



Rent A Geek raises funds, buys assistance

The University Scholars Organization (USO) invites faculty and staff to “rent a geek” for a day. Scheduled for Saturday, April 14, Rent A Geek is a fundraiser where university employees can “rent” a University Scholar for a day.

Eleven student volunteers are available to perform housework, yard work, office cleaning, baby-sitting, painting and a variety of other tasks. Anyone interested in hiring help is encouraged to contact Sarah Appleton, USO fundraising chairperson, before April 9 to schedule an assistant. Students can also be hired for days other than April 14 with advance notice.

Pricing will begin at \$5 per hour, however employers are encouraged to make donations appropriate for the amount and difficulty of the work provided.

All donations are used to support University Scholar conference travel.

For more information, or to “rent” a geek, contact Sarah Appleton at sardappl@ut.utm.edu.



The first computer-based GED® test was taken on Wednesday, March 28, at the University of Tennessee at Martin's Student Success Center. Student Success Center staff and officials from the GED® testing service gathered for the inaugural event. Pictured L to R – Jill Moe, program manager of GED® testing service; Sharon Robertson, Student Success Center assistant director; Susan Doughty, state director of GED testing service; George Daniel, Student Success Center director; Suzie Smith, UT Martin testing administrative specialist; Evy Goddard, UT Martin testing services administrator; Celia Johnson, UT Martin testing services administrator; Debi Faucette, senior director of program management of GED® testing service; and Mitchell Parham, Weakley County Center for Adult and Continuing Education director.

UTM offers first computer-based GED in state

On Wednesday, March 28, for the first time in the state of Tennessee the GED® test was taken on a computer.

The University of Tennessee at Martin partnered with the GED® Testing Service to offer the first test, which provides some benefits for test takers.

“They will receive an instant score at the

end of the test, for all parts except the writing. So they will receive an unofficial score at the end of the day and an official score two weeks later,” said Sharon Robertson, assistant director of the UT Martin Student Success Center, which has been offering the GED® on paper since 1954.

Continued on Page 4

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- **Dr. Yi Gu**, assistant professor of computer science, and co-authors from the University of Memphis, received a Best Paper Award recently at the 2012 Spring Simulation Multiconference

and the 45th Annual Simulation Symposium held in Orlando, Fla. The title of the paper is “On a Multi-Objective Evolutionary Algorithm for Optimizing End-to-End Performance of Scientific

Workflows in Distributed Environments.”

- **Terry Duncan**, Student Success Center career counselor, was recently appointed by the National Academic Advising Association

(NACADA) Technology in Advising Commission to serve as a Program Proposal Reader for the upcoming 36th Annual Conference of NACADA to be held October 2012 in Nashville.

Engineering receives \$20,000 grant

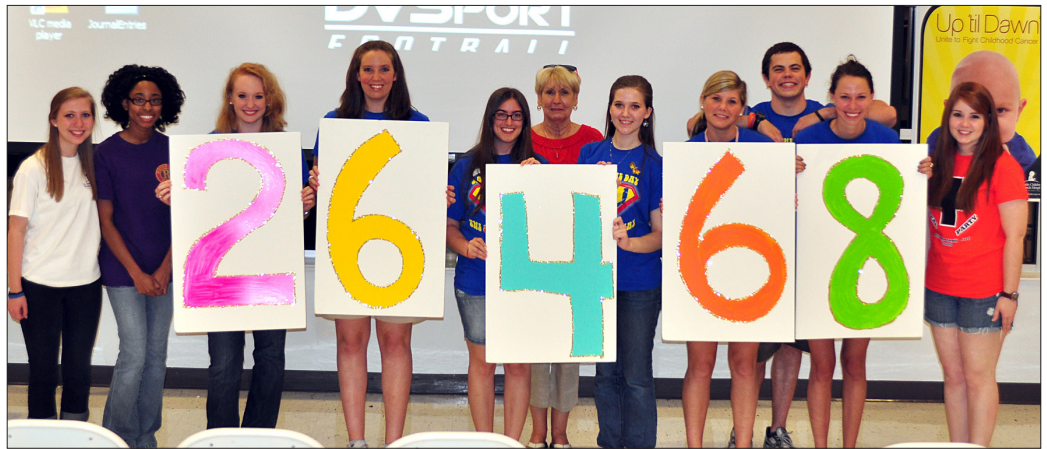
The Tennessee Department of Commerce and Engineering's Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners recently awarded UT Martin's Department of Engineering over \$20,000 for the purchase of laboratory equipment. The funds will be used to purchase equipment for the civil engineering labs, specifically the pavement design, steel design and surveying labs.

"This grant enables our students to have the best possible lab experiences in order to prepare them for entry into today's competitive job market. We are grateful to the Tennessee Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners for the lab enhancements made possible by this grant," said Dr. Ed Wheeler, Department of Engineering chair.

