Pandas!
UT Martin alumna cares for valuable bears.
This spring the university-sponsored WestStar Leadership Class of 2004 completed a project that surveyed approximately 80 community leaders from across West Tennessee. Their task was to interview the leaders to ask their opinions about the future growth of West Tennessee’s economic base. The results of the survey portray the vital mission of UT Martin and other higher-education institutions in West Tennessee.

The number-one concern, by a wide margin, was the educational level of West Tennessee’s workforce. There was a clear concern that the jobs of the future were going to exceed the preparedness of our workforce. This demand for high-level skills has made postsecondary education an economic necessity for most workers. A recent issue of Business-Higher Education Forum stated that in 1973, a male college graduate’s first job typically paid 33 percent more than that of a male high school graduate; today, the difference has grown to 81 percent.

Higher education has been the traditional route to economic mobility. The survey respondents have correctly identified the key to West Tennessee’s future. We must have the college graduates for the jobs. If we do not have the educated and trained workforce, we cannot attract the jobs, regardless of our four-lane highways, state incentives to locate in Tennessee, climate or work ethic.

West Tennessee’s workforce preparedness is illustrated vividly when you consider that eight rural West Tennessee counties have less than 10 percent of their residents over the age of 25 with a college degree. Nine counties fall into the 11-15 percent range and only Madison County has a rate of more than 20 percent. The national average is 24.4 percent. By any measure, we are behind the curve and must catch up. What is UT Martin doing to close this obvious gap?

• The university has established a new Title III Student Success Center to increase student retention and graduation rates.
• UT Martin’s online degree programs offer more convenience to adults who want a degree while working and/or parenting.
• Off-campus centers in Jackson and Selmer are conducting dual-credit courses in 18 high schools to give students a head start and encouragement to seek a college degree.
• Besides these initiatives, UT Martin is continually seeking new strategies to address the challenge.

The first step in addressing a problem is to have a broad base of citizens that recognizes the problem and sees the importance of solving it. The WestStar survey indicates that the awareness level is high. UT Martin, Board of Regents institutions, and private institutions must work collectively and individually to address the need to prepare our workforce for the jobs our region needs next year and 10 years from now. Hopefully a survey by the WestStar Class of 2014 will reveal a well-educated and employable workforce in a vibrant West Tennessee economy.
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They’re cute and entertaining; but

Pandas’ Stay at Memphis Zoo is Research-Based

by Rita Mitchell

They are guests who sleep most of the day, and spend the remainder eating. Give them a stalk of bamboo and you’ve pleased their palates. They lounge in their day rooms and entertain legions of visitors. While they enjoy each other’s company, they are amorous only three or four days a year. And, despite this eccentric behavior, Kendall Kempe Carter keeps up with every move.

Carter knows she has a special responsibility each day when she goes to work at the Memphis Zoo. She is a member of the team that cares for two giant pandas, representing one of the world’s most critically endangered species.

Carter, a 2002 UT Martin graduate, tends Ya Ya and Le Le, on loan to the zoo from the Beijing and Shanghai zoos.

The Memphis Zoo is one of four zoos in the United States with pandas as guests. And, although they are even cuter in person than they are in photos and on toy shelves, these pandas are part of an ongoing research effort to save the species from extinction. Fewer than 1,000 pandas live in the wild and approximately 140 in zoos and breeding centers around the world, mainly in China.

The Memphis Zoo has a 10-year contract with the Chinese government and the home zoos. In addition to a fee paid “to borrow” the pandas, the Memphis Zoo also agreed to aid conservation practices in China aimed at preserving the pandas’ habitat. The zoo’s panda research program includes seven research projects conducted by 15 scientists representing five academic institutions, including the University of Tennessee, a giant panda reserve in China and the zoo staff. Experiments focus on nutrition and food selection of captive pandas in relationship with feeding and foraging of pandas in the wild. The result will be a foraging model used to enhance the nutritional and habitat requirements of the giant panda in its natural environment.

Of course, Ya Ya and Le Le are not concerned with all the fuss around them. They just enjoy eating bamboo, sleeping and playing much like their counterparts in the wild. Sometimes, they mug for visitors at the zoo at Carter’s urging to roll over or show their paws, eyes and teeth.

But the seriousness of their stay at the Memphis Zoo is Carter’s business. She tracks their nutrition, general health and habits on a daily schedule that begins at 6:30 a.m., and most of the time resembles a mother taking care of her children. Children that, at 3 and 5 years old, weigh approximately 170 pounds and are five-and-a-half feet tall.

Carter, an animal science major, was employed by the zoo in March 2003. Her husband, Brian, also a 2002 UT Martin graduate, is the zoo communications specialist.

Since joining the zoo staff, Carter helped raise white cheek gibbons and jaguars before moving to the China exhibit. “They knew my background and they needed help,” she said of the move. “I got a chance to work with the pandas. Who wouldn’t jump all over that?”

Well, there might be some who would have an aversion to cleaning up after two house guests who sleep approximately 10 hours each day and eat off and on for 14 hours.

“Almost every hour, we will throw them bamboo,” said Carter, noting that 95 percent of their diet is several species of bamboo. “Nutrition plays a part in all aspects of their lives—reproduction and behavior—nutrition affects everything. So we are trying to see how best to utilize their feed.” She added, “We want to know what makes them pick the bamboo they eat and see how much nutrition they get from each species.” Much like discerning...
youngsters at mealtime, she said, "They can sniff a stalk and never touch it again."

With that in mind, bamboo, much of it generously donated by nearby landowners who just want to get rid of the fast-spreading plant, is brought in by the truckloads. All that goes in—and out—has to be weighed and recorded as part of the research. The pandas, also weighed twice a day, are given protein supplements to ensure proper nutrition.

"We need to understand them. The biggest thing they're fighting is survival in the world," Carter said.

Other zoos in the United States hosting pandas, she explained, have different focuses, such as developmental research and behavioral studies.

At the Memphis Zoo, Ya Ya and Le Le spend time in their day rooms, where they can be seen by visitors—440,000—since arriving last spring. And, they have some fairly fanatical followers.

"There are people who travel around the world just to see pandas," said Carter. She recalled a recent visit by tourists from Finland and Japan, whose sole purpose for being in Memphis was to see Ya Ya and Le Le.

Carter's work at the zoo was a natural fit following graduation with an animal science degree. She readily admits that, even though she wanted to major in animal science, she knew nothing about animals except household pets when she arrived at UT Martin.

"I really learned a lot from all of my classes. Even though I wasn't learning about bears and pandas, I was able to take what I had learned and apply that to them," she said. "I worked for Dr. Jerry Gresham (chair of the UT Martin Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources) while I was there. I helped in his research. In animal science at UT Martin, we got a lot of hands-on experience, which was great."

Now, in addition to nutritional research, Carter helps train the pandas, mainly so more extensive evaluations by a veterinarian can be completed. The zoo uses a method of training called operant conditioning. By rewarding certain actions, the pandas will "present" their paws, mouths, teeth and eyes, for example, during a physical exam.

"We don't want to have to sedate them," she said.

"The pandas are 'clicker trained.' I click and give them a treat, so they associate the click with food. Then we have targets and instruct them to put their noses to the target. I click to let them know they did the right behavior and then give them a treat. You start small and work your way up. Once they figure out what they need to do to get a treat, they'll keep doing it," she said.

"Ya Ya catches on very quickly because she is just so people-oriented. She loves the attention and she loves getting treats," said Carter.

Much of the focus with Ya Ya is in preparation for her becoming pregnant—getting comfortable with all the things she'll have to do so zoo keepers can make sure she is having a healthy pregnancy.

"Our ultimate goal is nutrition, but we're hoping we'll be able to have panda babies," said Carter. "It is very difficult for them to have babies, period, because on average, females are capable three days out of the whole year. Hopefully, when it happens, she and Le Le will be getting along, he'll be interested and she'll be interested."

So far, the two are together about two to three hours a day, four days a week. "They are so cute together and they love to play together," said Carter. "Le Le will go sit down and eat, and she'll go sit down right next to him. They just look like this little panda couple."
Mike Stockdale ('71, '75) never misses watching *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, the popular CBS drama series. He even tapes the show when he is not at home, but Stockdale is not your average *CSI* fan. As a veteran wildlife forensic specialist with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, he easily identifies with these stories that use hard science to solve complex crimes.

The important difference for Stockdale is that his investigations largely focus on wildlife cases. Although he sometimes works human cases, investigations involving poachers and other abusers of Tennessee's wildlife resources fill his files.

Stockdale, who lives in Big Sandy, Tenn., has no problem staying busy investigating wildlife-related crimes. His cases range from hunters taking game out of season to illegal mussel harvests involving thousands of dollars. While his investigations are largely focused in Tennessee, the impact of wildlife-related crimes can quickly go beyond state and U.S. borders.

For example, Stockdale says it's been estimated that one bear is killed illegally for every bear killed legally. The gallbladder for a bear will bring a few hundred dollars in the U.S., but once it reaches the market in Asia and is processed, that same gallbladder is worth $25,000 to $35,000, he says.

A growing concern, Stockdale says, is in the caviar market. The declining sturgeon populations in the former Soviet Union, the major source for the delicacy, are turning the U.S. paddlefish into a new target for poachers. The Russian Mafia is involved in this illegal activity, and $10 million to $20 million fines have already been handed down in federal court. “Some states are already closing their paddlefish harvest or restricting those,” Stockdale said, adding that there is even talk of placing the fish, which is found in Tennessee, on the federal threatened species list.

There are other examples, but the good news is that Stockdale and other scientifically trained investigators are hard at work protecting valuable wildlife resources. Law enforcement is seeing higher success rates in catching the lawbreakers. “Maybe we detect and are able to apprehend 20 to 30 percent of the people who commit wildlife violations,” he said.

The other good news in Tennessee is UT Martin’s partnership with Stockdale and the TWRA in a wildlife forensic laboratory located in the university’s department of chemistry. The laboratory, more than 15 years in the making, was established with the full support of Dr. Phil Davis, the department chair, and members of the chemistry faculty.

Davis learned firsthand the value of forensic science when his father taught at the Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Davis said that his father “developed (some 50 years ago) what was probably one of the first courses specifically intended for future wildlife forensic agents.”
“One of my major goals as department chair has been to increase the opportunities for students to be involved in research,” said Davis. “The various projects Mike has brought to the department have contributed substantially to the achievement of this goal.”

