic All-American, an OVC Scholar-Athlete and a nominee for the AllState WBCA Good Works Team.

Other nominees for the award included Austin Peay senior forward Tatiana Ariza, Belmont senior middle blocker Allison McCoy, Eastern Illinois volleyball/softball player Reyana Hutchison, EKU junior pitcher Learna Pitsenbarger, Jacksonville State senior pitcher Tiffany Harbin, Morehead State senior defensive specialist Leslie Schellhaas, Murray State senior golfer Delaney Howson, SEMO senior goalkeeper Ashton Aubuchon, SIUE senior track and field athlete Jatavia Wright, Tennessee State sophomore track athlete Clairwin Dameus and Tennessee Tech senior guard Diamond Henderson.

The OVC first awarded a Female Athlete of the Year in 1981.

Garoppolo, the Walter Payton Award winner as the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) National Player of the Year, put together the finest season by an OVC quarterback in smashing virtually every OVC season and career record while leading his team to a 12-2 overall record, second-straight OVC championship and berth in the FCS Playoff quarterfinals.

It culminated with him being drafted in the second round (pick No. 62 overall) by the New England Patriots, becoming one of just five quarterbacks from the OVC drafted and one of only five second-round draft picks in OVC history.

In 14 games he completed 375-of-568 passes for 5,050 yards and 53 TDs with only nine interceptions.
The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2014 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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

**DRESDEN:** James T. Adkins, High Honors; Rachel M. Alley, Highest Honors; Riley E. Auven- shine, Highest Honors; Lisa C. Baskette, Honors; Monica R. Bell, Honors; Katherine N. Blaylock, Highest Honors; Crystal E. Browning, Honors; Hannah M. Cooper, Honors; Wynter L. Crowell, High Honors; Donna M. Davidson, Highest Honors; Timothy M. Dehart, Honors; Erin A. Evans, High Honors; Misty L. Evans, High Honors; Cynthia J. Farrar, High Honors; Danielle N. Gallimore, Highest Honors; Erica E. Glisson, High Honors; Matthew T. Henderson, High Honors; John M. Herron, Honors; Bonnie A. Hickman, High Honors; Hillary L. King, Dresden, High Honors; Alison L. Meacham, Dresden, High Honors; James C. Palmer, Dresden, Highest Honors; Kristi L. Parsley, Honors; Christopher D. Patterson, High Honors; Colleen E. Perkins, Honors; Kai- lee A. Pritchett, Honors; La’Nicia C. Puckett, High Honors; Amy L. Reddick, Honors; Marianne J. Rennison, High Honors; Maegan M. Smith, Highest Honors; Dana D. Stanfill, Highest Honors; Houston G. Taylor, High Honors; Precious E. Turberville, Honors; Benjamin R. Walker, Honors; Rachel K. Winstead, Highest Honors; Kirby T. Woodruff, Honors; Rebecca L. Wright, Highest Honors; Abdulrahman A. Zendah, Highest Honors.

**DUKEDOM:** Elisabeth A. Tompkins, Highest Honors.

**GLEASON:** Chandler N. Beasley, Gleason Honors; Ryan W. Clark, Highest Honors; Preston D. Frazier, Highest Honors; Nicole M. Garrett, Honors; Timothy A. Grissom, Honors; Kelly L. Hatley, High Honors; Tucker D. Kail, High Honors; Amanda S. Mansfield, Highest Honors; William J. Mansfield, Highest Honors; Wendy G. Paschall, High Honors; Billy F. Reeves, Highest Honors; Rose M. Sullivan, High Honors; Haley A. Swafford, Highest Honors; Blake A. Taylor, Honors; Elizabeth D. Terrill, High Honors; John M. Wilson, Highest Honors.

**GREENFIELD:** Julie E. Arnold, Highest Honors; Dakota R. Betts, Highest Honors; Geoffrey M. Bryson, High Honors; Lauren P. Coleman, Highest Honors; Laura E. Croom, High Honors; Hunter J. Crowe, Highest Honors; Mercie L. Eubank, Highest Honors; Lecia J. Galey, High Honors; Benjamin C. Garner, Honors; Tyler N. Jones, High Honors; Andrew W. Lomm, High Honors; Christian L. McAlister, Honors; Katelin B. McCall, Highest Honors; Abbey T. McDaniel, Highest Honors; Kelly D. Pence, High Honors; Dalton L. Potis, Honors; Mallory K. Robinson, Honors; Stephanie D. Sellers, Highest Honors; Makala C. Sitzes, High Honors; Mary A. Straley, Highest Honors; Carl R. Whitley, Highest Honors; Cody L. Worley, High Honors.

**MARTIN:** Rhonda C. Abdullah, Honors; Dionna M. Alaba, Highest Honors; Charles H. Alley, High Honors; Brooke E. Baker, High Honors; Diana C. Batchelor, High Honors; Samuel J. Bell, Highest Honors; Jaquelynn D. Blackmon, Highest Honors; Kelsey B. Brelend, Highest Honors; Julia M. Brinkley, High Honors; Belinda A. Brooks, High Honors; Georgia L. Brown, High Honors; Sarah E. Buckley, High Honors; Megan N. Burcham, High Honors; Brittney N. Burress, High Honors; Brooklyn E. Burress, Honors; Diedrie E. Butler, High Honors; Logan M. Callins, High Honors; Jenna L. Carter, Honors; Chase H. Carter, High Honors; Amelia S. Coalter, Highest Honors; Logan S. Coates, High Honors; Amanda L. Crowe, High Honors; Ashley J. Cunningham, Honors; Robert L. Deyeso, Honors; Brittainie M. Dunn, High Honors; Tevin Evans, Highest Honors; Andrew J. Fisher, Highest Honors; David W. Fitzgerald, Highest Honors; Rhiannon K. Forrest, Highest Honors; Nicholas R. Fortner, Highest Honors; Yvannah M. Garcia, High Honors; Ryan C. Garner, Highest Honors; Brandt M. Gibson, Highest Honors; Matthew J. Granner, Highest Honors; Ashley M. Gross, Honors; Ronald Hammer, High Honors; Martha N. Harrell, High Honors; Jacob B. Harris, High Honors; Austin M. Hazzlewood, High Honors;
Cheryl D. Hensley, Honors; Terri M. Hernon, Highest Honors; Toni L. Holford, Highest Honors; James R. Holland, High Honors; Cassie M. Hood, Highest Honors; Kristin M. Howes, Honors; Alexandria M. Hughey, Honors; Mary A. Irby, Highest Honors; Lyndsey B. Jackson, Honors; Brentera M. Jones, Highest Honors; Paige I. King, Honors; Christy L. Lee, Highest Honors; Elizabeth C. Lillge, Honors; Sydney L. Lowry, High Honors; Rebecca E. Lund, Highest Honors; Ryan D. Mathis, Highest Honors; Allison B. Maxey, High Honors; Casey W. McCasland, High Honors; William A. Miles, Honors; Stephen T. Mills, Highest Honors; Kristen D. Mitchell, Highest Honors; Jesi L. Og, Highest Honors; Orren P. Og, Highest Honors; Amy B. Olds, High Honors; Sara A. Olds, Highest Honors; Andrew G. Oliver, Highest Honors; Jomane K. Owens, Honors; Jennifer L. Parrish, Highest Honors; Krishna V. Patel, Honors; Samil V. Patel, High Honors; James M. Payne, Highest Honors; Preston C. Pigg, High Honors; Breanna H. Pitcher, High Honors; Nathan A. Powers, High Honors; Landon P. Prather, Highest Honors; Cody L. Prince, Honors; Karla Ramos, Highest Honors; Rachel E. Reeves, High Honors; Bevin M. Rice, High Honors; Kristen L. Riley, High Honors; Kaci N. Robbins, High Honors; Shiloh A. Robertson, High Honors; James C. Ross, Honors; David K. Royster, High Honors; Cory S. Sandefur, High Honors; Zoe E. Stringer, Highest Honors; Linda K. Sullivan, High Honors; Erin L. Summer, Honors; Eric R. Talley, Honors; Amber G. Taylor, High Honors; Chase M. Thweatt, Highest Honors; Shane M. Turbeville, High Honors; Alexander S. Turner, Highest Honors; Jennifer T. Van Dyke, High Honors; Adam R. Vaughan, Highest Honors; John G. Vincent, High Honors; Zachary H. Ward, Highest Honors; Aaron M. White, Honors; Kelsey P. Wiley, Highest Honors; Natalie R. Wisher, Honors; Matthew R. Wright, High Honors; Sarah L. Yates, Highest Honors; Jonathan R. York, Honors; Catherine M. Young, High Honors.

**Palmersville:** Eric L. Smith, High Honors.

**Sharon:** Andrew W. Allen, Honors; Emily B. Allen, Honors; Matthew C. Caldwell, Highest Honors; Tracey L. Crossno, High Honors; Jacqueline A. Guzman, Honors; Kayla L. Heisler, Highest Honors; Nicole M. Hicks, Highest Honors; Alexander G. Roberts, Honors; Ty J. Roberts, Honors; Joseph R. Sipes, Honors; Audrey S. Waterfield, Honors; Kayla B. White, High Honors.

UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.
CLARKSVILLE, TENN. — Three Stewart County teens are among 24 area high school students selected for some of the highest youth leadership honors bestowed by Cumberland Electric Membership Corporation.

One of the students, Sarah Welker, daughter of Richard and Janet Welker of Dover, will represent CEMC during the Washington Youth Tour, to be held June 13-19. She will join 11 other CEMC-area students on what has been described as "the trip of a lifetime," visiting the museums and monuments of Washington, D.C. Sarah attends Stewart County High School.

Two other students were named recipients of a CEMC Citizen Scholar College Scholarship:

Kevin Barnett of Stewart High School, who will attend The University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall. Kevin is the son of Michael and Carmen Barnett of Dover.

John Daigle of Clarksville Academy, who will attend Austin Peay State University in the fall. John is the son of Roger and Angela Brake of Dover.

Local Nigerian Scholar Speaks About Kidnapped Girls

By Heather Mathis
By hmathis@wbbjtv.com
Story Created: May 16, 2014 at 5:26 PM CDT
(Story Updated: May 16, 2014 at 9:30 PM CDT)

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — A West Tennessean from Nigeria is speaking out about the hundreds of school girls kidnapped in her home country.

Bosede Afolami is 19 years old, but unlike most teens just starting college, Afolami graduated this month from The University of Tennessee at Martin with a finance degree.

"It's weird because it's just a norm for me," Afolami said, explaining that children in Nigeria go to school as soon as they can talk. "I am just going to college at the normal age I would if I was still in Nigeria."

Afolami and her family moved to Memphis when she was 12, and she even graduated from high school at the age of 15. The recent graduate says education is important to her, and that's why the kidnapping of the school girls hits so close to home.

"That could have been anyone...that could have been me," Afolami expressed. "I could have been taken."

Afolami tells WBBJ 7 Eyewitness News it's unthinkable the girls were taken for trying to do the same thing many take for granted.

"All they want is an education. All they want is to be educated women," Afolami said.

The 19-year-old and her family have been following the story closely, and believe both Nigeria and America are doing their best to find the girls. Afolami explains she fears what will happen once they are rescued.

"One of my main concerns is that they will be saved and be scared and not want to go back to school," she said.

Afolami hopes more Americans will research the situation and spread the word to help bring home the kidnapped girls.
From Skyhawk to Star, Butler makes cut with WNBA San Antonio club

SAN ANTONIO — After dominating the competition and setting school, conference and national records, UT Martin senior guard Heather Butler has earned a spot on the WNBA’s San Antonio Stars.

Butler becomes the first player in UT Martin and Ohio Valley Conference history to play in the WNBA.