Dr. Rich Helgeson, dean of the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, further emphasized the importance of the award.

"An engineering degree program requires a continual infusion of funds to support the acquisition of new equipment to keep us current in technology and to best prepare our graduates for an ever changing professional environment in our State's economy. The continued financial support from the state licensing board is an important piece of this ongoing process, and is very much appreciated," he said.

The Bachelor of Science in Engineering program enrolls about 270 students who study a concentration of civil, electrical, industrial, or mechanical engineering. The program emphasizes both theoretical foundations and practical applications through hands-on laboratory experiments, state-of-the-art computer software and real-world design projects.



UT Martin The University of Tennessee at Martin hosted its first letter-writing campaign for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital this past October and raised \$26,468 for the institution. More than 400 students participated in the campaign and collectively mailed more than 4,000 letters. The board of student directors announced the final total on March 29. Pictured from left to right are Lindsey Jackson, volunteer; Amber Thompson, volunteer; Katie Snider, entertainment chair; Natalie Medling, public relations chair; Valerie Winters, advocacy chair; Judy Rayburn, faculty advisor and director of UT Martin Admissions; Amy Dysinger, executive director; Laura McFall, logistics chair; Neil Allen, morale chair; Tori Taylor, recruitment chair; and Teresa Fowler, fundraising chair.

Alumnus offers tornado safety tips to Weakley Countians

2011 was a record-setting year for severe weather across the U.S. Five hundred and fifty people were killed by tornadoes with 32 of the deaths occurring in Tennessee.

"Despite better warnings than ever before, too many people are being killed by tornadoes. Joplin, Missouri, and Tuscaloosa, Alabama - two cities hit by large tornadoes last year - had high numbers of deaths despite up to 20 minutes warning. Something has to change," says Nashville television meteorologist Charlie Neese.

Neese, a UT Martin alumnus, has partnered with Alexander Auctions and Real Estate Sales and Central Baptist Church, for TornadoSafe, a live, multimedia tornado safety program on Tuesday, April 10, at 6:30 p.m. at Central Baptist Church in Martin. The presentation is open to all in and around Weakley County.

"We are about to enter the peak tornado season here in West Tennessee and the pattern looks to remain active again this year. People are dying from tornadoes because they don't hear



the warnings, they ignore them, they don't know what to do or they don't have a safe place to go. I address all of these issues in the TornadoSafe program," Neese said.

Tornadoes have already killed three in the state of Tennessee. The active weather pattern has helped spawn more than 20 tornadoes within 50 miles of Weakley County within the last five years, according to National Weather Service records. Traditionally, West Tennessee sees more tornadoes per year than any other part of the state.

Neese, a 1992 graduate of UT Martin and current on-air meteorologist for the CBS affiliate in Nashville, is a two-time Emmy award winner for both his se-

vere weather coverage and for a severe weather safety news series. He has studied several tornado damage paths, including ones from the record Alabama outbreak last April, in an effort to fully understand how buildings are affected by the extreme wind forces experienced during tornadoes.

"When I'm tracking storms on radar and I see one that has the capability of producing a tornado, I always think to myself, 'Do the people underneath this storm know what's about to happen and do they know what to do?' That's my motivation behind TornadoSafe - once you hear the warning, do you know exactly what to do? In the program, I talk about some things most people probably have never considered when formulating their safety plan," he said.

TornadoSafe sponsored by Alexander Auctions and Real Estate Sales is free and open to everyone in Martin and Weakley County. For more information, call Central Baptist Church at 731.587.5311 or visit Charlie's website at www.CharlieNeese.com.



Awareness for Agriculture – UT Martin students Sarah Muller and Zach Oyebi befriend a goat kid during UT Martin's second annual Agriculture Awareness Day, March 27, at the main campus. Vendors from companies such as Monsanto, Tennessee Farmers' Cooperative and Tennessee Farm Bureau, were on hand during the event with interactive displays where students learned about the agriculture industry during a trade-show like portion of the day. Tennessee Tractor, LLC, provided tractors and other farm equipment for students to ask questions about the different types of farming equipment. Later that evening, a program celebrated the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act of 1862, which established land-grant institutions in the United States, including the University of Tennessee System. Student organizations involved included Collegiate FFA, Collegiate 4-H, Alpha Gamma Rho and Sigma Alpha.

UTM to host ACCM

The 35th annual Area Collegiate Chemistry Meeting, sponsored by area chapters of Student Members of the American Chemical Society, will be held on April 14, at the Boling University Center on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus.

Colleges participating in the meeting are Murray State University, Union University, UT Martin, Christian Brothers University, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, the University of Memphis and the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in Memphis. More than forty student research presentations will be featured at the meeting.