On a very practical basis, Mike’s work has brought funds to the department that have allowed us to support students and purchase equipment that we would otherwise not been able to,” Davis added.

Dr. Anthony Harmon, professor of chemistry, is in his fifth year working with Stockdale on a mussel-shell project. The project will ultimately help stop poachers who can earn thousands of tax-free dollars by illegally harvesting mussels in one state and selling them in another where mussel harvesting is legal.

“With the illegal taking of mussels in one state, (and the mussels then) being transported to other locations,” Stockdale said, “we will be able to develop a profile for these sites using trace metals and determine that, ‘Yes, these shells either were taken there or they were not.’”

Harmon and Stockdale hope to publish a paper about the project in fall 2005. Besides the benefit to law enforcement, Harmon says that students assisting with the research gain valuable experience.

“The mussel project is the fourth that Mike and I have worked on together,” said Harmon. “Twelve students were introduced to research techniques by working on various aspects of the projects.

“Six of the students went to graduate school in chemistry and four went to professional school in the health sciences. So the forensic projects have been an important part of the learning experience for these students.”

Stockdale enjoys another ongoing association with UT Martin as a teacher. Since 1988, he has taught Wildlife Biology 441, a wildlife forensic course that he describes to his students as “CSI On The Wild Side.” He uses department of biological sciences resources, including a reference collection of birds, to give students hands-on experiences in forensic science.

Supplementing the laboratory resources is a PowerPoint presentation that includes an overview of his forensic work. The presentation’s images, descriptions of forensic-science techniques and selected case investigations, would hold any audience’s attention.

One set of photographs documents a poaching case, dubbed Operation Moonstruck, that happened in Monroe County, Tenn. The case was a cooperative investigation involving the TWRA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service and the World Wrestling Federation.

The principal informant was a female professional wrestler with whom the main suspect fell in love, thus earning the investigation’s unusual name. The lengthy investigation, Stockdale said, resulted in 14 family members charged, more than 100 indictments in both state and federal court, 47 items of meat and blood evidence, and a 100 percent conviction rate.

Another set of images leaves no doubt that DNA evidence is a key tool in forensic work. The first DNA case in which he was involved isolated different blood samples, proving that both a male and female deer were killed illegally. “And as a result … the suspect was charged with two counts of taking deer in closed season as opposed to just one,” Stockdale said.

Other images describe a turkey case in which very small amounts of blood evidence were found on boots and in a truck, while a female turkey carcass was more that 30 yards from where the suspects were standing. “Of course, their story was that none of them had touched a turkey. None of them had had a turkey in their truck,” Stockdale recalled. Using DNA, the blood was identified as female turkey blood, and the case was successfully prosecuted.

Stockdale says he benefits as much from his teaching experiences as do his students, who have added incentive to pay attention in class.

“As far as our wildlife agency goes, it (teaching) gives me a chance to see many of the people who potentially will apply for jobs with us,” he said, noting that UT Martin has enjoyed an edge in placing graduates in wildlife officer positions.

Although busy with wildlife cases, requests by law enforcement officials and district attorneys bring Stockdale’s expertise to human-forensic investigations. These investigations range from murder cases to grave tampering, and he’s expanded his human-forensic knowledge through extensive continuing education. He has even taken a course under Dr. Bill Bass, the University of Tennessee’s world-famous forensic anthropologist, and has visited UT’s Body Farm, the forensic lab established by Bass.

One murder case that earned Stockdale national attention happened in Stewart County, Tenn. The Discovery Channel’s The New Detectives series investigated the case. While the reporter talked with the county sheriff, she was surprised to learn that a wildlife forensic lab had completed the initial hair and blood work. She asked the sheriff why he asked the wildlife lab for help, and he told her, “... because he knew he could get accurate results, and immediately.”

Stockdale’s work with the case earned him an appearance on the show that aired spring 2003.

Stockdale’s work is not without recognition from his peers. The International Association of Game and Fish Agencies presented him with the Conservation Law Enforcement Award for 2002, which covers all of North America. The award is based on career achievements, but he says the award really honors the people who support him, including his wife, Linda, who has tolerated “30 years of me dragging in stinky, smelly, wet stuff that is dying and decaying.”

It is probably no surprise that Gil Grissom, the main investigator in the CSI television series, is Stockdale’s favorite character in the show. Mike Stockdale’s brief experience with television fame on The Discovery Channel pales in comparison with the viewer ratings that Grissom enjoys weekly on CSI. But this dedicated investigator has plenty of fans in law enforcement who value Stockdale’s many real-life contributions to forensic science.
Cheri Childress is at the pinnacle of her career. She is bright, driven and competitive. She’s also compassionate, funny and patriotic. And when she awakes each morning, she still tells herself, “My business depends on me and my attitude. I’m setting the tone.”

Childress is vice president of Be Ce Enterprises Inc., in Milan, which owns eight Subway restaurants. She and her partners have been recognized within their profession claiming a recent Franchisee of the Year award from an international field of more than 15,700 stores. She also serves on two Subway boards of directors which represent more than 100 Subway franchisees in West Tennessee, North Mississippi and Northeast Arkansas. She recently helped found a Memphis chapter of North American Association of Subway Franchisees. With those credits, it might be easy to kick back and enjoy “having arrived.” Not for Childress. “I’m 54 and I’m still not there.”

Fifteen years ago, Childress, a 1972 graduate of UT Martin, had a career in education, serving as a teacher, coach and principal. By chance she ate at a Subway in Jackson, the first one in this area, and liked it. She immediately called her sister and brother-in-law, who, coincidentally, had eaten at a Subway in Memphis that day. Call it fate.

Something clicked and, after researching the company, the trio decided they wanted a Subway franchise. “We read everything we could get our hands on about the business,” said Childress, who added, that due diligence is critical to business success.

Childress notes at that time, West Tennessee residents were familiar with hamburgers and pizza—but cold sandwiches? “Everyone said we were not going to make it. We had to educate the public. We saw a need, had an idea and we took a risk.”

The enterprise unfolded in textbook fashion as she would later realize. She and her partners became entrepreneurs. And, she found out “being your own boss is the biggest myth.” She quickly realized, “Everyone who came in the door was my boss.”

Childress easily shares a collection of entrepreneur success stories, which serve as an inspiration. And, she freely gives of her time to speak to a variety of education and civic groups. Her remarks have a decided patriotic bent, knowing that an entrepreneurial spirit goes hand in hand with rights and privileges afforded Americans.

There is Paul Orfalea, who, just out of college in 1970, saw the need college students had for photocopies. He borrowed enough money to lease a copy machine and shared with a taco stand a tiny building adjacent to the University of California at Santa Barbara. Thirty years later, Kinko’s has 1,200 branches worldwide.

Then there’s Mike Ilitch, a pro-quality athlete, whose career was sidetracked after an injury. Following a stint in the Marines, he went to work for a man who made pizzas. “He realized he had a passion for making pizzas,” says Childress. In 1959, Ilitch leased space in a small kitchen and Little
Caesar’s was born. “This is the guy who introduced America to pizza. He also introduced us to couponing.” Little Caesar’s Enterprises operates and franchises 3,700 restaurants in more than 20 countries.

Finally, she tells of Fred DeLuca, a 17-year-old in 1965 who wanted to go to college. It was an opportunity he thought would elude him because his $1.25-per-hour minimum wage job wouldn’t provide enough money. A family friend’s $1,000 loan and his suggestion to open a submarine sandwich shop would prove to be life changing. Even though struggling financially at one point, he opened a second store and “gave the illusion of success.”

“Success is no longer an illusion—Subway has 15,000 stores nationwide,” says Childress. “Fred had an idea, convinced people like me and sold it as a franchise. Now, he receives a royalty on all Subway sales.”

When Childress speaks to young people she espouses “start small, finish big,” using 10 building blocks to become an entrepreneur. Among those, she says, “Make sure you do the due diligence for your business, think like a visionary, believe in yourself, be passionate about your work, strive for improvement and surround yourself with people who are smarter than you are.”

She’s also full of encouragement. “I tell them if they see something they want, don’t be held back. Go into it with a plan and a passion. Lose your focus, you lose your vision,” she says. Then, she adds, “When you get to that level (success), act as a responsible business person.”

The one thing she does not like to hear? “That’s just business.” She explains, “You are an extension of your business. I never run my business like it’s just business.”

And the term entrepreneur really is the embodiment of patriotism to Childress, a topic she is quick to mention when she speaks to school, civic and business audiences. “I always address the American spirit when I speak to students. They need to know the price for free enterprise.”

“In keeping with the entrepreneurial spirit, I have been doing some stress and motivational workshops, and we’re in the process of developing a new business venture unrelated to food that I’m hoping will prove to do quite well, and maybe we’ll franchise it,” says Childress. “I’ll probably never retire. Once I leave this, I’ll probably be looking for something else.”

Childress thinks American business has taken some hits, but sees the hits as opportunities. “I think businesses in America have a good future. Right now, we’re struggling and we’re faced with some real opportunities. A lot of those opportunities stem from jobs that have been outsourced. The whole key falls on our educational system, building our colleges of business, and training and teaching young people to go out and start a business and be willing to take that risk. We have so many people who want to solve the problems without doing the due diligence, without doing the research.”

She adds, “Know what it takes to run a business. Familiarize yourself with laws, with codes. Get with people who have been successful in business. I also feel very strongly about getting involved politically. I absolutely believe that one person can make a difference. The reason I believe that is I never believe that there is a ‘one person.’ Every single person influences, at least, five to 10 people.”

“I think it’s going to take some real hard work to get American businesses back to where they need to be. So many times today in American businesses, we’ve forgotten the integrity, we’ve forgotten the honesty. I truly believe it hinges on the integrity and honesty of businesses. When a person in business is asked to do something under the table, and if you’re in business, you’re going to get asked that, and they tell you everybody else is doing it, you’ve got a decision to make. And if enough people make the right decision, we can make a difference.”

Among the advantages Childress can cite in her life are “the opportunities that I have had, the family I was born into and being an American.” She also says she places God No. 1 in her life.

“I’m always looking forward, but happy and content where I am. Even in high school, I knew who I was. I knew what I expected from me and I just didn’t settle for anything else. Don’t get me wrong, I’ve had failures along the way, but have always just been happy.”
Harry Harrison Kroll was an accomplished writer. The longtime UT Martin faculty member, English department chair, and author left behind a literary legacy that includes more than 20 published novels and hundreds of short stories. Thanks to the efforts of Richard Saunders, UT Martin Special Collections Librarian, the writer and his work will not be entirely lost to history.