The Medina native earned a spot on the Stars training camp team prior to the season before being named to the squad’s 12-player roster. Butler joins the Stars’ first-round pick and Notre Dame standout Kayla McBride as the only rookies to make the veteran led squad, beating out two draft picks and several undrafted free agents.

“This feeling is absolutely amazing,” Butler said. “It is such a dream come true. Nobody understands how hard the road to get to this level is until you do it yourself. This journey has been difficult but I am so excited for where I am right now. Since I was little, this has always been the goal and it is surreal that it is in my hands now. I am excited to get the season under way.”

Knowing that even with the expanded rosters by the WNBA for the 2014 season, making the 12-player squad was going to be an uphill battle heading into training camp.

Butler made the most of her opportunities in camp, averaging five points in 11 minutes per game. She scored a preseason-high seven points and two rebounds in a 76-75 loss to the Tulsa Shock.

With her numbers ranking sixth on the squad, Butler went into the final days of preseason with the hopes of making the squad.

Her dreams became reality during film session Thursday. “When we walked into watch film, coach scanned the room and told us that we were the 12 players that he was going to start the season with,” said Butler. “As soon as his words sunk in, I was in complete shock.”

In her time as a Skyhawk, Butler broke the OVC’s all-time scoring record this season as she finished her career with 2,865 career points, which ranks 16th in NCAA women’s basketball history.

Along with being named the OVC Female Athlete of the Year earlier this week, Butler was named the Tennessee Sports Writers’ Association Women’s Basketball Player of the Year and OVC Player of the Year.

Butler earned first-team All-OVC honors for the fourth-straight season in leading the Skyhawks to a school-record 24 victories, the OVC regular season title, its fourth-straight OVC Tournament Championship and its fourth-straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

During the season she averaged 23.6 points per game which ranked ninth nationally.

She scored in double figures in all 129 games of her career, marking the second-longest streak in NCAA history.

Butler also made 392 career 3-pointers, tying the NCAA all-time record. She scored 44 points in two games this season to tie the UTM single-game record.

During the season she also set Skyhawk records for 3-point field goals made in a game (9), career field goals made (958), career field goals attempted (2,417), career 3-pointers made (392) and career 3-pointers attempted (1,074).

Butler was one of five finalists nationally for the Nancy Lieberman Award and was named OVC Player of the Week a league-best five times during the season.

She was also a Senior CLASS Award first-team All-American selection, Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame Female Amateur Athlete of the Year, a CoSIDA Academic All-American, an OVC Scholar-Athlete and a nominee for the AllState WBCA Good Works Team.

Butler and the Stars will open the 2014 season today when they travel to play the Atlanta Dream.

The Stars will have their home opener on Saturday against the Tulsa Shock.
Butler appreciates each WNBA moment

Scored first professional points Saturday

By Craig Thomas
ctomas2@jacksonsun.com

It was black. Written in gray and white were the number 11 and BUTLER.
And it was real.
There have been a lot of firsts for Heather Butler lately, a lot of moments to recognize a reality that for so long was a dream.

Butler was included on the San Antonio Stars’ roster Thursday in time for their season opener Friday in Atlanta. She did not play.
Saturday was her first appearance in a WNBA game. Butler played less than a full minute, but she made two free throws late in the first half as San Antonio (1-1) beat the Tulsa Shock 80-76 for its first win of the year.

For someone who won multiple state titles at Gibson County, someone who ranks 16th in NCAA scoring with over 2,800 career points, what are two free throws?
Given Butler’s approach to the start of her pro career, it’s a good bet their significance reached beyond Saturday’s win.
“I’m just going to enjoy every moment,” Butler said.
Butler said she dreamed of playing in the WNBA since childhood but even recently suspected she would have to start a pro career in another country and try to get to the WNBA later.
Invited to training camp in April, Butler spent a few weeks competing with other newcomers for limited roster spots. She and rookie Jessica Kuster, a forward from Rice who grew up in San Antonio, were the final two candidates for the last roster spot.

Butler

Continued from Page B1

Butler won. She found out Thursday, a day before the season started.
“I had my moment, a few tears of joy,” Butler said. “I couldn’t celebrate too much because [soon] we were watching film.”
Butler is the first player from an Ohio Valley Conference school to play in a WNBA game.
She is the smallest player on the team, and she’s also the second-youngest. (Notre Dame star Kayla McBride, whose team beat UTM in the NCAA tournament two years ago, is the team’s other rookie.)
The Stars’ coach is Dan Hughes. Butler spent her college career and all but one year of high school playing for Kevin McMillan.
“In a way they kind of have similarities, which is really funny,” Butler said, adding that’s comforting given the difference between playing for a college team and a professional one.
Butler said the Stars liked her shooting range and ability to drive to the basket. She said in college she usually drove or came off screens as fast as possible, but the team wants her to work on changing pace so she isn’t too predictable.
“They see what talent you have and try their best to reveal it to everybody,” she said.
Teammate Becky Hammon is a 15-year veteran. A few others have been in the league eight or more years. Butler said everyone seems to get along.
“They really are really good people,” she said. “I am so thankful for that.”
The season runs through Aug. 17. It’s not certain how much Butler will play or what her contributions will be, but she has a chance.
“It’s an amazing, overwhelming feeling,” she said.
What dream? This is real.
BOOTCAMP GRADS — Recent participants in the University of Tennessee at Martin's Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center and Tennessee's Small Business Development Center Small Business Basics Boot Camp have graduated. On hand for a group photo were (back row, from left) REED Center director Landy Fuqua with boot camp graduates Michael McDonald of McKenzie, Peter Krumm of Springville, Stephen Pope of Huntingdon, Darryl Rogers of Jackson, Dakota Jackson of Martin, Angela Lane of Martin, P.J. Hall of Sharon, Adam Petty of Martin, (front row, from left) Tara McDonald of McKenzie, Karen Krumm of Springville, Lynn Cox of Union City, Olivia Rogers of Jackson, Teresa Bodkin of Dresden and Jennifer Ramsey of Martin. Not pictured are Alvin Ray McCadney of Union City, Jolinda Gurien of Union City, Gaetana and Wilson Yancey of Milan, Diedra Walker and Debbie Reynolds, both of Martin and Barb McConnell of Trenton.

Quickbooks classes offered

The Tennessee Small Business Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin REED Center will offer a beginner training class for those interested in learning the basics of QuickBooks, an accounting software for small businesses. The course will be held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on June 3 at the UTM REED Center, located at 406 South Lindell St. in Martin.

There will be a lunch break.

During the class, participants will learn how to define and understand basic accounting terms, set up their small business with the QuickBooks program, work with bank accounts and record sales, payments and vendor bills. Computers with QuickBooks software will be provided.

The fee is $75 and must be paid at the time of registration. Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express cards will be accepted.

To reserve a spot in the class, contact Landy Fuqua at the REED Center at (731) 587-7333 or by email reed@utm.edu. The class is limited to the first 10 participants.

An intermediate QuickBooks training class has been scheduled for 8 a.m.-3 p.m. June 10 at the UTM REED Center.

The fee is $75 and must be paid at the time of registration. To make a reservation in the class, call (731) 587-7333.

The class is limited to the first 10 participants.
Sumner County education achievements

NAS 6:33 p.m. CDT May 19, 2014

Sumner students receive degrees from UT Martin

Several Sumner County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

- **Bethpage**: Andrew Nickolas Carr and Christopher Daniel Gregory

- **Gallatin**: Stephanie Lynn Brookes and Seth Daniel Tennant

- **Hendersonville**: Jessica Lauren Hunt

- **Portland**: Elizabeth A Devlieger and Leigh Anne Peterson

Two from Paris complete small business studies

Recent participants in UT Martin’s REED (Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development) Center and Tennessee’s Small Business Development Center Small Business Basics Boot Camp have graduated. Peter Krumm (right) and Karen Krumm (center), both of Springville, received their certificates of completion from Landy Fugua (left), director of the UT Martin REED Center.
Newsome goes solo for Hall reception

By KEVIN WEEKS
Messenger Sports

NASHVILLE — For the first time since they were freshmen, Jasmine Newsome and Heather Butler weren’t joined at the hip to receive an award. There was a good reason, though. Butler at work in her new job.

So, Newsome, one half of the most prolific scoring combination in Ohio Valley Conference history, took the stage alone.

Newsome and Butler were two of four Female Athletes of the Year honored at the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame banquet, held Saturday night at the Renaissance Hotel.

Butler was playing in her second professional game that night, for the WNBA’s San Antonio Stars, and was unable to attend.

“This is a good opportunity to put the school on the map, put my family on the map and to be representing the Skyhawks,” Newsome told The Press prior to the induction banquet. “This is my last award as a college player, so it’s good to have all the support from the school and to have my family here, too.”

Newsome, who hopes to be playing professionally in Europe later this summer, was in attendance along with family and friends, OVC commissioner Beth DeBauce, UT Martin athletic director Julio Freire and Skyhawk women’s head coach Kevin McMillan.

The former Skyhawk player is looking to join her best friend in the professional ranks, her journey likely to take her overseas later this summer.

“I have an agent, and I won’t know anything until June or July,” Newsome said of her pro prospects. “It doesn’t matter, just as long as the pay is good, and I hear it’s good in Europe. I’ve been told Poland, and I’ve been told

that’s a good league to go to because of the type of player I am. I hate that I’ll have to wait until June to find out something, but I hear that’s normal.”

Newsome and Butler were joined by basketball player Ebony Rowe of Middle Tennessee State and softball player Ivy Renfroe from Tennessee as female amateur athlete honorees.

It seemed fitting that Newsome and Butler were named together. It’s been that way the last four years as members of the UT Martin women’s team.

Newsome’s career point total of 2,566 ranks second in UTM and OVC history behind Butler’s 2,865 (16th in NCAA history). Newsome is a two-time OVC Player of the Year and three-time league defensive player of the year.

Butler was this year’s top player in the OVC and was recently named the OVC Female Athlete of the Year and Tennessee Sports Writers Association Female College Player of the year.

The pair led UTM to four straight OVC Tournament championships and four consecutive NCAA Tournament berths.

Theirin-state college and prep careers (Newsome at Millington and Butler at Gibson County) could one day garner them a permanent place in the Tennessee hall as inductees.

“Playing at UT Martin and doing what we did the last four years, I hope someday we can be in here,” Newsome said.

There is a chance both will get in someday. There is also a chance it could be in different years.

“Yeah, but I think we come together,” Newsome said of that possibility. “If she is fortunate to get inducted and then I am, or vice versa, I think we’ll both be there to support each other because she is my best friend.”

To take a phrase from another school within the UT system, Newsome is a Skyhawk For Life. She cherishes her time in Martin, would do it all again and — possibly applying for a job as a recruiter — tells anyone to go to school there.

“It was fun, it was great,” she said. “It was the best time of my life, and it went by so fast. It’s like we blinked, and the season was I over and then I was graduating. I miss it. I’m not over it yet. I still have moments where I look at pictures and start crying. It was just a family atmosphere. I know I’ll always be welcome, and I’m going to go back. I want to go back in a couple of weeks. I saw coach (Kevin McMillan) here, and I just gave him the biggest hug because I haven’t gone this long without seeing him. I’d tell anybody to go to UT Martin.”

Newsome can only go back as an alumna, so she’s starting to look forward, even if it is with some hesitation.

“I’ve had a long break since the season ended,” she said. “And, the season over there doesn’t start until the fall. So, I’ll have the summer at home, and I’ve never had the summer off. That’s a good thing. I’ll have to get a workout schedule, and I’ll have to get a job.

“I don’t want to grow up yet. I wish I had another year to figure it all out.”