The keynote speaker will be Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Dr. Stanley E. Manahan. Manahan has written books on environmental chemistry and is the author/co-author of about 90 research articles. He received his Artium Baccalaureatus Degree in chemistry from Emporia State University in Kansas in 1960 and his Ph.D. in analytical chemistry from the University of Kansas in 1965. Since 1968, his primary research and professional activities have been in environmental chemistry, with recent emphasis on hazardous waste treatment. His latest research has involved gasification of wastes and gasification of sewage sludge and crop byproduct biomass for energy production. Additionally, Manahan has lectured on environmental chemistry, hazardous wastes, toxicological chemistry and analytical chemistry across the United States and in several foreign countries.

Student research presentations will begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by group pictures at noon. At 12:30 p.m., there will be a banquet followed by the keynote address on "Green Chemistry: Sustainability and the Environmental Chemistry Connection," by Manahan.

THE RECYCLING CENTER HAS NEW HOURS!

Monday-Friday: 7 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday: 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

The gate will be closed during non-operating hours.

Criminal Justice events fun for all

On Wednesday, April 4, the Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society and the UT Martin Criminal Justice Society will team up for the annual Jail & Bail fundraiser.

From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the quad, individuals on campus may have a person thrown in jail for various violations such as

working under the influence of coffee or texting too much. The accused must then draw for a bail amount and proceed to contact friends and co-workers to donate funds toward their bail.

One third of the proceeds will be donated to A Soldier's Child Birthday Foundation. Arrest sheets can be faxed to Erika

Klutts, president, Alpha Phi Sigma, Kappa Epsilon Chapter, at 881-7514.

The 7th Annual Criminal Justice Day was also held on Monday, April 2, and allowed students on campus to network with professionals at a career advice event in the University Center.

<h1>Jail & Bail</h1>
<p>9 a.m. - 2 p.m. April 4 Quad</p>

GED, continued from page 1

Tennessee is the seventh state to offer computer testing, which gives students more scheduling flexibility, as well as the opportunity for technology-minded generations to test on a comfortable format.

"They will have more opportunities at their discretion as to when to take the exam. They can take it on weekends," Robertson said, contrasting the twice-a-month paper exam offerings.

Debi Faucette, senior director

of program management with GED® testing service, was on hand for the inaugural event.

"In the paper-based world everybody has to start at the same time; they must move in regimented blocks of time. You can't move from one test to the next until the time limit is up or until everybody has finished. The beauty with this is that they can look and they can schedule the test they want to take at the time that fits their schedule. There's no more waiting in a

group to move through the testing experience," Faucette said.

Two students were on hand Tuesday taking the computer-based exam, which was encouraged by the Weakley County Center for Adult and Continuing Education (WCCACE).

"We're especially excited to be the first in Tennessee to be testing on the computer," said Mitchell Parham, WCCACE director.

Austin Weldon, of McKenzie, was one of the two first test-tak-

ers, and said the computer test process was simple.

"You just have to create a profile online, come in, and everything else is pretty simple," he said.

GED® Testing Service® is a joint venture between Pearson and the American Council on Education (ACE). The actual computer GED® test is not online and must be taken in person at an official GED® testing center.

Calendar April 2-7

Monday, April 2

- Advising/Early Registration (April 2-10) (Maymester, Summer, Fall 2012)

Tuesday, April 3

- 5 p.m. - VTA Student Art Exhibition, Paul Meek Library, Upstairs Gallery (April 3-21)
- 5:30 p.m. - WOW Thursdays, Interfaith Student Center
- 6:30 p.m. - HYPE Bible Study, Oak Grove Baptist Church

- 6:30 p.m. - Skyhawk baseball @ Vanderbilt
- 7:30 p.m. - UTM Piano Ensemble Concert, Trinity Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, April 4

- 5 p.m. - Skyhawk softball @ Austin Peay

Thursday, April 5

- 3 p.m. - Skyhawk baseball @ Murray State

Friday, April 6

- Good Friday - University closed
- 1 p.m. - Skyhawk softball vs. Eastern Kentucky, Bettye Giles Field (April 6-7)
- 2 p.m. - Skyhawk baseball @ Murray State
- 2 p.m. - Skyhawk women's tennis vs. Morehead State, Skyhawk Varsity Courts

Saturday, April 7

- Skyhawk volleyball @ Memphis Tournament
- Skyhawk cross-country @ Southeast Missouri (Joey Haines Invitational)
- 11 a.m. - Skyhawk women's tennis vs. Eastern Kentucky, Skyhawk Varsity Courts
- 1 p.m. - Skyhawk baseball @ Murray State

Send your Addenda news to Casey Curlin Scarbrough at ccurlin1@utm.edu

addenda
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