During the past three years, Saunders has gathered Kroll’s work in the Paul Meek Library’s Special Collections. To date, he has secured everything from the best locatable copies of Kroll’s books to a group of original pen-and-ink drawings that illustrated one of his last books. There is even an original letter from actress Bette Davis to Kroll. Davis co-starred in the movie adaptation of Kroll’s most famous book, *The Cabin in the Cotton*. While building the collection, Saunders learned much about the man whose writing was heavily influenced by his upbringing in the rural South.

Adding to what is known about the writer, and also available at the Paul Meek Library, is the doctoral dissertation completed after Kroll’s death in 1967 by Dr. Martha A. Whitt, UT Martin professor emeritus of English. Her 1974 dissertation, “The Poor White in the Major Novels of Harry Harrison Kroll,” explores the influence of Kroll’s background on many of his best works. In the dissertation’s introduction, Whitt says, “Kroll’s fiction is ‘culturally significant.’ He has depicted the humor, speech, and character of the poor whites with much passion, realism, and candor. Because of his own experiences, Kroll writes about the South and its poor tenant farmers in a very realistic way. . . .”

Saunders’ own background research about Kroll reveals a man who knew and experienced hard times. Kroll, whose parents were sharecroppers, never attended grammar, grade and high school during his early years outside of Dyersburg, Tenn. According to Saunders, Kroll “bitterly hated Dyersburg because his family was at the very bottom of the social ladder. He was poor white trash in every negative sense of the term.” Fortunately, Kroll’s mother taught him how to read and the basics of writing. “He came to regard education and writing as a way out of the cotton fields,” Saunders said.

His family’s sharecropper existence took him around 1905 to Alabama. Kroll began teaching school by passing the basic Alabama teacher certification. He was later admitted to Peabody College in Nashville, and according to Saunders, “basically forced his way through school doing what he had to do to survive.” Kroll completed his formal education, which led to several positions as a public school teacher and principal in Tennessee, Mississippi and Iowa. Kroll’s first university teaching position was in 1927 at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tenn. There Kroll taught for a little more than a year before he crossed a powerful individual on campus and lost his job.

Harry Harrison Kroll Legacy Preserved at UT Martin

by Bud Grimes
In 1935, after several years as a freelance writer, Kroll was hired by Chancellor Paul Meek to teach English composition at UT Junior College, beginning a 27-year association with the Martin campus. Kroll taught to support his family, allowing him to continue freelance writing for additional income. Kroll loved to write fiction, and he wrote fiction primarily for the money. “He was less interested in writing as an art than writing as a business,” Saunders said. “And in many respects, he was very, very typical of the vast majority of American popular writers during the early 20th century.”

Despite his dedication to writing, Kroll enjoyed a good reputation as a teacher. Saunders said Kroll was well-known for “carrying reams and reams of student compositions” around the old Hall-Moody Administration Building and was asked one time why he required so much of his students. He supposedly responded, “It takes a million words to become a writer; you can’t do it in ten thousand.” Saunders has located a Kroll lesson plan, and he added, “I think it would strike fear into any English 111 or 112 student to take a look at what was required of students 50 years ago. It was a tremendous amount of writing.”

Carl Grimes (’56) took Kroll’s communications course for seniors in 1955, and besides the volume of writing, he recalls Kroll’s focus on publishing. “The first day our class met, he told us the emphasis would be placed on writing, plus getting our work in some publication,” Grimes said. “Any newspapers, periodicals or magazines.”

Kroll had the reputation of being somewhat of a character, and Grimes remembers his lectures as being both vivid and colorful. “Mr. Kroll had to be a gifted at ‘bringing life to’ or ‘putting a face on’ the rural South where cotton production was still king,” Grimes said. “In the above process, his lectures often stunned many of his students. He minned no words in depicting what he had actually experienced with people, using their words, expressions and descriptions. . . .” His occasionally off-color lecture was never a problem for me. I was one of a handful of Korean (War) veterans taking the course. After the military experience, we viewed his language as mild.”

Kroll influenced students at all skill levels, including Jesse Stuart, whom Kroll taught at Lincoln Memorial University and Saunders describes as “one of the most significant literary figures to come out of Kentucky.” But it is Kroll’s writing for which he is best remembered.

Kroll published fiction in everything from the Atlantic Monthly to the Southern Agriculturist, a rural farmer cooperative newspaper. He also published hundreds of stories in sectarian story papers by the Baptist Sunday School Union and Abingdon Press out of Nashville.

Simply finding Kroll material has been a challenge. “Harry Kroll himself did not know how much he’d published,” Saunders said. “He honestly had no idea, and he didn’t keep copies of everything.” Saunders initially documented 300 stories from tear sheets; that number has doubled, and Saunders expects the number to double again. “And he not only wrote stories, he was a very competent pen-and-ink illustrator.”

What makes Kroll’s writing and illustrating talents even more impressive is that he was partially disabled by polio. His left arm was essentially paralyzed. Kroll hammered out his stories on a manual typewriter, which Saunders said must have been physically challenging.

According to Saunders, Kroll claimed that he typically wrote a full story per day for the juvenile story papers. On weekends, he would write pulp fiction at 6,000 or 7,000 words per piece, often in a single Sunday afternoon. Despite his success, Kroll also knew rejection. “He had submitted literally thousands of stories that were never published, and if something didn’t go after four or five submissions, he’d throw it away,” Saunders said. “And that was it. He just never thought about it again.”

In terms of making money, Saunders said Kroll earned the most from The Cabin in the Cotton. The book went through four printings and two editions; plus he made about $12,500 for the movie adaptation of the story. Besides its financial success, the movie is noteworthy for other reasons. “I’ve seen a clipping that says that Cabin in the Cotton was the first Hollywood picture selected to be distributed officially in the Soviet Union, so that would be between 1932 and 1935, the height of Stalin’s power,” Saunders said. A film historian confirms this from his notes, but no hard documentation has yet surfaced. Saunders does know what the movie did for its most famous star. 

“That movie was a very important turning point in Bette Davis’ career,” Saunders said. “It portrayed her for the first time as the blond bombshell, and it gave a pivot point around which her career later turned. And actually these are not my conclusions. That’s the conclusion of a number of other scholars.” In Cabin, Harry Kroll wrote the phrase that became Bette Davis’s trademark line: “I’d kiss you, but I just washed my hair.”

A limited-edition copy of The Cabin in the Cotton only scratches the surface of the Paul Meek Library’s Kroll collection. Saunders says the library has the only collection of Harry Kroll books in the world, and he continues to search. “We will never, never come to the end of the Kroll material,” he says. “There will always be someplace else to look.”

Martha Whitt says that preserving Kroll’s literary legacy is well worth the effort: “Kroll’s major fiction dealing with the poor white was significant in adding to the genre of the tenant or sharecropper system, especially in the South. . . . Since Kroll’s parents were sharecroppers, his fiction draws upon a wealth of autobiographical experiences.” Whitt adds, “Some of his fiction is quite good and should be preserved. The UT Martin library is the right place to honor Harry Harrison Kroll for the literary achievements he made.”
Student Life moves to renovated Alumni Gym

Culminating several months of planning, the Office of Student Life has moved from the Student Affairs Suite in the Hall-Moody Administration Building to the renovated Alumni Gym on the corner of University and Moody Streets. The facility, a building rich in UT Martin history, is now known as the Student Life Center. Many of the faculty, staff and alumni have fond memories of the many events and activities the facility has hosted since 1930. Given the historical and alumni significance of the building, the gymnasium part of the facility will still be referred to as the Alumni Gym.

“We are making every effort to honor and showcase the history of the building and at the same time move forward in our programming efforts to continue to meet the extracurricular needs of our students,” said David Belote, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs. “We are going to be able to provide a unique blend of the past and present as we use the facility for years to come.”

The Student Life Center will serve as the home for the following Student Affairs functions: Office of Student Organizations and Greeklife, three Greek governing councils, Student Activities Council, Leaders-in-Residence Program, Freshman Experience Program, specifically Freshman Welcome Week, the Peer Enabling Program and the Emerging Leaders Program. Also, the facility will be home to Student Graphic Services, special event programming and selected campus recreation intramural activities.

The Student Life Center also will serve as an event venue. The facility can seat up to 800 spectators and will have the capacity to host speakers, plays, ceremonies, workshops, musical events and banquets. The center will provide several of the student groups with a place to practice and prepare for traditional student activities such as homecoming pyramid building competition, All-Sing, and the various “Step Show” competitions hosted throughout the year. It will serve as a venue for Friday and Saturday late-night activities hosted by student groups, and will host an array of alumni and community functions.

“We expect the facility to be very versatile,” said Belote.

THEC Approves New UT Martin Center of Excellence

The new UT Martin Center of Excellence for Experiential Learning in the Agricultural Sciences was approved April 15 by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Unanimous approval came during the board’s regular quarterly meeting in Nashville.

The center received initial approval Jan. 30 by the UT Martin Liaison Committee, followed by approval March 4 by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees. The THEC action officially establishes the new Center of Excellence.

The center creates an experiential learning, research and service environment in agriculture to serve Tennessee and the region. The center will be operated by the UT Martin Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, an academic unit in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. These areas oversee the university’s farm, agriculture teaching center and the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex, all located on the UT Martin campus.

Dr. Jerry Gresham, chair of the department of agriculture and natural resources, said that the center will create many new learning opportunities for high school students and teachers from across the state, including FFA and 4-H groups, and improve hands-on learning experiences for UT Martin students.

“Initial funding for the center is dedicated to operational costs,” said Gresham. “As the center develops, we expect to add facilities and services that will enhance our ability to offer 21st century experiences.”

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin vice chancellor for academic affairs, said that the process for reviewing and refocusing existing center resources may be patterned after the process used by UT Martin.

“The Tennessee Higher Education Commission is reviewing all state Centers of Excellence over the next year with an eye toward refining or redesignating centers if needed,” he said.