It’s an exciting and perhaps somewhat scary time for Newsome. And, like her college days, the future will be now in the blink of an eye.
BUTLER MAKES STARS ROSTER

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – After dominating the competition and setting school, conference and national records, University of Tennessee at Martin senior guard Heather Butler has earned a spot on the WNBA’s San Antonio Stars. Butler becomes the first player in UT Martin and Ohio Valley Conference history to play in the WNBA.

Butler, a native of Medina, Tenn., earned a spot on the Stars training camp team prior to the season before being named to the squad’s 12-player roster. Butler joins the Stars first round pick and Notre Dame standout Kayla McBride as the only rookies to make the veteran led squad, beating out two draft picks and several undrafted free agents.

“This feeling is absolutely amazing,” said Butler. “It is such a dream come true. Nobody understands how hard the road to get to this level is until you do it yourself. This journey has been difficult but I am so excited for where I am right now. Since I was little, this has always been the goal and it is surreal that it is in my hands now. I am excited to get the season underway.”

Knowing that even with the expanded rosters by the WNBA for the 2014 season, making the 12-player squad was going to be an uphill battle heading into training camp, Butler made the most of her opportunities in camp, averaging five points in 11 minutes per game. She scored a preseason-high seven points and two rebounds in a 76-75 loss to the Tulsa Shock.

With her numbers ranking sixth on the squad, Butler went into the final days of preseason with the hopes of making the squad. Her dreams became reality during film session this afternoon. “When we walked into watch film this afternoon, coach scanned the room and told us that we were the 12 players that he was going to start the season with,” said Butler. “As soon as his words sunk in, I was in complete shock.”

In her time as a Skyhawk, Butler broke the OVC’s all-time scoring record this season as she finished her career with 2,865 career points, which ranks 16th in NCAA women’s basketball history.

Along with being named the OVC Female Athlete of the Year just yesterday, Butler was named the Tennessee Sports Writers’ Association Women’s Basketball Player of the Year and OVC Player of the Year. Butler earned first-team All-OVC honors for the fourth-straight season in leading the Skyhawks to a school-record 24 victories, the OVC regular season title, its fourth-straight OVC Tournament Championship and its fourth-straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

During the season she averaged 23.6 points per game which ranked ninth nationally. She scored in double figures in all 129 games of her career, marking the second-longest streak in NCAA history. She also made 392 career 3-pointers, tying the NCAA all-time record. She scored 44 points in two games this season to tie the UTM single-game record; during the season she also set Skyhawk records for 3-point field goals made in a game (9), career field goals made (958), career field goals attempted (2,417), career 3-pointers made (392) and career 3-pointers attempted (1,074).

Butler was one of five finalists nationally for the Nancy Lieberman Award and was named OVC Player of the Week a league-best five times during the season. She was also a Senior CLASS Award first-team All-American selection, Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame Female Amateur Athlete of the Year, a CoSIDA Academic All-American, an OVC Scholar-Athlete and a nominee for the AllState WBCA Good Works Team.

Butler and the Stars will open the 2014 season on Friday, May 16 when they travel to play the Atlanta Dream. The Stars will have their home opener on Saturday, May 17 against the Tulsa Shock.
UT Martin Chancellor’s Honor Roll

MARTIN, Tenn. — The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2014 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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

Atwood
Emily L. Cunningham - Highest Honors.

Bradford

Idlewild
Matthew R. Bryan - Highest Honors.

Medina

Milan

Local students inducted into Phi Kappa Phi

HONOR SOCIETY - Brent Hopper, of Trenton, and Lara Beth Mangrum, of Milan, were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent, and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements.
Local receives Engineering Degree from UTM

MEDINA GRAD GETS DEGREE - Grayson Holt (center), of Medina, was inducted into the Order of the Engineers at a ceremony prior to the University of Tennessee at Martin commencement on Saturday. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and to adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. Ed Wheeler (left), Department of Engineering chair and professor, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, dean of the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, made the presentation.

UT Martin names Ozark’s Hunt to honor roll

Posted: Tuesday, May 20, 2014 2:32 pm

An Ozark High School alum is among the University of Tennessee at Martin 2014 Chancellor’s Honor Roll students.

Logan H. Hunt upheld honor roll standards by taking at least 12 credit hours and achieving a 3.2 grade point average.

http://ccheadliner.com/
Butler has shot to shine as WNBA 'Star'

*UTM Sports, Staff Reports*

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – After shining in the Ohio Valley Conference, UT Martin product Heather Butler has become a "Star" in the WNBA.

Butler, who finished her career as the OVC's all-time leading scorer, has earned a spot on the WNBA's San Antonio Stars' roster.

Butler is the first player in both UTM and OVC history to play in the WNBA.

Butler, a native of Medina, Tenn., earned a spot on the Stars training camp team prior to the season before being named to the squad's 12-player roster.

Butler joins the Stars first round pick and Notre Dame standout Kayla McBride as the only rookies to make the veteran led squad, beating out two draft picks and several undrafted free agents.

Butler made her WNBA debut on Saturday night against the Tulsa Shock. The UTM product hit two free throws during one minute on the floor in an 80-76 triumph.

"This feeling is absolutely amazing," said Butler of making the Stars' squad. "It is such a dream come true. Nobody understands how hard the road to get to this level is until you do it yourself.

"This journey has been difficult but I am so excited for where I am right now. Since I was little, this has always been the goal and it is surreal that it is in my hands now."

Knowing that even with the expanded rosters by the WNBA for the 2014 season, making the 12-player squad was going to be an uphill battle heading into training camp.

Butler made the most of her opportunities in camp, averaging five points in 11 minutes per game. She scored a pre-season-high seven points and two rebounds in a 76-75 loss to the Tulsa Shock.

In her time as a Skyhawk, Butler broke the OVC's all-time scoring record this season as she finished her career with 2,865 career points, which ranks 16th in NCAA women's basketball history.

Along with being named the OVC Female Athlete of the Year just yesterday, Butler was named the Tennessee Sports Writers' Association Women's Basketball Player of the Year and OVC Player of the Year.

Butler earned first-team All-OVC honors for the fourth-straight season in leading the Skyhawks to a school-record 24 victories, the OVC regular season title, its fourth-straight OVC Tournament Championship and its fourth-straight NCAA Tournament appearance.

During the season Butler averaged 23.6 points per game which ranked ninth nationally.

Heather Butler • PG • San Antonio Silver Stars
UTM Chancellor’s Honor Roll announced

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Terence L. Bishop, of Fulton, was included on the Chancellors’ Honor Roll with High Honors.

Students from South Fulton included on the Chancellor’s Honor Roll included Marina G. Barclay, Highest Honors; James R. Cox, High Honors; Sheridan L. Daniels, High Honors; Jonathan L. French, High Honors; Seth D. Friers, Highest Honors; Summer D. Friers, High Honors; Andrea K. Glover, High Honors; Levi E. Griffith, Honors; Rebecca M. Grogan, Honors; Jonathan B. Hamlin, Honors; Mikaela M. Hardy, Highest Honors; Sarah N. Howard, Highest Honors; Brooke N. Kane, Highest Honors; Mark S. Maloney, High Honors; Emily D. McCartney, Highest Honors; Lauren H. Nabors, Honors; Zachary K. Nabors, Highest Honors; Alison E. Stem, Honors; Ali R. Taylor, High Honors; Adam D. Tolley, Highest Honors; Stephanie J. Veach, Highest Honors; and Kayla E. Wade, Honors.

Included from Fulton County are Aaron R. Burks, Honors; Casey D. Dowty, Highest Honors; Cheryl L. Pepple, High Honors; and David A. Weatherly, Hickman, High Honors.

Others include Kassie L. Hughes, Martin, Tenn., Jackson H. Jones, South Fulton, High Honors and Morgan A. Wade, Water Valley, High Honors.

Dowty Phi Kappa Phi inductee at UTM

Casey Dowty, of Fulton, was recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent, and juniors in the upper 5 percent.

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

An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.

Reading Clinic for Students in Grades 2-12

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies and the UT Martin Reading Center will be offering a reading clinic for students in grades 2-12 who need extra support and practice in reading.

All Northwest Tennessee students who are interested in increasing their reading achievement are invited to register. Students who are performing on or below grade level, as well as students with dyslexia or other learning disabilities are eligible for the reading clinics.

Students will receive one-on-one tutoring from a UT Martin student who is majoring in teacher education. A research based reading program which provides good results is used.

The June sessions will meet at 9, 10 and 11 a.m., noon, 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. During the June session students will meet twice per week for one hour per meeting. Classes will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The cost of the June reading clinic is $100 for eight one-hour sessions plus a $25 materials fee. If desired, students may attend four days a week at a cost of $200 plus materials.

Parents interested in reserving a seat for their student this summer can call the Extended Campus and Online Studies Office at (731) 881-7082. Once a student qualifies, the parents will coordinate with the Reading Clinic manager to set up a time and schedule that works best for the student.
Butler makes history after earning spot on WNBA San Antonio Stars

After dominating the competition and setting school, conference and national records, University of Tennessee at Martin senior guard Heather Butler has earned a spot on the WNBA's San Antonio Stars. Butler becomes the first player in UT Martin and Ohio Valley Conference history to play in the WNBA.

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Butler and the Stars opened the 2014 season on Friday, May 16 when they traveled to play the Atlanta Dream. The Stars had their home opener on Saturday, May 17 against the Tulsa Shock.
Local students named to UT Martin 2014 spring semester chancellor’s honor roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the spring 2014 chancellor’s honor rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. To be eligible for chancellor’s honor roll recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor’s Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

From Humboldt are: Mallory E. Blake, honors; Luke H. Brittain, honors; Tabitha J. Causey, honors; Donnie M. Cook, highest honors; Jonathan H. Hefley, high honors; Douglass G. Hunderup, highest honors; Sere C. Jackson, honors; Peyton Nee, high honors; Gauri K. Patel, honors; Avery D. Phillips, highest honors; Kali R. Sharp, high honors; Maya M. Thornton, honors; Kelley M. Whitehead, high honors.

From Medina are: Summer A. Bradley, honors; Anthony C. Brown, highest honors; Dylan Brown, highest honors; Jacob T. Henderson, high honors; John A. Miller, honors; Heather L. Morris, high honors; Anna B. Santaniello, honors; Michelle N. Scott, high honors; Secily D. Scott, high honors; Peter M. Wood, highest honors.

Barber inducted to UTM Phi Kappa Phi

(From left to right) Lauren Barber, of McNairy, and Danielle Fuller, of Martin, were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent, and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.

Submitted Photo
Local residents receive degrees from UT Martin

Joe Lofaro
University Editor

Several McNairy County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

**Adamsville** - Mallory Dawn Leath, Payten Desiree Mardis, Bethany Renee Martin, Cody Michael Williams, Joseph Kerby Gray, Tonya Rachelle Whitney;

**Hamer** - Mallory Leigh Holt, Robert Blake Reeder;

**Selmer** - Anna Alisha Cohn, Jessica LeAnne Holmes, Wesley Joseph Johnson, Easton Finley Knight, Ashley Nicole Moore, Raymond Joseph Murby III, William Breckinridge O'Neal, Jessica Ann Ryan, Marlee Coughran Taylor, Samantha Lynn Wheatley, Dakota Madison Yalda;

**Stantonville** - Justin Lynn Jones, Lani Clair Rinks.

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Wednesday, May 21, 2014

**CADET COMMISSIONED** — Terry Gage Chapman (left) of Troy was recently commissioned into the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He was a spring graduate of UT Martin with a bachelor of science degree in math. The newly-commissioned officer received his commissioning certificate from Lt. Col. Michael Johnson, professor of military science.
FIVE INDUCTED — Five people from Obion County were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The inductees included (from left) Rita Winter and Jennifer Brooks, both of Union City; Susan Douglas and Terri Whitmore, both of Hornbeak; and William Regan of Union City. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students and seniors in the upper 10 percent of their class and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements.