The new Center of Excellence is Tennessee’s first center of this type to be designated for agriculture. Current UT Martin faculty and staff members from multiple academic disciplines will support the new center.
UT Martin Faculty Members Claim Four Grants

Five UT Martin faculty members representing agriculture, physics and education were recently notified that their proposed projects have been funded by grants. The funding agencies include the USDA, the Tennessee Wildlife Refuge, and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

“I am delighted to see increased faculty involvement in grant procurement. For the past two years, successful campus grant and contract efforts have increased 10-15 percent,” said Dr. Thomas Rakes, vice chancellor for academic affairs. “During periods of tight budgets, increasing external support is one of the best means we have of advancing our instructional, research and service mission.”

Dr. Richard E. Joost and Kyle Rozeboom, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, have a total match award of $100,500 for the Pasture Systems for Meat Goat and Sheep Production: A Research-Education Model, sponsored by USDA, National Sheep Industry Improvement Center.

The objectives of this study are to develop a 36-acre pasture facility with state-of-the-art animal handling equipment to evaluate the adaptation of new forages to Tennessee and the Mid-South and their utility in supporting efficient goat production.

Participating in this initiative with Joost and Rozeboom are members of the Tennessee Livestock Producers’ Association and the Tennessee Cooperative Extension Service.

Dr. Eric Pelren, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, has been awarded $22,470 for his project Evaluation of Eastern Wild Turkey Nesting Habitat, sponsored by the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge. The goals of this study are to ascertain differences in eastern wild turkey nesting success between the two source populations, and differences in nesting and early brood-rearing habitat in forests managed for increased mid-story and under-story components versus forests not managed for increased structural diversity. The area of study will be Compartment 4 of the Big Sandy Unit, Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, Henry County.

Dr. Cahit Erkal, Department of Geology, Geography and Physics, received $75,545 for his Activity-Based Physics and Astronomy Summer Institute for Middle and Junior High School Teachers: Year 2, sponsored by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) under its “Improving Teacher Quality Program.” The Summer Institute 2, a continuation of the funded Summer Institute 2003, offers a series of workshops in the summer of 2004 for middle and junior high school science teachers of West Tennessee.

The institute will engage teachers in hands-on physics and astronomy activities including lessons, laboratory experiments and teaching strategies during a five-day residential setting. Teachers will be provided with content mastery and appropriate teaching models and practices, which will result in a more effective coverage of physics and astronomy in science teaching.

Dr. Kenneth Vogler, project director, Department of Educational Studies, and Barbara Hutcherson, co-project director and director of Education-Student Services, have a total project amount of $56,288 to conduct the Highly Qualified Middle School English Teacher Summer Institute, sponsored by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) under its “Improving Teacher Quality Program.”

During the summer, 20 English teachers in grades 7 and 8 will participate in 30 hours of professional development designed to help them pass a state designated Praxis teacher licensure test and meet the highly qualified standard mandated by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals Hears Cases on Campus

Students at UT Martin got a close-up view of the judicial system and had the opportunity to ask the attorneys and judges questions when the February session of the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, Western Section, was conducted on campus. Five cases were heard with time allotted for student questions.

Judge John Everett Williams (’77) of Huntingdon, a former political science major at UT Martin, was the presiding judge. He was joined by Judge Joe Riley of Ridgely, Judge Bob Wedemeyer of Nashville, Susan Turner, Western Section appellate clerk, Bobby Holt, bailiff, and four law clerks.

“It is very rare that we see appellate courts in action, yet they are extremely important,” said Dr. Richard Chesteen, UT Martin professor of management, marketing and political science. Chesteen said decisions rendered might have a bearing on how the Tennessee Constitution is interpreted in the future. “Their appeals go to the Tennessee Supreme Court and often are upheld,” said Chesteen.

Dr. Susan Vickerstaff, chair of the UT Martin Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice, said prior to the event, “This is an exciting opportunity for the campus community to witness the legal process. The judges will be making decisions on actual cases; this is not a mock demonstration. Judge Williams has indicated that, if there is enough interest, they will hold court on campus on a regular basis.”

The February 2004 session of the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals, Western Section, was conducted Feb. 10 at UT Martin. Judge John Everett Williams, a former political science major at the university, was the presiding judge, and Dusty Dean, a current UT Martin political science major and current SGA president, was an organizer for the event. Pictured are (left to right) Judge Bob Wedemeyer of Nashville, Judge Williams, Dusty Dean and Judge Joe Riley of Ridgely.
Oracle Grants UT Martin Leaps Forward in Web Presence Via One of Five Oracle Grants

Whether a current or prospective student, faculty or staff member or alumnus, getting information about the UT Martin will be easier with the implementation of a new program funded by a five-year, $1 million grant. The grant was one of five awarded in the nation and the only one awarded to an educational institution in Tennessee.

Known as the CampusEAI Oracle Portal Grant Program, the initiative will provide an integrated, one-stop-shop for the campus community. A wide range of information will be consolidated on a single Web platform projecting a comprehensive view of UT Martin.

The bottom line is persons wanting specific information about the university will just be a couple of clicks away when they visit the UT Martin Web site. The current plan is to have the first phase of the system operational by the end of 2004. It will be an ongoing project that will change as needs change.

“The Oracle grant is another good example of UT Martin staff going the extra mile to secure the necessary funding to keep us on the cutting edge of technology,” said Chancellor Nick Dunagan. “Even though state funding is static or declining, our faculty and staff are continually looking for opportunities to improve our service to students, alumni and the communities we serve. I’m very proud of their efforts.”

The Division of Academic Affairs sponsored the initiative. “Most of the top universities have this type of system,” said Dr. Thomas Rakes, UT Martin vice chancellor for academic affairs. It allows us to leap forward in access for our Web presence.”

The CampusEAI Oracle Portal Grant Program is designed to underwrite all external costs associated with the implementation of the portal system which integrates with online learning, administrative, business and student services systems. The grant covers software, training and project management costs necessary to install and operate the portal. UT Martin’s match is $19,750 per year.

“The UT Martin portal will provide a single sign-on or online entry point for students into the various systems such as the student information, course management and E-mail systems, which will make access easier and more secure,” said Shannon Burgin, director of UT Martin Information Technology Services, who is supervising the project.

“There will be targeted areas on the portal for prospective, transfer and current students and the system will offer the flexibility to customize information to meet individual needs.”

The portal also will provide an online forum for fraternities, sororities and other organizations to make announcements and have discussions, communicate and collaborate, and give easy access to calendars, announcements and news.

Likewise for other groups—faculty, staff and alumni—the system will provide the same easy access to topics of interest and customization capabilities, scheduled for completion in the later phases of the project. And, it will provide a mechanism to maintain departmental Web content. Department personnel may utilize the portal to disseminate information as much as they choose.

The portal development process began in mid-October following awarding of the grant in August. Ultimately, all UT Martin departments will be involved in some aspect of the portal as its Web content through www.utm.edu is migrated into the portal.

Professor Receives State School Counselor Educator/Supervisor of The Year Award

Dr. Gene Annaratone, professor of educational studies, received the Tennessee School Counselor Educator/Supervisor of the Year Award for 2003-04 at the awards luncheon during the Tennessee Counselors Association annual conference in Gatlinburg last fall. The presentation was made by Nita Jones, TSCA president and Dyersburg Primary School counselor.

To receive this award a person is nominated by a TSCA member and selected by a statewide committee based on qualifications, leadership roles in professional organizations, and care and concern for students.

“Dr. Annaratone is a wonderful person who really cares for his students. He works extra hours to make sure his students receive the information they need in order to be successful,” said Jones, who nominated Annaratone. She added, “He was my professor at UT Martin and is the reason I have accomplished success as a counselor.”

Dr. Annaratone, UT Martin professor since 1971, is a member of the American Counseling Association, Tennessee Counseling Association, the Tennessee School Counselors Association, Martha Polk Counseling Association and Association for Specialists in Group Work.

“I have attended many Tennessee Counseling Association state conventions over the years and have interacted with many fine counselors and counselor educators,” said Annaratone. “I have always returned home from these meetings feeling that I had something to learn. So it was
School Counselor of The Year

continued from previous page

quite a surprise to be recognized with this honor, especially since it originated from the Tennessee School Counselors Association. This organization represents practicing school counselors who are on the front lines working to help our youth succeed.

“Many of the school counselors in our service area are UT Martin graduates,” said Annaratone. “Without a doubt, they played a significant role in my receiving this award. I think they are proud of their university and feel good about their training.” He added, “I am humbled to think that in some small way I may have been a person of influence.”

Annaratone received bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Memphis State University and a doctorate in education from the University of Tennessee. He is a Tennessee licensed professional counselor and a national certified counselor. In 1987, he received the University of Tennessee National Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award, and in 1993, the UT Martin School of Education Glenn Gallien Award and the Professional Recognition Award from the Martha Polk Counseling Association. He was honored as an Outstanding Teacher by the UT Martin Student Government Association in 1998 and 1999.

In 2002, Annaratone had “Tips for Students’ Success” and in 1977, “Praise Revisited or When ‘Good’ May Not Be So Good,” published in Global Visions for Counseling Professionals. He has been a presenter and program chair at TCA state conventions and a presenter for several public school and Phi Delta Kappa in-service programs. 

New Dance-Education Program is First in Tennessee

A newly approved dance-education program at the University of Tennessee at Martin will offer expanded opportunities for students pursuing dance as a career. The program is the first and only dance-education program in Tennessee and will accept students beginning fall semester 2004.

The program will prepare students both for a professional teaching career in dance and to attend graduate school in dance. Specific teaching opportunities for dance-education graduates include certification to teach in a K-12 public school system and the preparation needed to operate a private studio. Graduates will also have the skills necessary to join a professional dance company.

Besides general-education requirements, students will take courses in ballet, contemporary techniques, choreography, dance history and theory, dance education, music and kinesiology. Students in the program will be placed for student teaching in one of the highly respected K-12 dance programs in the state.

Amy Hedstrom, a third-year political science student from Mt. Juliet, Tenn., is already involved in dance at the university. She can now add a second degree to her college resume by pursuing a bachelor of fine arts with an emphasis in dance education. She says that the structure is already in place for the new program.

“It’s a very professional program,” Hedstrom said. “We have a lot of guest choreographers and technique classes and everything that you would want to experience maybe in the professional world. It’s very elaborate here.”

Performance opportunities are another key component of the program. For example, Hedstrom performed earlier this year at Vanderbilt University’s Blair School of Music in a solo accompanied by Blair music faculty and members of the Nashville Symphony.

More information about the dance-education program is available on the Web at www.utm.edu by clicking on “academics.”

Starting June 26, 2004, the UT Martin telephone exchange will change to 881. Thus, to call the Office of Alumni Relations, you will now dial 731-881-7610. All 800 numbers will remain unchanged.
QUAD CITY is a collegiate experience, bringing faculty and staff together with current reunion tents, demonstration areas, a petting farm, carnival games and fellowship. Do
Homecoming Events

Friday, Oct. 8
Rope-Pull Championship
3:30 p.m.
Walking Trail behind the tennis house

UT Martin Alumni Dinner and Awards Program
6:00 p.m.
Boling University Center Ballroom

Pyramid and Pep Rally
8:30 p.m.
Tom and Kathleen Elam Center

Saturday, Oct. 9
Letter Winner’s Breakfast and Hall of Fame Induction
7:30 a.m.
Alumni Gym

Chancellor’s Breakfast
9:00 a.m.
Front lawn of Chancellor’s Residence

Quad City
10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- Carnival games for kids
- Petting farm
- Retired faculty, staff and VIP tent
- Engineering tent and SAAC Reunion
- Fraternity and Sorority tent
- Pottery and Arts & Crafts tent (featuring original productions by UT Martin students and alumni)

Blue Stage
Featuring live music from UT Martin groups

Orange Stage
Featuring a ‘70s band

Seventies at 7:00 p.m.
Visit old hangouts in Martin

Greek Step Show
8:00 p.m.
Skyhawk Fieldhouse

Sunday, Oct. 10
Homecoming Brunch
Fine dining experience to end the weekend of Homecoming activities. Join others for brunch in the Skyhawk Dining Room. The best brunch in town, along with music and good times.
Geology Professor Michael Gibson Named Science Educator of the Year

Dr. Michael Gibson, UT Martin professor of geology, was selected by the Tennessee Science Teacher Association as TSTA Science Educator of the Year for 2003. He received the award at the annual TSTA conference in Nashville. This award is one in a series received by Gibson during his teaching career.

“The Tennessee Science Teachers Association is honored to have a teacher such as Dr. Michael Gibson as one of its honorees for 2003,” said Ruth Woodall, public relations director and past president of TSTA. “Dr. Gibson has educated many of our teachers and students and continues to be an inspiration to all ages, especially in the area of geology and earth science.”

Gibson received a B.S. degree from the College of William and Mary, a master’s degree from Auburn University and a Ph.D. from UT-Knoxville. He has been a UT Martin professor in the Department of Geology since 1988. Previously, he was a graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Geological Sciences at UT-Knoxville. He also served as an instructor in the Department of Geology at Auburn.

“My teaching interests are directed primarily toward two groups: university-level students and K-12 teachers, but I have recently expanded to include high school students directly,” said Gibson. “I consider myself a geologist/paleontologist and focus my courses on field experiences. Students better grasp concepts and develop stronger self-motivation to learn when they are part of the learning process itself.

“I prefer to use real geologic situations and settings for my students to study; hence, I like them to work on a current project that I have whenever possible,” Gibson said. “I also allow students to pursue their own interests. This approach has been successful for me at UT Martin because the small size of our program allows me to develop a personal relationship with each student. I can work closely with a student to maximize his/her classroom and field experiences to both fill in weak areas and better hone strengths.”

Gibson also uses his students as undergraduate collaborators for research and now has student-participation projects in Tennessee, Alabama, Japan, Mexico and Belize.

Gibson considers the K-12 teaching community the foundation for earth stewardship and provides teachers with methods to incorporate geology in their curricula to demonstrate the relevance of geology. “I devote a significant portion of my educational efforts to help teachers become geology conscious,” Gibson said.

Since 1990, Gibson has worked as a higher education adviser to the earth science teachers in the state, helping to increase the number of earth science certifications in the state and increase the number of geology courses taught in high schools from four in 1990 to 22 in 2000. 

Student success is UT Martin Hallmark; Grant Will Enhance Efforts

It’s one thing to recruit students to attend UT Martin. It’s quite another to do everything possible to retain them and help them succeed. University faculty and staff have long understood there are varied components that enhance a student’s ability to make the transition to university life and ultimately graduate prepared for a career.

Recent approval of a $1.8 million Title III grant will make additional services available and consolidate all support services at a Student Success Center located on the UT Martin campus.

“The best part of the Title III grant is the very positive benefit it will have on our students,” said Chancellor Nick Dunagan. “We already have a faculty and staff that give generously of their lives to assist students. The grant will provide some additional resources and personnel to assist in the academic development of students.”

UT Martin is one of 74 universities in the nation and one of four in Tennessee to receive the grant.

“It’s vitally important to improve student retention and graduation rates,” said Daniel, who also served on the grant-writing committee.

The goal of the grant, which will span five years, is to develop and provide UT Martin students with a comprehensive Student Success Program that encompasses orientation, academic tracking, college adjustment and survival. It also will provide supplemental instruction for entry-level courses and enhance faculty sensitivity and mentoring training. By the end of the grant period, increased retention will provide additional state resources and increased fee revenues that will fund continuation of the center.

“Sixty percent of our students are first-generation college students. That’s a unique opportunity,” said Dr. Joan West, director of research, grants and contracts. She added, “The grant allows them to grow and take on responsibility and become accountable, but have some help in doing that.”

Currently, UT Martin provides students assistance through the Office of Student Academic Support Services within the Division of Academic Affairs and the Division of Student Affairs.
UT Martin Faculty Members Claim Achievement Awards

Six University of Tennessee at Martin professors were honored with awards during the 2004 Honors Day program for outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising. The recipients are:

- **Jim Fieser**, associate professor of philosophy, and **Judy Maynard**, associate professor of sociology: *Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award.*

The Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award of $5,000 was established in 1993 by James R. Cunningham, who attended UT Junior College in the 1930s. It is awarded annually to a faculty member who has demonstrated strength in teaching and made a contribution to the teaching profession through scholarly activities, extracurricular achievements and leadership responsibilities.

- **Tomi Parrish**, communications instructor, and **Stan Sieber**, professor of history: *UTNAA Outstanding Teacher Award.*

Each year the UTNAA presents awards of $2,000 to faculty members on each of the UT campuses who have been selected as outstanding teachers. Students, alumni and faculty nominate outstanding teachers, who then are evaluated on classroom performance, scholarship and service.

- **Desiree’ McCullough**, assistant professor of mathematics: *Outstanding Adviser Award.*

The Outstanding Adviser Award of $500 and a plaque is presented to the faculty member selected for demonstrating a caring attitude toward advisees, the ability to engage in developmental advising and other distinctive characteristics. The recipient also is eligible for the national award competition sponsored by the American College Testing Program and the National Academic Advising Association.

- **Jenna Wright**, English instructor: *Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award.*

The Coffey Outstanding Teaching award of $5,000 was established in 1998 by Mai and Charlie Coffey and is awarded annually to a faculty member who demonstrates strength in teaching and contributes to the teaching profession through extracurricular achievements, leadership qualities and scholarly activities.

Six UT Martin professors were honored during the 2004 Honors Day program for outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising. Award recipients pictured with Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, as part of the Union City plant’s 35th anniversary. Davis spoke March 4 to the UT Board of Trustees during the board’s winter meeting held in Martin. He highlighted for board members the long-standing partnerships between Goodyear and the university.
Merging on-site generation technology with education is the goal of a project taking shape at UT Martin—the first of its kind in the state.

The plan is to secure a lower electric rate from Tennessee Valley Authority in exchange for allowing the utility to remove the university from the power grid up to 72 hours a year during peak periods or emergency situations. The university also will enter into a 10-year contract with TVA.

The 46 percent savings in electric costs will, in turn, provide the university with funds to construct a $4.4 million power generation facility that will power the campus if and when TVA has to take UT Martin off-line. As an added benefit, TVA rates will be monitored hourly. When the rate exceeds UT Martin’s cost of power production at the generation facility, the university can go off-line and save additional money. Power generated on campus in the eight megawatt facility may even be sold back to TVA in the future.

Engineering students will have access to and can analyze certain data from the generators, including one that will have full instrumentation. Business students will perform cost-benefit analyses related to facility operation during high-energy cost periods. The projections and associated financial analyses should result in additional savings for the university.

Dr. John Petersen, in his first full day after being named president of the University of Tennessee, visited the UT Martin campus. He was accompanied by his wife, Carol. Also traveling with the new president were Murfreesboro trustee Andrea Loughry (’66), chair of the eight-member search committee; Dr. Joe Johnson, interim UT president; Dr. Margaret Perry (’61), executive director of the search committee; and Jim Murphy, Nashville, UT trustee, and chair of the search advisory council.

“I’m very happy that my first stop, our first stop, on the tour through the state is here,” said Petersen, at a reception at Boling University Center on campus, hosted by Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, and his wife, Cathy.

Speaking about the large crowd in attendance, he added, “Obviously, all of you felt that this campus and what happens to this campus are very important to the university. We’re here to listen to you, to work with you, to do everything that we can to help you continue to do what you are doing right now and that is growing into just an absolutely phenomenal piece of the University of Tennessee’s system.”

He added, “I think the nice aspect of a job like what I have is you not only work to try to build a system that represents the entire state, but you also recognize that each and every campus and piece in the system has a special place.”

Petersen and his wife were introduced by Johnson, who said he has been asked why he thinks the board of trustees chose John Petersen. “I think it had to do with his academic credentials, his academic career, his administrative career, but I think the main reason . . . is they feel he and Carol are our kind of people. They will fit in and have a great passion and enthusiasm for the University of Tennessee, including the University of Tennessee at Martin.”

Johnson praised those involved in the selection process. “We owe a great debt of gratitude to our search advisory council, our search committee and to our board of trustees. Those men and women have done, I think, a really remarkable kind of a job.”
Five to be Inducted into Athletics Hall of Fame

Five former University of Tennessee at Martin athletes who have made outstanding contributions to the university’s athletics program will be honored with induction into the university’s Hall of Fame.

The induction is set for Saturday, Oct. 9, homecoming weekend. The induction ceremony will be held in conjunction with the annual Letter Winners Breakfast.

The inductees into the Hall of Fame include Randy Barnes, Bruce Boggs, Donnie Jones, Julia White Brundige, and Starr Halter Meek.

Barnes, from Ripley, Tenn., played football for head coach Bob Carroll in 1969. Barnes was named All-Mid South Conference and All-Gulf South Conference, two times each. He set a school record for the longest field goal, with a 53-yarder against Nichols State.