EARNED DEGREE — Jordan Barker (second from left) of Troy was a member of the first spring vet tech class at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She participated in a celebration banquet before commencement exercises recently with (from left) Erica Carroll and Amanda Waldon, both laboratory instructors in UT Martin's College of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources, and Dr. Danny Walker. Each graduate earned a bachelor of science degree in agriculture with a concentration in animal science and an option in veterinary health technology (VHT).
Veterinary health tech option accredited

First students also graduate from UT Martin program

The Jackson Sun

May was a big month for the veterinary health technology option at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

First, the university was notified that the option received initial accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities, according to a news release. Then the first 20 students graduated from the program during spring commencement May 3.

The AVMA website says, “Initial accreditation means the program is officially accredited.” The option could not be officially accredited until the first students completed the program, which happened in December 2013. Those students completed required internships during the spring and officially received their diplomas during May commencement, according to the release.

Graduates earn a bachelor’s degree in animal science with a veterinary health technology emphasis and can sit for the Veterinary Technician National Exam to become licensed.

The university said another 13 students are expected to graduate from the program in August.

Rachel Stegall, of Martin, was among those who received a degree in May.

“I have always had a passion for animals, so (I) knew that I wanted to be in the animal health-care world one way or another,” Stegall said in an emailed statement. “When I heard about the veterinary health technology option, I knew it was my calling.”

Stegall will become a full-time veterinary health technologist June 1 at Hagyard Equine Medical Institute in Lexington, Ky. Hagyard is one of the oldest and most prestigious private equine practices in the world, the release said.

“Earning initial accreditation is a significant milestone for our program,” said Dr. Jason Roberts, a veterinarian and UT Martin assistant professor of animal science. “This speaks to the high quality of the option and the university’s support for offering the best possible academic experience and preparation for students.”

Courses were first taught in fall 2011 at UT Martin, and 120 students are now pursuing the option. It’s one of 24 accredited bachelor’s degree programs in the country, the only four-year program in West Tennessee and the only accredited veterinary technology program in West Tennessee, the release said.

Veterinary technologists are best described as the equivalent of registered nurses in the animal world. Graduates can pursue careers working with veterinarians in clinics, veterinary hospitals, research, education, animal pharmaceutical sales and other options.

“There are lots of diverse job opportunities for licensed veterinary technologists,” Roberts said. “The job market is really strong.”

The UT Martin program features hands-on learning opportunities with small, large and exotic animals on a 700-acre farm where the university’s Agricultural and Natural Resources Teaching Complex is located. Two veterinarians and two veterinary technologists teach in the program, which offers internships with local veterinarians, referral and teaching hospitals, zoos and laboratories, the release said.

For more information about the program, contact Roberts at (731) 881-7952 or jroberts@utm.edu.

See VETERINARY, Page B2
Crosby completes University Scholars program

William Crosby, of Parsons, was recognized May 3 for completing the University Scholars program at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Among the program requirements is completion of a senior project in cooperation with a faculty member. Dr. Phillip Shelton, his faculty mentor and assistant professor of chemistry, joined Will, who received a bachelor's degree later that day at spring commencement exercises.

Jones earns Vet Tech degree

Jeremy Jones, of Parsons (second from left), was a member of the first spring vet tech class at UT Martin. Erica Carroll and Amanda Waldon, both laboratory instructors in the College of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources, participated in a celebration banquet with Dr. Danny Walker before commencement exercises Saturday, May 3, at UT Martin in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Each graduate earned a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with a concentration in animal science and an option in Veterinary Health Technology (VHT).
The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2014 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. To be eligible for Chancellor's Honor Roll recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor's Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Bath Springs: William A. Jones, High Honors; Emily M. Kester, Highest Honors; and Brooklyn A. Kennedy, Highest Honors

Decaturville: Dustin L. Boroughs, Highest Honors; Lauren E. Brasheer, High Honors; Parker G. Brasheer, High Honors; Nicholas J. Davis, High Honors; Michael A. Dickson, Highest Honors; Ryan A. Dours, High Honors; Tina D. Patterson, High Honors; Hayley B. Peary, High Honors; Rachel L. Pope, Highest Honors; Ivory L. Russell, High Honors; and Amber Taylor, High Honors

Dyersburg: Raymond J. Yates, Honors

Holladay: Tiffany B. Bivens, Highest Honors; and Heather K. Zeznanski, Honors

Martin: Stacy T. Ray, Honors

Parsons: Mark D. Anadell, Highest Honors; Chelsey J. Baker, High Honors; Amber L. Beedy, High Honors; Seth P. Boroughs, High Honors; Jessica S. Brownyard, High Honors; Dakota L. Crosby, Honors; William B. Crosby, Honors; Desiree M. Dunkle, Honors; Cary B. Haggard, Honors; Martha G. Hayes, Honors; Brooke N. Johnson, Highest Honors; Kiowa A. Jordan, High Honors; Royal A. Livingston, High Honors; Andrew McMahon, High Honors; Steven S. Melton, High Honors; Dustin Menzies, Honors; Tori K. Odle, Honors; Richard T. Rivera, High Honors; Brande S. Smith, Highest Honors; Jase L. Taylor, High Honors; Zachary A. Thompson, High Honors; Chase T. Vise, Honors; Sylvia J. White, Honors; Emily N. Wilson, High Honors; and Cheyanne K. Wood, Honors

Sardis: Jami M. Brownyard, Highest Honors

Scotts Hill: Gail L. Rosson, Highest Honors

Sugar Tree: Dakota C. Waits, Honors

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

Several Gibson County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2014-2015 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions. Included are:

• Teagan Bartholomew, daughter of Larry and Tammy Ridings of Trenton, will be a freshman. She received the Chancellor’s Award.
• Madeline Grace Moore, daughter of Roy and Melissa Moore of Medina, will be a freshman. She received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship/Workshop. Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn., 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.
PRINCE GRADUATES – Candice Prince of Trenton participated in commencement exercises Saturday, May 3, at UT Martin in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Prince’s family and husband attended the event. Pictured are (from left to right) her parents, Dale and Kim Flowers; Prince; her husband, Nathan Prince; and her brother, Drew Flowers.

LOCAL STUDENT GETS A JUMP ON UT MARTIN FALL REGISTRATION – Tionna Crawley of Trenton recently attended Summer Orientation and Registration (S.O.A.R.) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Crawley, a soon-to-be Trenton Peabody High School graduate, will attend UT Martin in the fall. With Crawley are her parents, Jolene Kimble and Jeffrey Crawley. Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for first-year students the week before classes). Additional S.O.A.R. dates are June 5 and 6, June 19 and 20, and July 18. For more information about S.O.A.R., call the UT Martin Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020 or 1-800-829-UTM1.
UT To Expand Online Learning Pilot Program


KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) - The University of Tennessee is getting additional state funding to expand an online learning pilot program.

The Knoxville News Sentinel reported UT, in conjunction with the Tennessee Board of Regents, will get $1 million to expand the initiative, which uses technology developed for massive open online courses.

So far, UT is using the software only for courses it offers to students, but has seen success with it.

Four courses were offered this year: two English classes at UT-Chattanooga, a music appreciation class at UT-Martin and a college algebra class at the Knoxville campus.

A British Literature class is being offered next year at UT-Martin and UT-Chattanooga will offer a class in teacher education.

The school also plans to test how many students can take a class at one time.

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UT Martin announces honor roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2014 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. To be eligible for Chancellor's Honor Roll recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor's Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Autumn M. Ratliff, Big Sandy, Honors; Makensi R. Bawcum, Highest Honors; Montana R. Bawcum, Honors; Jennifer L. Bell, Camden, Highest Honors; Allyson F. Branch, Camden, High Honors; Alyx K. Burrell, Camden, High Honors; Sarah B. DeRiemacker, Camden, Highest Honors; Crystal R. Floyd, Honors, Lisa-Marie T. Harris, Camden, Honors; Cameron D. Hughes, Camden, Highest Honors; Nicholas S. Ibarra, Camden, Highest Honors; Michael S. Katrutsa, Camden, High Honors; Ashby J. Kee, Camden, Highest Honors; Heather A. Kee, Camden, Highest Honors; Chelsea M. Latimer, Camden, Highest Honors; Landon Lockridge, Camden, Honors; Brittany M. Maiden, Camden, Honors; Rachel D. McGuire, Camden, Highest Honors; Brandi S. Mitchell, Camden, Highest Honors; Jamee M. Muller, Camden, High Honors; Kyle R. Myrick, Camden, Highest Honors; Rachel J. Sharum, Camden, Honors; Ryleigh D. Taylor, Camden, Highest Honors; Joshua C. Terry, Camden, Honors; Stephen R. White, Camden, High Honors; Victoria N. Young, Camden, High Honors; Deven N. Wilson, Eva, Highest Honors; Katelyn M. Arnold, Holladay, Highest Honors; Kristina M. Arnold, Holladay, Honors; Jessica L. Bannister, Holladay, Honors; Holly N. Cannady, Holladay, Honors; Heather M. Coleman, Holladay, High Honors; Mary R. Crockett, Holladay, High Honors; Taylor J. Douglas, Holladay, Highest Honors; Amber M. Malin-Robinson, Holladay, Highest Honors; Brancy J. Patton, Holladay, Highest Honors; Emily L. Plant, Holladay, High Honors; Terrance C. Phifer, Martin, High Honors; Desiree L. Douglas, New Johnsonville, High Honors; Amanda N. Mason, Springville, Highest Honors.

Vet Tech Degree

Kaitlin Bray, of Big Sandy (second from left), was a member of the first spring vet tech class at UT Martin. Erica Carroll and Amanda Waldon, both laboratory instructors in the College of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources, participated in a celebration banquet with Dr. Danny Walker before commencement exercises Saturday, May 3, at UT Martin in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Each graduate earned a Bachelor of Science in agriculture with a concentration in animal science and an option in Veterinary Health Technology (VHT).
Earns Vet Tech Degree

SAMANTHA SCOTT, second from left, of Ripley, was a member of the first spring vet tech class at UT Martin. Erica Carroll and Amanda Waldon, both laboratory instructors in the College of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources, participated in a celebration banquet with Dr. Danny Walker before commencement exercises Saturday, May 3rd, at UT Martin in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Each graduate earned a Bachelor of Science in agriculture with a concentration in animal science and an option in Veterinary Health Technology (VHT).

Engineer Graduate

BRIAN ROBISON, center, of Ripley, was inducted into the Order of the Engineers at a ceremony prior to the University of Tennessee at Martin commencement Saturday, May 10th. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and to adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. Ed Wheeler, left, Department of Engineering chair and professor, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, right, dean of the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, made the presentation.

Honor Society Members

LOCAL STUDENTS, Zach Lankford, of Ripley, and Amber Roark, of Henning, were inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent, and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.
JONATHAN WILLIAMSON, center of Halls, was presented a scholarship May 1st to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin during Dyersburg State Community College's Ag Appreciation Night in conjunction with UT Martin at the DSCC E.H. Lannom, Jr. Gymnasium. Others attended included community members who have careers or an interest in agriculture and high school students. Williamson is a 2014 graduate and plans to major in Agriculture. He is pictured with Dr. Karen Bowyer, left, President of DSCC, and Dr. Joey Mehlhorn right, Professor and Interim Chair of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources at UT Martin.

UTM Memorial Day Ceremony Friday morning

Posted on May 22, 2014 by Steve James in Local News - No Comments

The 14th Annual UT-Martin Memorial Day Commemoration Ceremony will be held tomorrow morning.