Boggs, from St. Louis, Mo., wrestled at UT Martin in the early 1970s. Boggs qualified to represent UT Martin in the NCAA Division II National Championships. He sported a 38-6 won-loss record.

Jones, from Dyersburg, Tenn., played football for Carroll from 1968-1972. He received the “Best Defensive Back” award in 1970 and 1971. He has 17 career interceptions and is second on the career ladder list for interceptions.

Brundige played volleyball, her first love, from 1972-76 and basketball for two seasons (1972 and 1973). On the volleyball court she earned all-tournament honors twice during the 1974 season. In her senior season, the Lady Pacers won the state small college tournament, finished second in the region and competed in the AIAW tournament at Idaho State.

On the basketball court, Brundige’s primary purpose was to pass the basketball to Pat Head Summitt as often as possible so she could score.

Meek played volleyball and basketball from 1973-77. The volleyball team posted a 122-56 won-loss record, finished first in the AIAW Small College State Championship and advanced to the AIAW Southern Regional and the national finals at Idaho State.

Meek was among the first women to receive a partial grant-in-aid for volleyball and basketball, and she was on the first teams to compete in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Tickets are $7 each for the banquet and are available to all persons. Tickets can be purchased through the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics, Room 1022, Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Emily Miller Receives NCAA Award

The Winter/Spring 2004 issue of Campus Scene featured a story on Emily Miller, a UT Martin soccer player who has inspired her teammates with her spirit while fighting bone cancer. At its 2004 national convention, the NCAA awarded Miller one of three Inspiration Awards. The NCAA Award of Valor recognizes a coach, administrator or current or former student-athlete who, when confronted with a situation involving personal danger, averted or minimized the potential disaster by courageous action or noteworthy bravery.

Miller also has become a spokesperson for the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, appearing in the upcoming video, A Time for Hope, with Marlo Thomas. In addition, she speaks to groups and individuals about St. Jude in order to raise money for the hospital. Miller hopes to return to UT Martin as a full-time student in the fall.

Women’s Basketball Team Room Named

A special dedication and naming ceremony for the Nadine Gearin Women’s Basketball Team Room was held Feb. 28. The room features a glass window entrance door, a hardwood-floor foyer painted with a replica of the Pat Head Summitt Court, oak display cases filled with memorabilia from UT Martin’s past and present, and a state-of-the-art audio-visual digital projector with a retractable screen. Gearin was honored for her numerous accomplishments at UT Martin. She coached from 1969-78 and compiled 104 wins and 86 losses in nine seasons. In 1969, she was named the first UT Martin Lady Pacer basketball coach. She also coached volleyball and badminton.
Decades of memories, topped with a stylish grin and a devilish wink of the eye. Stories from alumni across the nation reveal a rich heritage of UT Martin. From the squirrel story during the 70s to the peach orchard and the building of the “new Y-dorms,” changing faces but not tradition. Well, the “new Y-dorms” are being demolished, wireless communication is the norm and you can have more than one entrée for lunch. But the one thing that remains constant through the years is the professional commitment and interest from the faculty and staff at UT Martin. One of the top reasons people come to homecoming activities is to see and talk with former teachers and staff. As you will see in the coming articles, the alumni relations office is finding new ways to “connect” with you. If you ever have a suggestion, comment, question or complaint, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our mission is to maintain a connection with those who attended UT Martin. It is a real honor and privilege to serve as the director of alumni relations. I enjoy talking with you, planning reunions, and hearing about the good ‘ole days. Have a great summer and I hope to see you in October “Streaking Back to Martin” for Homecoming 2004!  

The Golden Grad Reunion is scheduled for August 1. Pictured are two members of the class of 1954 (left, Betty Jean Spears and right, Elizabeth Penick Horton). Golden Grads are the first graduates from UT Martin starting in 1953 and will include the Class of 1954 this year. This annual reunion will take place in conjunction with Summer Commencement and will feature a short program, recognition at commencement and social time to renew old friendships. The reunion will begin at 11:30 a.m in the Alumni Gym of the Student Life Center.
Let us know what you’re up to!
Please also use this form to update your address if it has changed.

Full Name (include maiden name if applicable): _______________________________________________________

Years Attended: ____________ through __________ School /College of: __________________________

Degree(s): __________________________________ Major: __________________________

Home Address: __________________________________ City/State/Zip: __________________________

Home Phone: ______________________________ Business Phone: __________________________

Occupation: ______________________________ Business Name or Employer: ________________

Business Address: __________________________________ City/State/Zip ______________________

Full Name of Spouse: __________________________________________________________________

Your Email Address: __________________________________________________________________

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

Full Name of spouse: __________________________________________________________________

Did your spouse attend UT Martin? Yes ☐ No ☐

Years Attended: ____________through __________ School /College of: __________________________

Degree(s): __________________________________ Major: __________________________

Occupation: ______________________________ Business Name or Employer: ________________

Business Address: __________________________________ City/State/Zip ______________________

Names and Ages of Children: ____________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
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Additional News (honors, promotions, etc.): ________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

List your current hobbies: ______________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Would you consider taking an active leadership role in UT Martin alumni activities? Yes ☐ No ☐

If you know anyone who may be interested in UT Martin and is a high school junior or senior, please give us their names and addresses:
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Enclose a recent color headshot photo, if possible.
No low-resolution digital photos, please! Photographs cannot be returned to you. Every effort will be made to use all color headshots submitted. However, space considerations and/or photo quality may prevent us from using submitted photos in some instances.

Fill out, clip and return this form to:
Office of Alumni Relations
University of Tennessee at Martin
Martin, TN 38238
alumni@utm.edu
As The University of Tennessee moves into a new era of leadership with a new president, I’ve given thought to how fortunate we are at UT Martin to have the alumni and friends who “set the pace” and lead our campus into the future through their commitments.

John and Delores Sorey (pictured below) were on campus in April for the UT Development Council. The Council is the volunteer fund-raising group for the entire UT system and meets on the Martin campus about every three years. The Soreys now live in Naples, Fla., but resided in Selmer for many years when John was the president of Spectrum Corp. John serves as the Development Council chair and is a graduate of UT Nashville. He also served as chair of the UT Martin Development Committee and has been very supportive of our campus and the UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer.

During the meeting in April, UT announced that the Soreys pledged $50,000 to the UT Martin LEAD Academy and also established a $1 million annuity to be split between UT Martin and UT-Knoxville. The gift to the LEAD Academy will provide additional funds for national and international travel, providing students experiences that cannot be found in the traditional classroom.

During the meeting, we also had a chance to showcase our campus and its academic programs. Guests left Martin that weekend with an appreciation of our campus and commented how impressed they were with the dedication of our faculty and students. I also heard many people express that UT Martin is the most beautiful campus of the University of Tennessee. These are facts many of us already knew, but it was great to hear those who had never visited here before say such positive things.

Lew and Mary Jo Dougherty (pictured below with Chancellor Nick Dunagan) of Camden were also on campus that weekend. The Doughertys are longtime supporters of UT and UT Martin. Lew and Mary Jo are both UT graduates and members of the UT Founders Society. Lew, a retired dentist, has served as the UT National Alumni Association president and as chair of the UT Martin Development Committee. This fall, the couple will receive the UT Martin Chancellor’s Award for University Service during Homecoming 2004 festivities.

Last summer, the Doughertys established a $750,000 charitable remainder trust that will benefit many UT programs, including the UT Martin Honors Programs. In addition, Lew and Mary Jo have designated the Honors Programs as the beneficiary in their estate plans and plan to bequeath $1.4 million to the program.

You cannot mention UT Martin and leadership in the same sentence without the Dunagan family coming to mind. (See photo at right.) Sara Dunagan of Caruthersville, Mo., has a connection with the University of Tennessee at Martin that spans more than 50 years. She
first came to the campus (UT Junior College) after World War II with her husband, Horace Dunagan, as he completed college after serving in the armed forces. Horace and Sara Dunagan stayed connected to the university through his affiliation as a member of both the UT Development Council and the UT Martin Development Committee. They established a scholarship endowment for out-of-state students through a charitable remainder trust in 1985.

After his death in 1987, Sara funded the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking at UT Martin to honor his impressive banking career which spanned some 38 years. Mrs. Dunagan established two University Scholar Endowments in 1994 and 1999. In 2001, the Dunagan family gave $50,000 to the new Agricultural Teaching Complex which funded the renovation of a former dairy barn into the new Complex Headquarters Building. The Dunagans actually bought their milk from the same dairy in the 1940s.

In December, Sara Dunagan established three $250,000 charitable remainder trusts, one for each of her children – Nick Dunagan (UT Martin ’68, history), Nancy Dunagan Biggs (UT Martin ’70, education) and Anita Dunagan Roy (UT Martin ’73, education). In time, the three trusts totaling $750,000 will benefit UT Martin academic programs including the Dunagan Chair in Banking, faculty development, the Agricultural Teaching Complex, Teacher Education, the Learning Resource Center, the Paul Meek Library and student scholarships for international travel.

To date, UT Martin has produced 18 Dunagan family graduates. Chancellor Nick Dunagan aptly leads this campus every day; this generous trust from the Dunagan family will provide funds to enhance and strengthen these UT Martin programs well into the future. That’s certainly leading by example.

Joe and Pat Johnson say goodbye to UT Martin

A reception was held June 9 for UT Interim President Joe Johnson and his wife, Pat, on the UT Martin campus. Johnson, UT president emeritus, left retirement in August to serve as interim president, and will be succeeded by Dr. John Petersen on July 1. Petersen, provost and executive vice president at the University of Connecticut, was elected in April by the university’s board of trustees. With the Johnsons, at right, is Madelyn Pritchett of Martin, personal assistant to former Governor Ned McWherter.

Tennessee State Rep. Johnny Shaw, left, reads Gov. Phil Bredesen’s proclamation designating June 3, 2004, as Dr. Nick Dunagan Day in Tennessee. The governor’s proclamation and another from the Tennessee General Assembly were presented during the WestStar Leadership Program graduation ceremony for the Class of 2004 in Jackson. Dunagan has served as director of WestStar for five years. Also pictured are Tawnya Irwin, director of tourism, Team Hardin County, and Kevin Davis, Hardin County mayor.
1942
Edward Williamson and his wife, Betty, are both retired and reside in Pensacola, Fla. Edward was previously employed as the senior vice president of Sow Company Services and was published in Wild Tales of the Blue Yonder, a collection of true stories from World War II. They have three children: Rebecca, Danny and Joel. E-mail: williamson11@cox.net.

1950
Jere Edward Roe is a dentistry graduate of the University of Tennessee. He is an oral surgeon for the North Carolina Department of Corrections. He resides in Raleigh, N.C., and has three children: Blaire, Ashley and Brandon. E-mail: jeroe@bellsouth.net.

1959
Carolyn Coleman and her spouse, Billy ('58), reside in Greer, S.C. They are business owners with one child, Dianne Coleman Kuhl.

1960
Dr. Jere Light, a retired college professor from the University of Texas at Brownsville, received a bachelor’s degree in secondary education from UT Martin. He now resides in Brownsville. He has five grandchildren. E-mail: lighthouse.24@netzero.net.

Barry Simmons is retired and resides in Lenoir, Tenn., with his spouse, Sandra. He received a bachelor’s degree in agriculture from UT Martin. E-mail: sfsimmons@charter.net.

1961
Jane Vowell is a retired school principal and assistant superintendent for the Palm Beach School District. She was also president of the Palm Beach County Principals Association. E-mail: kaiserjk@msn.com.

1962
Linda Sue Woodard Chandler and her spouse, Ray, reside in Puryear, Tenn. She is a retired teacher and is enjoying the extra time with her three grandchildren. They have two children: Gerald, 34; and Eric, 25.

1965
John Williams and his wife, Linda ('66), reside in Jackson, Tenn. John is the director of public works and developer for the city of Jackson. He is also the developer and founder of Williams Construction Co. They have two children: Clay, 32; and Lee Miller, 28. E-mail: JWilliams@cityofjackson.org.

1966
William Stanley Hensley and his wife, Vicki, reside in Lauralns, S.C. William is retired and Vicki is an accountability analyst in Clinton, S.C. They have four children: Laree, 44; Jeana, 42; Bill, 36; and Stanley, 34. E-mail: vichillhensley@aol.com.

Dr. Betty Brooks Holley and her husband, William, reside in Auburn, Ala. Betty is a retired Auburn University professor and is currently serving as the chair of Canon Envirotom, the international program of Legacy, Inc. E-mail: bettyb150@aol.com.

Jerry Thorne and wife, Sandra, reside in Pleasanton, Calif. Jerry is a retired general manager and city commissioner. They have one child, Keri, 25. E-mail: jthorne2002@yahoo.com.

1967
Joy Young and her husband, Larry, reside in Kirksey, Ky. She received her bachelor’s degree in home economics and is retired. They have one child: Jason, 33.

1968
Grace Dycus Desneyers is a publisher for the Madison County Woman’s Journal. She and her spouse, Robert, reside in Medina, Tenn. They have two children: Todd, 31; and Gavin, 28.

Emily Williams Ferguson is a self-employed CPA and certified financial planner. She resides in Black Mountain, N.C., with husband, Blair, who is a retired lawyer. They have three children: Todd, 31; and Greg, 28; and Wendy, 21.

1969
James Steven Allison resides in Greenville, S.C., with his wife, Ginny. They have two children: Kristen, 30; and Kelli, 27. They also have one grandchild: Jackson, 4. E-mail: steveall1@bellsouth.net.

1971
Larry Smith is an Office Max sales associate, as well as a mentor for the Big Brothers and Sisters program. Larry’s wife, Carol, is a senior program manager for Kansas University. They reside in Mound City, Kan.

James Rollins Tice resides in Griffin, Ga., with wife, Marilee. James is involved with educational sales and services at Hamilton Band Instrument Co. He is also the minister of music at the First United Methodist Church. He is an ordained deacon in the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church and is involved with Boy Scouts of America. Marilee is a media center specialist and librarian for Spalding County schools. They have three children: Andrew, 20; Timothy, 18; and Seth, 13. E-mail: tice-j@bellsouth.net.

1972
Thomas Warren Carmichael, a CEO for Three Rivers Administration Services LLC, and his wife, Patricia, reside in Greensburg, Pa. They have two children: Brantley, 21; and Patrick, 19. E-mail: warren8456@aol.com.

Pamela Dowland, a recent cancer survivor, is a self-employed realtor and developer. She resides in Louisville, Ky.
1974
Barbra Duncan Fillion and husband, John, reside in Cincinnati, Ohio. She recently retired from Procter & Gamble and is fund raising and serving as a mentor for the Anchorage marathon with a team-in-training. They have two children: Jeff, 19; and Brad, 13. E-mail: fil- lion@zoomtown.com

1975
Leroy Wilson Baird and his wife, Carol (’74), reside in Rutherford, Tenn. Leroy is employed with the Tennessee Department of Human Services, while Carol is a CNA at the Dyer Nursing Home. They have three children: Amanda, 24; Travis, 18; and Amy, 17.

Kenneth Nixon Wright is an accountant for the Mallory Group Inc. He graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. He resides in Lakeland, Tenn., and has two children: Paul, 16; and Eric, 11. E-mail: kwright613@yahoo.com.

1976
Charles Steve Briggs resides in Oakland, Tenn., and is a senior manager for FedEx. He has three children: Dana, 25; Matt, 23; and Beth, 21. E-mail: Charels.briggs@fedex.com.

Vickie London and husband, William, reside in Lewisburg, Tenn. Vickie is a teacher for the Marshall County Board of Education. Her husband is a banker for Farmers Bank. They have two children: Bentley, 21; and Anna, 17. E-mail: LondonV@K12tn.net.

Michael Smith is the director of research and development, technical coordination, cosmetics for L’Oreal, USA. He was recently awarded a patent along with two other co-workers for a makeup proposition containing a blend of waxes. He resides in Branchburg, N.J., with his two children: Maegan, 18; and Micah, 13.

1977
Cathy Craddock Chavez is employed as an instructional technology trainer for the Ysleta Independent School District. Her husband, Luis, works for the department of transportation as an inspector. They reside in El Paso, Texas, with their two children: Valerie, 27; and Paul, 22. E-mail: CChavez95@aol.com.

Edward “Frank” Childress Jr. and his spouse, Cynthia, reside in Memphis, Tenn. Frank is an attorney and was named to “The Best Lawyers in America.” They have two children: Franklin, 20; and Bailey, 14. E-mail: fchildress@bakerdonelson.com.

1979
Cathy Denise Meredith is an associate professor of education for Christian Brothers University. She lives in Memphis, Tenn. She was named to the “Who’s Who in American Education” 2003 and is state vice president for ACEI, Association for Childhood Education International. She has two children: Curt, 18; and Meredith, 17. E-mail: cmered- it@cbu.edu.

James Granville Mounce III and wife, Victoria, reside in Memphis, Tenn. James is a supervisory detention and deportation officer for the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. He was recently elected vice president of the Memphis Criminal Investigators Association. Victoria is an administrative assistant. They have five children: Terre Ann, 30; Jamie, 27; James, 27; Sandy, 23; and Valerie, 21. E-mail: jmounce@ midsouth.rr.com.

Charles Keith Puckett resides in Greenfield, Tenn. He is a U.S. Army reservist.

1980
Beverly Atkins was recently recognized by Lt. Col. Herman Fitzgerald III, commander of Milan Ammunition Plant. She was presented with a certificate of commendation for exceptional support while she was serving in the transportation office at the ammunition plant. She resides in Lexington, Tenn.

1982
Ruby Jean Lewis McClung and husband, Will, reside in Hendersonville, N.C. Ruby is employed as a teacher and Will is self-employed. They have two children, Angela and Kristi, who are both grown.

1983
James Beshires Jr. and spouse, Dorothy Brown, reside in New Mexico. James is a registered nurse at the University of New Mexico. He is the RN in charge at the UNM Hospital oncology and clinical research unit and is ONS certified. E-mail: jabeshires@salud.unm.edu.

Susan Cutshall (photo in next column) and spouse, Greg, reside in Lexington, Ky. She is the director of childhood ministries at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Lexington. She has had two books published, Treat ‘Em Right and Treatin’ Kids Right. She has two children: Lance, 16; and Lauren, 12. E-mail: scutshall1@hotmail.com.

John Rayburn Huffstutter resides in Collierville, Tenn., with wife, Susan Dwana Stevens, and son, Sam, 11. John is an account executive for International Paper Co. and his wife is a pharmacist for Kroger. E-mail: john.huffstutter@ipa-per.com.

1984
Teresa Brundige and her husband, William (’84), reside in Martin, Tenn. Teresa is a nurse administrator at the surgery center and her husband is an insurance agent. They have two children: Chadwick Connell, 22; and Melinda Connell, 21. E-mail: tbrundige@symbion.com.

Kathy Kates Candy of Council Bluff, Iowa, is employed by the Buntin Group. She recently received a promotion from vice president to executive vice president.

Larry Higgins and his wife, Lori (’81), reside in Adamsville, Tenn. Larry was recently promoted to vice president of operations of Aqua Glass Corp. Larry’s wife is a dental hygienist. They have two children: Leslie, 16; and Lauren, 14. E-mail: lhiggins4@hotmail.com.

Cynthia Jean March McKee and her husband, Michael, reside in Seneca, S.C. Cynthia is employed by U.S. Engine Valve in Westminster, S.C. E-mail: utgt1228@bellsouth.net.
Keith Randal Parker and his wife, Pamela ('87), reside in Chattanooga, Tenn. Keith graduated from UT-Memphis with a medical degree ('88), and is a physician at Radiology Group of Chattanooga. E-mail: pampark@comcast.net.

1985

Jeffery Higgs resides in Dresden, Tenn., where he is practicing dentistry. He graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor's degree in biology.

Deborah Michelle Tillman Long and her husband, Troy, live in Lebanon, Tenn. Troy is a dentist and they have one child: Hannah, 2. E-mail: drtroylong@charter.net.

1986

Bonita Mahan is a Shasta County, Calif., volunteer rescue dive team member. Bonita lives in Redding, Calif. She is also a FFA licensed private pilot.

1987

Angie Owen Antwine and her husband, Tony, live in Lakeland, Tenn. She is a SAP developer for the International Paper Co. Her husband is a self-employed landscaper. E-mail: angie.antwine@ipaper.com.

Reggie Lyell and his wife, Gena, reside in Corydon, Ind. Reggie is a physician. They have two children: Katherine, 9; and Colin, 7. E-mail: rlyell@potatove.net.