Lieutenant Colonel Steve Elliott will be the guest speaker for the program.

Colonel Elliott currently commands the 1st Battalion, 238th Field Artillery and teaches mathematics at UTM. He and his wife Holly have two sons, 6-year-old Cannon and 1-year-old Connor.

The UTM Department of Public Safety and Martin Police Department will be responsible for the gun salute, while the UTM Army ROTC Battalion is responsible for Taps.

The commemoration ceremony begins tomorrow morning at 9:00 in front of the Hall-Moody Administration Building.
LOCAL INDUCTIONS — Local students (from left) John Wilson of Martin, Abbey McDaniel of Greenfield, Saumil Patel of Martin, Christy Lee of Martin, Stephanie Sellers of Martin, Ryan Clark of Gleason, professor Dr. Clinton Smith of Martin and Jessica Silva of Martin were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education.

Handgun carry course offered by UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies will be offering a handgun carry course from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on June 14.

The eight-hour course will present the student with the minimum requirements mandated by the state to obtain a handgun carry permit. The class will cover the use, operation and basic cleaning of a handgun. The first four-hour block will be devoted to classroom instruction and the written exam. The second four-hour block will be for firing-range instruction and the practical exam. The student must score a minimum of 70 percent on both the written and practical exam to successfully complete the course. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to apply for a Handgun Carry Permit from the State of Tennessee.

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

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

For more information or to register, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/non-degree.php.
Veterinary health technology option receives accreditation

May was a big month for the veterinary health technology option at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The university was notified that the option received initial accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities. Then the first 20 students graduated from the program during spring commencement May 3.

The AVMA website says "initial accreditation means the program is officially accredited." The option could not be officially accredited until the first students completed the program, which happened in December 2013. Those students completed required internships during the spring and officially received their diplomas during May commencement. Graduates earn a bachelor's degree in animal science with a veterinary health technology emphasis and can sit for the Veterinary Technician National Exam to become licensed.

Another 13 students are expected to graduate from the program in August. Rachel Stegall of Martin was among those who received a degree in May.

"I have always had a passion for animals so I knew that I wanted to be in the animal health-care world one way or another," Stegall said in an e-mailed statement. "When I heard about the veterinary health technology option, I knew it was my calling.”

Stegall becomes a full-time veterinary health technologist June 1 at Hagyard Equine Medical Institute in Lexington, Ky. Hagyard is one of the oldest and most prestigious private equine practices in the world.

“Earning initial accreditation is a significant milestone for our program,” said Dr. Jason Roberts, veterinarian and UT Martin assistant professor of animal science.

“This speaks to the high quality of the option and the university’s support for offering the best possible academic experience and preparation for students.”

Veterinary technologists are best described as the equivalent of registered nurses in the animal world. Courses were first taught in fall 2011 at UT Martin, and 120 students are now pursuing the option. It’s one of 24 accredited bachelor’s degree programs in the country, the only four-year program in West Tennessee and the only accredited veterinary technology program in the United States.

"There are lots of diverse job opportunities for licensed veterinary technologists," Roberts said. "The job market is really strong." Graduates can pursue careers working with veterinarians in clinics, veterinary hospitals, research, education, animal pharmaceutical sales and other options.

The UT Martin program features hands-on learning opportunities with small, large and exotic animals on a 700-acre teaching farm. Situated on the farm is the university’s Agricultural and Natural Resources Teaching Complex. Two veterinarians and two veterinary technologists teach in the program that offers internships with local veterinarians, referral and teaching hospitals, zoos and laboratories.

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DSCC and UT Martin host Ag night

Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) recently hosted an Ag Appreciation Night in conjunction with UT Martin at the DSCC E.H. Lannom, Jr. Gymnasium. Those in attendance included high school students, including those who participate in Future Farmers of America (FFA), as well as local community members who currently have careers or an interest in agriculture.

Representative Andy Holt, vice-chair for the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, was the guest speaker at the event. Pat Riley, general manager of Gibson County Utility District, made a presentation on the positive aspects of natural gas to fuel vehicles.

One of the highlights of the night was the presentation of two scholarships to Nicholas Giliam of Union City and Jonathan Williamson of Halls to attend UT Martin. Both students are 2014 DSCC graduates majoring in Agriculture who plan to further their education at UT Martin. Thomas Smith of Troy, a current DSCC student majoring in Agriculture, was also awarded a scholarship to DSCC for the 2014-15 academic year. DSCC offers a 2+2 scholarship program that awards students who choose to attend DSCC their first two years and then transfer to UT Martin.
EARNs SCHOLARSHIP — Jonathan Williamson of Troy (center), recent DSCC graduate, accepts his scholarship to UT Martin from Dr. Karen Bowyer, president of DSCC (left), and Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, professor and interim chair of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources at UT Martin.

ACCEPTS SCHOLARSHIP — Dyersburg State Community College recently hosted an Ag Appreciation Night in conjunction with UT Martin at the DSCC F.H. Lannom, Jr. Gymnasium. Nichlaus Gilliam of Union City (center), recent DSCC graduate, accepts his scholarship to UT Martin from Dr. Karen Bowyer, president of DSCC and Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, professor and interim chair of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources at UT Martin.
AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP — Dyersburg State Community College recently hosted an Ag Appreciation Night in conjunction with UT Martin at the DSCC E.H. Lannom, Jr. Gymnasium. Thomas Smith of Halls (center), current DSCC student, was awarded a DSCC scholarship for the 2014-15 academic year from Dr. Karen Bowyer, president of DSCC (left) and Dr. Lisa Cobb, DSCC vice president for the college.

Kid College registration open

For children who want to extend their learning experiences into the summer, registration for Kid College is open.

This year's college, offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin's Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies, is scheduled June 16-20 for students who will be kindergarteners in the fall through those in the fifth grade.

Classes will be at Paris Elementary School.

Students can take from one to five classes and can choose their classes depending on their interests.

Cost is $25 each class with some classes requiring a small supply fee that should be paid to the instructor.

Kid College T-shirts are available for an extra $10.

Classes for students in kindergarten through second grade include art academy, bring the spring (gymnastics), junior science sleuths, superb storybooks, a jewelry journey, cheer camps, and junior space camp.

Classes for students in the third-fifth grades include lights, camera, action; space camp; tuck and tumble; cheer explosion; and mad science.

Classes with sessions available for both age groups include painting masters, drawing masters, trash to treasure, adventures in air and space, fun on the farm, the science of cooking, and karate.

For more information or to register, contact UTM at 731-881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/courses/children/kidcollege.php.
DSCC recognizes Outstanding Alumni

Special to the State Gazette

Dyersburg State Community College recently recognized Karen Ray and Jonathan Taylor as Outstanding Alumni for Spring 2014 at the college’s Spring Conference with over 200 faculty and staff in attendance.

Karen Ray, of Newbern, Tenn., obtained her Associate of Science from Dyersburg State in 1986 and graduated with a GPA of 3.7. She later attended the University of Memphis and earned her bachelor’s degree. She is currently pursuing her master’s degree as a reading specialist at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Over the years, Ray has worked in many educational settings. She worked for the Tennessee Technology Center for 11 years as well as Dyersburg State Community College for three years. She has worked for the Dyersburg County Board of Education for 14 years and currently teaches fifth-grade reading and writing at Newbern Elementary School.

While attending Dyersburg State, Ray received the Distinguished Student Award. Some of her accomplishments since graduating DSCC include coaching several Destination Imagination teams who competed and placed in regional, state and global competitions from 2003-2006. She also coached two teams who placed in the NES Academic Bowl in 2013 at UT Martin.

In 2009, she received the award for 4-H Class of the Year. She was named Teacher of the Year in 2005 and 2014 for Newbern Elementary School and was also named County Teacher of the Year for grades 5-8 for the year 2014.

“As an adult with a family and a job, returning to school was a big decision,” stated Ray. “Dyersburg State faculty and staff always made me feel comfortable and offered encouragement and assistance to help complete my degree. My transition into the college world was easier than I expected because of the caring faculty and staff.”

Jonathan Taylor, of Dyersburg, began his career as a strength trainer at Solus Performance Training from 2008 to 2011. He was also employed as an assistant baseball coach at Liberty Tech Magnet High School in 2009. From 2009 to 2011, Taylor served as a graduate assistant baseball coach at Union University. He is back at Dyersburg State where he has been on the coaching staff since 2011.

While employed at Solus Performance Training, it was named Best New Business by the Jackson Chamber of Commerce — an accomplishment that Taylor no doubt had a hand in helping achieve.

While attending Dyersburg State he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was a member of the Dyersburg State baseball team from 2004 through 2006 where he played center field. His athletic accomplishments include being awarded First Team All-Conference in 2005 and 2006, First Team All-Region in 2005 and 2006, Tennessee Baseball Report First Team in 2005 and 2006, First Team All-East-Central District in 2005 and 2006, and Academic All-American in 2005 and 2006.

“I enjoyed the atmosphere of Dyersburg State,” stated Taylor. “The small student count per classroom made it easy to be interactive with the professors.”

Outstanding Alumni recipients received a plaque honoring their accomplishment, as well as an engraved picture frame.

DSCC Alumni Association President Alice Elson (middle) poses with Outstanding Alumni recipients Karen Ray (left), fifth-grade reading and writing teacher at Newbern Elementary School and Jonathan Taylor (right), assistant baseball coach at DSCC.
Bill Stout, of Martin, had many reasons to attend the 14th Memorial Day commemoration on Friday at the University of Tennessee at Martin. In fact, he can count 66 — the total combined years of military service for Stout and his two sons, Dave and Billy.

Stout, now retired from the U.S. Army, served from 1949-69, which covered service in both Korea and Vietnam. He completed his military service as the first instructor in the Army ROTC program’s advanced course that began at UT Martin in 1964. His late son Dave, a retired Navy chief warrant officer, was among a small group of university employees that started the annual Memorial Day commemoration event. His son Billy, also retired from the Navy, is a building inspector for the city of Martin.

The university’s Army ROTC Battalion presented the colors, followed by the invocation given by Gerry Gallimore, a supervisor in the university’s greenhouse and grounds areas. Dr. Roberto Mancusi, associate professor of music, sang the national anthem, and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed the crowd.

“We’re fortunate to live in a community of patriots and a nation recognized around the world as a bastion of freedom,” Rakes said.

He noted that the purpose of Memorial Day has expanded from honoring fallen military members to include recognition of veterans, family members and active military.

“There are few if any of us who are present today that have not been touched by war in some form,” he said.

Cpt. Troy Shoemaker of the Army ROTC Battalion recognized Gold Star families (the immediate families of fallen service members) and all veterans, and then introduced the speaker, Lt. Col. Steve Elliott.

Elliott, a U.S. Military Academy graduate, commands the Army National Guard’s 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery, a unit in which he served for more than a decade.

Elliott also recognized fallen members of the Army National Guard’s 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery, a unit in which he served for more than a decade.

“Tis (the unit’s) soldiers have fought in every major U.S. conflict since the Spanish-American War, including in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan,” he said.

He participated in a memorial ceremony five years ago for the battalion’s fallen members, and he noted the significance of the 14 names he was about to read.

“Bear in mind that the 2nd 138th Field Artillery is a National Guard Unit,” he said. “If two soldiers are in the same battery at the same time, then they’re most likely from the same community, went to the same high school and are often even related.”

Seven of the 14 names he read were from the same town and died the same day in Vietnam.

Rodney Freed, an Army veteran and UT Martin Department of Communications faculty member, offered the benediction. A 21-gun salute by the UT Martin Department of Public Safety and Martin Police Department and the playing of taps ended the event.

Harold Cochran, of Troy, a senior broadcast engineer in the Department of Communications, served in the U.S. Air Force and Tennessee Air National Guard. His late father was retired from the Navy and was among several family members who served in the military.

“It means a lot that they (the university) would put this together and do this,” Cochran said after the event. “And this now being the 14th year that they’ve done it, it means a whole lot to veterans.”
Ray Adams, Ravan Adams-Arnold and Frankie Adams attend the annual WestStar African-American Leadership Conference in Jackson in April. The conference is one of several sponsored by WestStar in its 21-county region. WestStar, the state's oldest regional leadership program, was created in 1989 at the University of Tennessee at Martin to serve a multi-county area by providing leadership development and training.

Jerry Woods, executive vice president of Lane College, speaks at the annual WestStar African-American Leadership Conference in Jackson.

Gloria Holiday, Mayriene Moten and Carrie Buck attend the annual WestStar African-American Leadership Conference in Jackson.
Mary Hines and Carolyn Flagg attend the annual WestStar African-American Leadership Conference in Jackson. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Shirley Sparks (left), Charley Deal, the executive director of WestStar (center) and Mary Harris attended the annual WestStar African-American Leadership Conference in Jackson. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Verna Ruffin, superintendent of Jackson-Madison County Schools, and Joyce Welch, with the Jackson Chamber of Commerce, attend the annual WestStar African-American Leadership Conference in Jackson. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Gem Bell, Miriam Jones and Della Ligon attend the annual WestStar African-American Leadership Conference in Jackson. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Leslie Pirtle (left) and Ada Miller attend the annual WestStar African-American Leadership Conference in Jackson. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
UTM faculty member Elliott remembers military sacrifices

Bill Stout of Martin had many reasons to attend the 14th Memorial Day Commemoration on Friday at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In fact, he can count 66 — the total combined years of military service for Stout and his two sons, Dave and Billy. Stout joined others in remembering the fallen and honoring retired and active military at the 9 a.m. event held on the lawn of the Hall-Moody Administration Building.

Stout, now retired from the U.S. Army, served from 1949-69, which covered service in both Korea and Vietnam. He completed his military service as the first instructor in the Army ROTC program’s advanced course that began at UT Martin in 1964. His late son Dave, a retired Navy chief warrant officer, was among a small group of university employees that started the annual Memorial Day Commemoration event. His son Billy, also retired from the Navy, is a building inspector for the city of Martin.

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“We’re fortunate to live in a community of patriots and a nation recognized around the world as a bastion of freedom,” said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes in his welcoming comments to the crowd. He noted that the purpose of Memorial Day has expanded from honoring fallen military members to include recognition of veterans, family members and active military. “There are few if any of us who are present today that have not been touched by war in some form,” he said.

Cpt. Troy Shoemaker of the Army ROTC Battalion recognized Gold Star families (the immediate families of fallen service members), all veterans, and then introduced the speaker, Lt. Col. Steve Elliott.

Elliott, a U.S. Military Academy graduate, commands the Army National Guard’s 1st Battalion, 238th Field Artillery. The UT Martin assistant professor of mathematics was deployed to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom and to Djibouti for Operation Enduring Freedom.

“Today, I want to tell you about several soldiers whose service and whose deaths have touched me personally,” Elliott said. He first noted the deaths of Staff Sgt. Lillian Clamens and Cpl. Samuel Clamens, who both died during a rocket attack while the evening meal was being served at Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq.

“I mentioned Staff Sergeant Clamens and... (See Page 8, Col. 5)
UTM...  
(Continued from Page 1)

Corporal Pearson, because about eight minutes before the rocket impact which killed them, I was standing where they died," Elliott said. "I'd just finished supper myself and was returning to work.

"Now hundreds of people ate there that night, so my presence doesn't make me special, but it makes Staff Sergeant Clamens's and Corporal Pearson's stories special to me, and I think of them often.

Elliott also recognized fallen members of the Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery, a unit in which he served for more than a decade. "Its (the unit's) soldiers have fought in every major U.S. conflict since the Spanish-American War, including in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan," he said. He participated in a memorial ceremony five years ago for the battalion's fallen members, and he noted the significance of the 14 names he was about to read.

"Bear in mind that the 2nd 138th Field Artillery is a National Guard Unit," he said. "If two soldiers are in the same battery at the same time, then they're most likely from the same community, went to the same high school and are often even related.

Seven of the 14 names he read were from the same town and died the same day in Vietnam. "Charlie Battery is headquartered in Bardstown, Ky.," he said after reading the names. "The 19th of June 1969 was a difficult day for that community.

Unlike the other names mentioned, the final veteran noted by Elliott was a soldier who survived his World War II service as adecorated hero. Freeman Victor Horner, a Pennsylvania native and a member of K Company, 119th Infantry, 30th Infantry Division, participated in an attack in Wurselen, Germany. "He single-handedly destroyed three enemy machine gun positions and cleared the path for his company's successful assault on Wurselen," Elliott said, referencing Horner's Congressional Medal of Honor citation.

Elliott later met the war hero in the nursing home where his grandmother worked and was personally moved by Horner's story. "That courage under fire against tremendous odds in support of freedom is why we honor the fallen.

"And most soldiers spend their entire careers without encountering a situation calling for the extreme heroism that Freemen Horner exhibited," Elliott added. "However, the vast majority of them aspire to it, making a mental and spiritual commitment to be ready, if called upon, to deliberately risk their lives so that each of us can continue to enjoy the American way of life.

Rodney Freed, a U.S. Army veteran and UT Martin Department of Communications faculty member, offered the benediction. A 21-gun salute by the UT Martin Department of Public Safety and Martin Police Department and the playing of Taps concluded the event.

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UTM STUDENT HONORED — Ryan Roark (center) was recently presented the Spring 2014 Beth Maloan Outstanding UT Martin Student Employee Award. Roark is a senior sociology major from South Fulton and works as a computer technician with UTM surplus/inventory coordinator Wanda Griffin. He was joined by Mike Maloan and Jennifer Stroh, daughter of Mike and the late Beth Maloan, for whom the award is named.

UTM honors SF student

Ryan Roark of South Fulton, a senior sociology major at the University of Tennessee at Martin, has been presented the Spring 2014 Beth Maloan Outstanding UT Martin Student Employee Award.

Roark works as a computer technician with UTM surplus/inventory coordinator Wanda Griffin.

His responsibilities include deciding whether a computer is worth repairing or whether it needs to be sold for scrap. He is also responsible for making certain all data has been wiped off each computer before it's sold at auction.

Roark is Ms. Griffin's senior worker and supervises four other student workers at the university.

"Ryan has my utmost support in his decision-making," Ms. Griffin said. "I cannot say enough about this young man. He takes his time with each student and wants to make sure they are fully aware of what is expected of them and the policies and procedures regarding the security aspects of this position."

The award, given every fall and spring semester, is a memorial for longtime UTM director of budgeting and payroll Beth Maloan, who, during her years of service, was a strong advocate for student employment. She had a vision that more positions would be developed on campus that would challenge students and make them significant contributors to the university's mission.

Recipients of the award exemplify a strong work ethic and commitment to the university and they receive a $1,000 cash award, an engraved plaque and a nameplate on the perpetual plaque in a place of honor in UTM's Boling University Center.
UTM SCHOLARSHIP — Nichlaus Gilliam of Union City (middle), recent Dyersburg State Community College graduate, accepted a scholarship to the University of Tennessee at Martin from Dr. Karen Bowyer, president of DSCC (left), and Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, professor and interim chairman of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources at UT Martin.

DSCC, UT Martin host Ag Night

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Those in attendance were high school students, including those who participate in Future Farmers of America (FFA), as well as local community members who currently have careers or an interest in agriculture.

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UTM Athletic Director speaks to civic clubs

By Logan Watson

Julio Freire, the new Athletic Director for the University of Tennessee at Martin, spoke Thursday to a joint meeting of the Milan Lions and Rotary Clubs at Rhino Construction.

Freire, who comes to UTM via the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, has been kept very busy during his transition from Sin City to the Bible Belt, which he likened to “drinking water from a fire hose”.

Freire was announced as the incoming Athletic Director in January and is now taking the reins of a successful 14 team program, which oversees roughly 350 student athletes.

Continued on Page 2B

TICKETS FOR CHILDREN - Julio Freire (right), Athletic Director for the University of Tennessee at Martin, spoke Thursday to a joint meeting of the Milan Lions and Rotary clubs. Freire introduced a program which would donate unwanted season tickets to underprivileged children in West Tennessee. Freire was the guest of Lions Club member Warren Wellington.

UTM Athletic Director... (Continued from Page 1B)

program, which oversees roughly 350 student athletes.

“Our primary goal is to educate the 350 young people that we're in charge of,” said Freire, who seeks to “change generations through athletics”. “If we can put a meaningful degree in the hands of a student, we’ve not only changed their lives, but we’ve changed generations. Especially if it’s a first-generation student.”

Freire told the clubs that he is committed to the success of not only the sports programs, but the students themselves. According to Freire, over half of the student athletes currently attending UTM have a GPA of 3.0 or greater, and he intends on staffing the sports programs with coaches who will not only win, but help teach students about the intangible characteristics of work ethic, teamwork, communication and discipline.

Freire has already taken steps to attract and retain the best coaches available, bringing in new baseball coach Heath Schroyer in March and inking a new six-year contract with Lady Skyhawk basketball coach Kevin McMillan.

Freire informed the Lions and Rotarians of his plans to make the Skyhawks “West Tennessee’s team” through a number of programs that he hopes will create excitement in the community. Freire wants to create a buzz by chartering busses of students and fans to the Skyhawks football game against Austin Peay in the fall, then again in the 2016 season versus rivals Murray State.

Freire also hopes to generate interest in the community by introducing a new program that donates unwanted football and basketball season tickets to underprivileged kids in West Tennessee. According to Freire, it is rare that season ticket holders are able to attend every game, so by sending unwanted tickets back to the University, they can then be put in the hands of kids who otherwise might not get to attend a collegiate sporting event.

Not only does the program help underprivileged children, but it also helps the student athletes with monetary support as well as support on game day.

“This will help the student athletes, because there’s more people in the stands, whether it’s you and your family, or the child and their family cheering them on,” said Freire. “It’s a great day to be a Skyhawk.”

If you are interested in purchasing season tickets for the 2014-15 seasons, or would like more information on the Tickets for Children program, contact Jenny Canary at (731) 881-7207.
UT Martin faculty member Steve Elliott remembers military sacrifices

Bill Stout of Martin had many reasons to attend the 14th Memorial Day Commemoration on Friday at the University of Tennessee at Martin. In fact, he can count 66 — the total combined years of military service for Stout and his two sons, Dave and Billy. Stout joined others in remembering the fallen and honoring retired and active military at the 9 a.m. event held on the lawn of the Hall-Moody Administration Building.

Stout, now retired from the U.S. Army, served from 1949-69, which covered service in both Korea and Vietnam. He completed his military service as the first instructor in the Army ROTC program’s advanced course that began at UT Martin in 1964. His late son Dave, a retired Navy chief warrant officer, was among a small group of university employees that started the annual Memorial Day Commemoration event. His son Billy, also retired from the Navy, is a building inspector for the city of Martin.

The university’s Army ROTC Battalion presented the colors, followed by the invocation given by Gerry Gallimore, a supervisor in the university’s greenhouse and grounds areas. Dr. Roberto Mancusi, associate professor of music, sang the National Anthem, and UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed the crowd.

“We’re fortunate to live in a community of patriots and a nation recognized around the world as a bastion of freedom,” said Rakes in his welcoming comments to the crowd. He noted that the purpose of Memorial Day has expanded from honoring fallen military members to include recognition of veterans, family members and active military. “There are few if any of us who are present today that have not been touched by war in some form,” he said.

Cpt. Troy Shoemaker of the Army ROTC Battalion

recognized Gold Star families (the immediate families of fallen service members), all veterans, and then introduced the speaker, Lt. Col. Steve Elliott.

Elliott, a U.S. Military Academy graduate, commands the Army National Guard’s 1st Battalion, 238th Field Artillery. The UT Martin assistant professor of mathematics was deployed to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom and to Djibouti for Operation Enduring Freedom.

SEE UTM, PAGE 12

SALUTE — An honor guard prepares for a 21-gun salute Friday morning at UT Martin’s Memorial Day ceremony.
UTM
FROM PAGE 1

“Today, I want to tell you about several soldiers whose service and whose deaths have touched me personally,” Elliott said. He first noted the deaths of Staff Sgt. Lillian Clamens and Cpl. Samuel Pearson, who both died during a rocket attack while the evening meal was being served at Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq.

“I mentioned Staff Sergeant Clamens and Corporal Pearson, because about eight minutes before the rocket impact which killed them, I was standing where they died,” Elliott said. “I’d just finished supper myself and was returning to work.

“Now hundreds of people ate there that night, so my presence doesn’t make me special, but it makes Staff Sergeant Clamens’ and Corporal Pearson’s stories special to me, and I think of them often.”

Elliott also recognized fallen members of the Army National Guard’s 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery, a unit in which he served for more than a decade. “Its (the unit’s) soldiers have fought in every major U.S. conflict since the Spanish-American War, including in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan,” he said. He participated in a memorial ceremony five years ago for the battalion’s fallen members, and he noted the significance of the 14 names he was about to read.

“Bear in mind that the 2nd 138th Field Artillery is a National Guard Unit,” he said. “If two soldiers are in the same battery at the same time, then they’re most likely from the same community, went to the same high school and are often even related.”

Seven of the 14 names he read were from the same town and died the same day in Vietnam. “Charlie Battery is headquartered in Bardstown, Kentucky,” he said after reading the names. “The 19th of June 1969 was a difficult day for that community.”

Unlike the other names mentioned, Elliott closed by telling about a soldier who survived his World War II service as a decorated hero.

Freeman Victor Horner, a Pennsylvania native and a member of K Company, 119th Infantry, 30th Infantry Division, participated in an attack in Wurselen, Germany. “He single-handedly destroyed three enemy machine gun positions and cleared the path for his company’s successful assault on Wurselen,” Elliott said, referencing Horner’s Congressional Medal of Honor citation.

Elliott later met the war hero in the nursing home where his grandmother worked and was personally moved by Horner’s story. “That courage under fire against tremendous odds in support of freedom is why we honor the fallen.”

“And most soldiers spend their entire careers without encountering a situation calling for the extreme heroism that Freeman Horner exhibited,” Elliott added. “However, the vast majority of them aspire to it, making a mental and spiritual commitment to be ready, if called upon, to deliberately risk their lives so that each of us can continue to enjoy the American way of life.”

Rodney Freed, a U.S. Army veteran and UT Martin Department of Communications faculty member, offered the benediction. A 21-gun salute by the UT Martin Department of Public Safety and Martin Police Department and the playing of taps concluded the event.

Harold Cochran of Troy senior broadcast engineer in the university’s Department of Communications, served in both the U.S. Air Force and Tennessee Air National Guard. His late father was retired from the Navy and was among several close family members who served in the military.

“It means a lot that they (the university) would put this together and do this,” Cochran said following the event. “And this now being the 14th year that they’ve done it, it means a whole lot to veterans.”

CEREMONY — “We’re fortunate to live in a community of patriots and a nation recognized around the world as a bastion of freedom,” said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes in his welcoming comments to the crowd gathered Friday morning on lawn of the Hall-Moody Administration Building.
Martin hosts Memorial Day ceremony, Elliot guest speaker

The 14th Memorial Day Commemoration on Friday at UT Martin was held Monday.

The university’s Army ROTC Battalion presented the colors, followed by the invocation given by Gerry Gallimore. Roberto Mancusi sang the National Anthem.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed the crowd.

Lt. Col. Steve Elliott, a U.S. Military Academy graduate, commands the Army National Guard’s 1st Battalion, 238th Field Artillery. The UT Martin assistant professor of mathematics was deployed to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Djibouti for Operation Enduring Freedom.

In his opening remarks he told the crowd he wanted to tell them about several soldiers whose service and whose deaths have touched him personally.

He first noted the deaths of Staff Sgt. Lillian Clamens and Cpl. Samuel Pearson, who both died during a rocket attack while the evening meal was being served at Camp Victory in Baghdad, Iraq.

Elliott also recognized fallen members of the Army National Guard’s 2nd Battalion, 138th Field Artillery, a unit in which he served for more than a decade.

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PHI KAPPA PHI: (From left to right) John Wilson, of Martin; Abbey McDaniel, of Greenfield; Saumil Patel, of Martin; Christy Lee, of Martin; Stephanie Sellers, of Martin; Ryan Clark, of Glasgow; Clinton Smith, of Martin; and Jessica Silva, of Martin, were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent, and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico. Photo submitted.

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VETERINARY HEALTH TECHNOLOGY: UT Martin’s veterinary health technology option has received initial accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities. The program graduated its first 20 students during spring commencement May 3. Dr. Jason Roberts (center), veterinarian and UT Martin assistant professor of animal science, works with students at the university’s teaching farm. Photo submitted.
Roark recipient of UTM Student Employee Award

The Spring 2014 Beth Maloan Outstanding UT Martin Student Employee Award recently was presented to Ryan Roark, a senior sociology major from South Fulton, who works as a computer technician with Wanda Griffin, surplus/inventory coordinator.

Among his many tasks, Roark decides when a computer is worth repairing or whether it needs to be sold for scrap. He is also responsible for making certain that all data has been wiped off each computer before it is sold at auction. He is Griffin's senior worker and supervises four other student workers.

This award, given every fall and spring semester, is a memorial for Beth Maloan, longtime UT Martin director of budgeting and payroll, who during her years of service, was a strong advocate for student employment. Recipients of this award exemplify a strong work ethic and commitment to the university, and they receive a $1,000 cash award, an engraved plaque and a nameplate on the perpetual plaque in a place of honor in the Boling University Center.

Jameson earns UTM scholarship

A Fulton County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2014-2015 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Miyoshi Brooks, assistant director of admissions.

Ian Dalton Jameson, son of Ralph E. Jameson III and Melissa Jameson, of Fulton, will be a freshman. He received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship/Workshop.
Yalda Captures Top Student Teaching Award

UTM-McNairy student Dakota Yalda made history when she was honored as UT-Martin's outstanding student teacher for the 2014 spring semester.

When she received the honor, Yalda became the first UTM-McNairy County Center student to earn the prestigious 2014 Carle Seale Outstanding Student Teaching Award from the University of Tennessee - Martin. In competition with over 100 student teachers from the main campus and all satellite campuses, Yalda emerged with the top honor after completing two student teaching assignments in McNairy County this spring.

"From the time Dakota entered the UTM McNairy County/Selmer Center program as a freshman, she has proved herself to be a diligent and dedicated student," noted professor Dr. Joyce Swan. "She has represented our education program commendably by being the first student teacher from our Center to earn this prestigious award. Dakota will be an outstanding and effective teacher who will continue to make us proud."

Dakota was nominated for the award by Megan Moore, one of her cooperating teachers, and by Pat Brooks, who supervised her student teaching for the university. To complete her student teaching assignment, Yalda worked with local teachers Megan Moore at Michie Elementary and Julie Gibbs at Bethel Springs Elementary.

The McNairy Central High School honor graduate was the recipient of numerous scholarships that helped finance her college education, including awards from Kappa Delta Pi, DKG Gamma Eta, FOP Charles Wooten Lodge, Oscar V. and Maude Stovall Erwin, Spectrum Incorporated, Fairene Sewell, TN Lottery, and TN Lottery Aspire.

On May 3, Yalda graduated with Highest Honors from UT-Martin. Dakota is the daughter of Frank Yalda and Monica Roberts.

McNairy County Student receives scholarship to attend University of Tennessee at Martin

A McNairy County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2014-2015 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Miyoshi Brooks, assistant director of admissions.

Kaitlyn Boggs, daughter of Robert and Kellie Boggs, of Bethel Springs, will be a freshman. She received the Chancellor's Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn., 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.
UT Martin names local students to Spring Semester Chancellor's Honor Roll

Norma Coalter
UTM Office of University Relations

MARTIN, Tenn. — The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2014 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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

Lauren L. Barber, Adamsville, TN 38310-1605, Highest Honors
Hilary B. Combs, Adamsville, TN 38310-1727, High Honors
Zachary S. Congiardo, Adamsville, TN 38310-4697, Highest Honors
Kamala O. Dalton, Adamsville, TN 38310-3490, Honors
Britney J. Dowell, Adamsville, TN 38310-2546, Honors
Todd B. Gean, Adamsville, TN 38310-0576, Highest Honors
Joseph K. Gray, Adamsville, TN 38310-3011, High Honors
Sidney T. Hollin, Adamsville, TN 38310-5313, High Honors
Sarah M. Johnson, Adamsville, TN 38310-4260, Honors
Bethany R. Martin, Adamsville, TN 38310-4355, High Honors
Alaina Y. McCall, Adamsville, TN 38310-3113, High Honors
James K. McDaniel, Adamsville, TN 38310-4123, High Honors
Tammy R. Moraga, Adamsville, TN 38310-1918, High Honors
Chloe G. Mullis, Adamsville, TN 38310-3357, High Honors
Jake D. O'Brien, Adamsville, TN 38310-5065, Honors
Benjamin T. White, Adamsville, TN 38310-4795, High Honors

Brandon L. White, Adamsville, TN 38310-3623, Highest Honors
Kory S. White, Adamsville, TN 38310-3623, Honors
Esthelee M. Wright, Adamsville, TN 38310-5068, High Honors

Karrie A. Duncan, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-4233, Honors
Randal H. Graves, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-4424, Honors
Robin Chelsea M. Kiestler, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-4511, Highest Honors
Christopher A. Lambert, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-3524, High Honors
Courtney B. Lobb, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-4604, High Honors

Jeffery D. Mitchell, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-4329, Honors
Rachel M. Reinke, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-4240, Honors
Cassandra N. Rogers, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-4119, High Honors
Sherry A. Taylor, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-2506, High Honors
Megan S. Wade, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-3563, Honors
Darryl W. Weatherford, Bethel Springs, TN 38315-4200, High Honors

Joshua C. Sinclair, Dyersburg, TN 38024-1958, Honors
Susan J. Rietz, Finger, TN 38334-2831, High Honors
Hannah R. Davis, Huron, TN 38345-7916, Highest Honors

Karlee A. Jackson-Carney, Martin, TN 38237-2816, Honors
Ana M. Whitten, Martin, TN 38237-2908, Honors
Doug P. Young, Martin, TN 38237-3884, High Honors

Destiny B. Lingelbach, Michie, TN 38357-5397, High Honors
Alyce D. Massengill, Michie, TN 38357-5068, High Honors
Calinda L. Wilbanks, Michie, TN 38357-5397, Honors
Brian M. Azevedo, Milledgeville, TN 38359-4218, Honors
The University of Tennessee at Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus, and caring professors across not only its main campus but its satellite campuses, as well.
QUAKE SHAKE — Northwest Tennessee Disaster Services CEO Rob Adcock and Discovery Park of America education director Polly Brasher check out the NTDS "Quake Shake" interactive earthquake simulator designed for children. The agency was asked by Mrs. Brasher and Robert Kirkland to become an educational partner with DPA by building an exciting educational exhibit children can use to learn about earthquakes in the area and the effects of potential violent tremors deep inside the earth. Up to six children can take part in the earthquake experiment at once. Each child is tasked with building an unsecured wooden house structure within the framed work spaces. After completion, an internal actuator is safely started by an instructor. After 30 seconds of violent shaking within the table (simulating up to a 7.0 earthquake) the young engineers of structures left standing will receive an NTDS merit certificate. The exhibit was built by community volunteers and University of Tennessee at Martin staff volunteers and was funded by generous community donations. To learn more about NTDS, visit www.togetherforall.org. To learn more about DPA, visit www.discoveryparkofamerica.com.

Handgun carry course slated for June at UTM

A handgun carry course will be held June 14 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the University of Tennessee at Martin campus.

The course will present the student with the minimum requirements mandated by the state to obtain a handgun carry permit.

The class will cover the use, operation and basic cleaning of a handgun. The first four-hour block will be devoted to classroom instruction and the written exam. The second four-hour block will be for firing-range instruction and the practical exam.

The student must score a minimum of 70 on both written and practical to successfully complete the course. Then, they will be able to apply for a handgun carry permit from the state.

The registration fee is $75. The student will need to bring a handgun with 50 rounds of ammunition, a pen or pencil, paper and hearing and eye protection.

For more information or to register, call (731) 881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php.
STUDENT HONORED — Sarah Triplett (middle) of Union City was selected for the Faculty Scholar Award by Dr. Ken VanBuren (not pictured), associate professor of accounting, at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Global Affairs banquet held recently. Darlene Adkins (left), lecturer of accounting, congratulated her on the award, which was presented by Dr. Ross Dickens, dean of the College of Business and Global Affairs.

UTM's Master's of Education is rated among the best in U.S.

Best Online Colleges has named the Online Master of Science in Education with a major in counseling at the University of Tennessee at Martin among the best in the nation for 2014. The listing can be found at BestOnlineColleges.org and includes 34 schools sorted by affordability, flexibility and efficiency.

UT Martin is the only Tennessee college or university included in the online counseling program list. BestOnlineColleges.org used data from the National Center for Education Statistics and evaluated it against a unique set of parameters to determine the list. Other factors considered for developing the list include accreditation, graduation rates, satisfaction with school choice, and student debt.

UT Martin's program offers concentrations in school counseling and clinical mental health counseling within the counseling major. The program can be completed online, but students attend a four-day residency to be admitted to candidacy and continue in the program.
UTM's Kid College begins Monday

Students from kindergarten to fifth grade can head off to college at UT-Martin next week.

UTM's Director of Non-Degree Programs, Debbie Mount, says the Kid College program is a fun and educational way for students entering Kindergarten through 5th Grade to learn more about subjects that are interesting to them.

Mount says that each class is $40 dollars and kids can take one course or up to five courses during the program, and with sixty programs to choose from, there's something for everyone.

The UTM Kid College program has been a successful summer program for children in West Tennessee for 25 years.

This year's Kid College begins Monday and runs through the Thursday, June 12th.

Mount says parents are urged to register students by 5:00 tomorrow afternoon.

WNBA Stars Sign UTM Star Heather Butler

SAN ANTONIO -- The San Antonio Stars signed guard Heather Butler to their 2014 training camp roster, head coach and general manager Dan Hughes announced recently. Per team policy, terms of the contracts were not disclosed.

A 5-5 guard from the University of Tennessee at Martin, Butler finished her collegiate career as the all-time leading scorer in Ohio Valley Conference history. Following her senior season, she was one of five finalists for the Lieberman Award, averaging 23.5 points and 3.4 assists in 36.1 minutes.

The Gibson, TN native scored in double figures in every game of her career and ranks fourth on the NCAA all-time three-pointers made list.

San Antonio Stars training camp began on Sunday, April 27. So far, Butler has played in every game for the Stars, averaging three minutes per game.
Promising results from UT pilot program

KNOXVILLE — One year into a two-year pilot program, the University of Tennessee’s test of the utility of new online learning technology compared to other online platforms currently in use has achieved successful outcomes that resulted in additional state funding.

Launched in May 2013, the pilot program is a partnership between the UT System and the Tennessee Board of Regents, funded by a $1 million appropriation from the state of Tennessee for online innovation projects in connection with Gov. Haslam’s “Drive to 55” campaign. Based largely on the pilot’s initial success, an additional $1 million appropriation was approved by the legislature last month. The added funding will be used broadly to apply lessons learned from the pilot or to test additional ways technology can be leveraged to improve student outcomes.

The pilot program is using technology developed by Coursera and edX, national innovators in massive open online courses, or MOOCs.

“Universities across the country are questioning what the future holds for higher education given rapid advances in technology, changing demands of those we serve and declining state support,” UT President Joe DiPietro said. “We must be open to considering new approaches to delivering education, and this is one example of how we’re doing that in Tennessee and at UT.”

To date, four courses have been piloted on UT’s campuses across the state using the Coursera platform, which relies heavily on short video lectures, quizzes and immediate feedback to ensure students master each concept before moving to the next. Two courses were offered completely online, and two tested a “flipped classroom” approach, which requires students to watch lectures outside of class.

Courses include:
- English Rhetoric and Composition I and II, UT Chattanooga (fall 2013 and spring 2014)
- College Algebra, UT Knoxville (spring 2014)
- Masterpieces of Music, UT Martin (fall 2013 and spring 2014)
- Algebra, UT Martin (fall 2013)

“Among the most critical factors in student success,” UT assistant vice president for academic affairs and student success, said India Lane, “the excitement generated by this project has been energizing,” said India Lane, UT assistant vice president for academic affairs and student success. “Within a few months, it was easy to see how this type of investment and team effort helps us get in the trenches and test methods that we hope will reduce the number of students repeating introductory courses and lead to better retention and graduation rates.”

Initial takeaways from the pilot include the value of course redesign and quality video instruction and the importance of course fit for success in an online platform.

For Malissa Peery, a faculty member in the math department at UT Knoxville, the experience has been overwhelmingly positive for both her and participating students.

“I’ve never taught online before and was a little concerned about a flipped approach, but I really wanted to try it because I always hear students say they understand everything in class but can’t do it when they get home,” she said. “So I made perfect sense. They watch my lectures outside of class, and when we’re together, we’re doing exercises to reinforce the material and build connections between the concepts.

“Even the energy level in the flipped class is different. The students are interacting, it’s less stressful and a lot more fun.”

Roberto Mancusi, associate professor of music at UT Martin, has been teaching a general education music appreciation course online since 2010 and agreed to transition the course to Coursera to compare the two platforms.

“I noticed courses using Coursera were more engaged in the discussion board and offered more thought-based responses,” he said. “They seemed to have a better understanding of the material. They even started a discussion thread about what they thought of the course, and they all thought it was wonderful.”

As an experienced online lecturer at UT Chattanooga and fan of technology, Tiffany Mitchell jumped at the chance to convert her online English rhetoric and composition II course to Coursera. She said she found the platform, in its current design, to be more of a content consumption tool better suited for lecture-heavy courses. She agreed the video aspect was a valuable addition but has continued using outside tools to allow for intense peer-to-peer and peer-to-instructor interaction.

Three courses are being designed now for testing the edX platform. In fall 2014, a general education literature course using edX will launch at UT Martin, along with an upper-level education course at UT Chattanooga. The pilot will conclude in summer 2015 with all UT Knoxville freshmen being enrolled in First-Year Studies 100, a required course that takes place over the summer to help incoming students transition, using the edX platform.

In total, more than 4,800 UT students are expected to participate in the Coursera and edX pilot courses, and their feedback, along with input from faculty and support staff, will continue to be collected, compared to experiences and student outcomes at TBR and used to determine next steps and future plans. “Through this pilot, we’re gaining valuable knowledge,” Lane said. “We intentionally mapped out a small pilot project and have proceeded carefully, monitoring the process and outcomes before considering any larger-scale adoption.

As expected, the campus teams turned out fantastic course content, but we didn’t anticipate the synergy and exponential value we have gained from collaborating as a system and with TBR to brainstorm, share successes and address challenges.

“What we’re seeing are the amazing results that can happen when you invest in a team effort like this and allow faculty the opportunity to focus their energy for the benefit of their students.”
Yalda Captures Top Student Teaching Award

UTM-McNairy student Dakota Yalda made history when she was honored as UT-Martin's outstanding student teacher for the 2014 spring semester.

When she received the honor, Yalda became the first UTM-McNairy County Center student to earn the prestigious 2014 Carle Seale Outstanding Student Teaching Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin. In competition with over 100 student teachers from the main campus and all satellite campuses, Yalda emerged with the top honor after completing two student teaching assignments in McNairy County this spring.

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The McNairy Central High School honor graduate was the recipient of numerous scholarships that helped finance her college education, including awards from Kappa Delta Pi, DKGR Gamma Eta, FOP Charles Woolen Lodge, Oscar V. and Maude Stovall Erwin, Spectrum Incorporated, Fairine Sewell, TN Lottery, and TN Lottery Aspire.

On May 3, Yalda graduated with Highest Honors from UT-Martin. Dakota is the daughter of Frank Yalda and Monica Roberts.

Local student inducted into Honor Society at UT Martin

Lauren Barber (left), of Adamsville, and Danielle Fuller (right), of Martin, were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent, and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.
Student Recognized

CALVIN STEELE, center, of Halls, was honored at the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Global Affairs banquet, held April 26th. He was presented the Faculty Scholar Award by Dr. Robbie Hillsman, left, instructor of marketing, and Dr. Ross Dickens, right, dean of the College of Business and Global Affairs.

Five students from Obion County have been awarded scholarships for the 2014-15 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Recipients include:
- Kayla Michelle Eason, daughter of Tammy Eason of Union City and Rodney Eason of Clinton, Ky., a senior who received the David Hogan/Baptist Hospital Award, the Raymond and Maxine Bratcher Award and the Robert G. and Elizabeth Latimer Award.
- Amber Denise Freeman, daughter of Kim Freeman and Jesse Hammonds, both of Union City, an incoming freshman who received the Elizabeth Dilday Pentecost Award.
- Summer D. Frields, daughter of Danny and Gena Frields of South Fulton, a junior who received the Fred and Marie Colvett FCS Award.
- Jessica Lamastus, daughter of David and Melissa Lamastus of Hornbeak, an incoming freshman who received the UTM McWhorter Scholarship/Workshop.
- Ashley Nicole Thetford, daughter of Randy and Anita Thetford of Rives, a senior who received the David Hogan/Baptist Hospital Award and the James Augustus Staulcup Award.

An Obion County student has been awarded scholarships for the 2013-14 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Jenna Ann Land, daughter of Alvin and Diane Webster of Rives, received the Alexander Writing Prize and the Dean’s Year 4 Scholarship. She will be a senior.
Katelyn Arnold honored

Katelyn Arnold (middle), of Holladay, was selected for the Faculty Scholar Award by Dr. Ashley Kilburn (left), associate professor of marketing, at the annual University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Global Affairs banquet held on April 26. Presenting the award was Dr. Ross Dickens (right), dean of the College of Business and Global Affairs. Arnold also received the Dean’s Scholar Award in Marketing.

Locals Earn Vet Tech Degree

Kaitlin Bray, of Big Sandy (second from left), was a member of the first spring vet tech class at UT Martin. Erica Carroll and Amanda Waldon, both laboratory instructors in the College of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources, participated in a celebration banquet with Dr. Danny Walker before commencement exercises Saturday, May 3, at UT Martin in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. Each graduate earned a Bachelor of Science in agriculture with a concentration in animal science and an option in Veterinary Health Technology (VHT).