1988

Michael King and his wife, Michelle, reside in Jackson, Tenn. He practices general dentistry. They have two children: Madison, 5; and Blake, 2.

Suzanne Singleton Maher is an assessment specialist for the Fayette County School System. She and her husband, Eddie, reside in Oaklan, Tenn. They have one child: Mason, 7 months old.

1989

Brain Merz and spouse, Kelly ('88), reside in Franklin, Tenn. She is in the sales field. They have two children: Kaylin, 9; and Dylan, 6. E-mail: brianmerz@msn.com.

Terry Powers and his wife, Rubberta, reside in Martin, Tenn. Terry received his graduate degree in education from UT Martin. He is a counselor for the state of Tennessee. Rubberta is a librarian at Dresden Elementary School. They have one child, Rachel, 3, and are expecting another.

Ann Simpson and spouse, John ('89), reside in Garner, N.C. Ann is a registered nurse for the U.S. Army. Her husband is a retired U.S. Army officer and former UT Martin faculty member. They have one child: Matthew, 9.

1990

Elizabeth Arredondo and her husband, Steven, reside in Apex, N.C. Elizabeth graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor's degree in education. Her husband is a minister at Grace Bible Fellowship in Cary, N.C. They have two children: Nathan, 3; and Daniel, 3 months old.

Amy Cary earned her bachelor's degree from UT Martin and earned a master's degree in supervision from Middle Tennessee State University. Amy and her husband, John, reside in Columbia, Tenn., with their three children: Jackson, 7; Hunter, 7; and Carson, 3.

Bethany Corum and her husband, Christopher, reside in Tallahassee, Fla. Bethany is an executive vice president and Christopher is the president of Avisian, Inc. E-mail: bcorum@flbamkers.net.

Norman French and spouse, Annette ('95), live in McKenzie, Tenn. Norman is employed as a vice president and CFO of Profile Holdings, Inc. They have three children: Beth, 20; John, 17; and Julie, 2.

Clayton Klutts is a senior manager of financial reporting for the Dollar General Corp. Clayton resides in Nashville, Tenn. E-mail: cklutts@comcast.net.

Melanie Rea Livengood and her husband, Allen, reside in Thompson's Station, Tenn. Melanie is a teacher for the Hickman County Board of Education and her husband is a pastor at Walker Baptist Church. They have three children: Katie, 11; Seth, 9; and Abigail, 7. E-mail: snoopy-mel@yahoo.com.

1991

Renee Bailey is a senior statistical scientist for AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals. She graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor's degree in biology. She resides in Bryn Mawr, Pa., and was recently elected international vice president of finance for Alpha Delta Pi sorority. E-mail: pathgirl@aol.com.

1992

James William Moore and his wife, Christine, reside in Spartanburg, S.C. James is a general liabilities coordinator, news correspondent and political consultant. He was recently promoted from the customer relations department to the risk management department for Denny's corporate office. James is also a news correspondent for the Talon News. E-mail: musicbuyer@aol.com.

Vince Thompson is in corporate sales for AT&T Wireless. He resides in Memphis, Tenn. He graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor's degree in political science. E-mail: thompsonvincent@hotmail.com.

Courtney Vaughn is a registered nurse. She and her husband, Richard, reside in Tullahoma, Tenn. E-mail: evaughnrr@yahoo.com.

Robert Butner is a chemist for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. He resides in Tallahassee, Fla. E-mail: butnerr@doacs.stste.fl.us.

Stan Dunagan and his wife, Stephanie ('94), reside in Paris, Tenn. Stan is UT Martin's assistant coordinator of online and university studies and an adjunct professor of geology. Stephanie is a family practice physician. They have two children: Taylor Grace and Austin, 2. E-mail: se30283@yahoo.com.

Scot Evans is a biology instructor at Edgecombe Community College. He was named as the most outstanding faculty member at Maryland Community College before moving to Elm City, N.C., where he and his wife, Kristie, reside. They have one child: Thaddeus Dalton, 2. E-mail: se30283@yahoo.com.
Shelley Hickerson and husband, Daniel, reside in Charlotte, Tenn. Shelley is an accounting clerk. They have one child: Lauren Elizabeth, 2. E-mail: sdwickerson@shilo.com.

Corey Johnson of Alexandria, Va., is a clergy for the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. Corey has two children: Ashera, 10; and Caleb, 3. E-mail: apostle06@aol.com.

Jill Story Roberts and husband, Louis (’93), reside in Knoxville, Tenn. Jill recently completed her doctorate of occupational therapy from Belmont University. She is an occupational therapist. They have one child: James Brayden, 6 months old.

Angela Williams and husband, Tim, reside in Jackson, Tenn. Angela is a therapist for the Carey Counseling Center in Trenton. She is also a licensed clinical social worker. They have two children: Kaylen, 4; and Emma, six weeks old.

1994

Malissa Ament and husband, Dwayne, live in Maryville, Tenn. Malissa is a research associate at UT-Knoxville in the entomology and plant pathology department. They have one child: Alyson, four months old. E-mail: malhoward@aol.com.

Tasha Froelich is a teacher for the Metropolitan Nashville Public School System while her husband, Anton “Chip,” is a benefits consultant. They reside in Hendersonville, Tenn., and have one child: Paige, 5 months old. E-mail: tfroelich@comcast.net.

Patricia Lewis Hamby and spouse, Jaye, reside in Nashville, Tenn. Patricia is a retail territory manager for Comag Marketing Group. The two have one child: Garren Thomas, 1. E-mail: patriarchalhamby@aol.com.

Harold Edward “Eddie” Kissingam Jr. is an indirect lending branch manager for TranSouth Financial Services. He resides in Lakeland, Tenn., with his wife, Jennifer. They have two children: Hunter, 10; Hayden, 6. E-mail: autfamily2@cs.com.

J. Todd Lewis and his wife, Rachel Wicker (’95), reside in Ickensam, United Kingdom. Todd is a chief financial officer for the U.S. Naval Medical Clinics, United Kingdom. They have three children: A.J., 8; Alex, 6; and Ted, 2.

Heather Anne Pratt and her husband, Michael Mohler (’94), reside Memphis, Tenn. Heather is a veterinarian and her husband is a pharmacist. E-mail: hapratt@midsouth.rr.com.

Nathan William Russell and his wife, Anita (’92), reside in Dickson, Tenn. Nathan is a self-employed nurse practitioner. They have one child, Seth, 2. E-mail: Nathan.russell@hcahealthcare.com.

Marty Young and his wife, Jennifer, reside in Martin, Tenn. Marty is the athletic director, director of the alternative school and assistant principal for the Fulton County School District. They have two children: Chase, 9; and Chandler, 6. E-mail: myoung@fulton.k12.ky.us.

1995

Bradley Michael Bishop and his wife, Libby (’97), reside in Tahlequah, Okla. Bradley was recently promoted to rank of LCDR, USPHS. He is a pharmacist for the U.S. Public Health Service. E-mail: bradleybishop@sbcglobal.net.

Tina Russell Daniels and her husband, Richard, reside in Oxford, Miss. Tina was the AO president of the Oxford Alumnae Chapter. They have two children: Josh, 12; and Emma, 4. E-mail: trdaniels@bellsouth.net.

Lethia Michelle McCollum Edmonds and her husband, Timothy, reside in Smyrna, Tenn. Her husband is a nuclear engineer for RTSWright Industries. They have one child: Corbin, 2. E-mail: sheleedmonds@hotmail.com.

Richard Scott Mears is a recently married doctoral student at Tennessee State University and a Spanish teacher at Hendersonville High School. Richard and his wife, Rebeca, reside in Hendersonville, Tenn. E-mail: incakolaguy@juno.com.

Rob Phillips and his wife, Suzanne (’95), reside in Brunswick, Ohio. Rob is a strength coach for the Cleveland Browns. They have two children: Jarrett, 2; and Andrew, 3 months. E-mail: rphillips@clevelandbrowns.com.

Jill Fuller Pusser and her husband, Wade (’94), reside in Lexington, Tenn. She is a collections manager for Apria Healthcare and he is in electrical sales for Martin Supply Co. They have two children: Brayden, 3; and Brylee, 7 weeks old.

1996

John Christopher “Chris” Dismukes and his wife, Pennie (’95), reside in Gallatin, Tenn. John recently received his master’s degree from Lipscomb University and is a retail sales manager. They have one child: Emily, 2.

John Garland is a health physicist for the state of Tennessee while his wife, Faralee, is a HLA technologist for the MidSouth Transplant Foundation. They reside in Arlington, Tenn. E-mail: jgarland@midsouth.rr.com.

Kara McCuiston Mason graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor’s degree in nursing. She is employed as a CRNA at the Jackson Clinic. Her husband, Damian (’92), is a self-employed taxidermist. They live in Jackson, Tenn. Kara recently received her master’s degree from Middle Tennessee College of Anesthesiology.

Brent Styles and his wife, Mandy (’96), reside in Cordova, Tenn. Brent is a greenhouse manager for Emergent Genetics in Memphis and was one of the four original students enrolled in UT Martin’s Agricultural Operations Management degree program. Mandy was recently promoted to product registration supervisor for Helena Chemical Co. in Memphis. E-mail: bmstyles@bellsouth.net.

Hal Williams and his wife, Brynda, reside in Dyersburg, Tenn. Hal is a safety engineer for
Marvnda Windows and Doors. Brynda is an occupational health nurse for Sara Lee Foods.

1997

Jason Alan Beck is a safety supervisor for Maverick Tube. He resides in Blytheville, Ark., and was recently certified as an EMT, Haz-Mat technician and police officer in Arkansas. E-mail: jbeck@mavericktube.com.

Kenly Gossum resides in Miami Beach, Fla. He is a senior consultant for Deloitte & Touche, LLP. E-mail: lgossum@deloitte.com.

Matthew Brady Henderson is in management training. His wife, Jennifer, is a speech language pathologist for Tennessean Farmers Cooperative. They reside in Halls, Tenn. E-mail: matthenderson93@yahoo.com.

Sylvia Humphreys and her husband, Kenneth (’97), reside in Paris, Tenn. Sylvia is an elementary school counselor at W.G. Rhea Elementary School. E-mail: Humphreys@wgr.k12.tn.us.

James Jeffery Lee resides in Memphis, Tenn. He is a change management consultant for Union Planters Bank. E-mail: jamjlee@midsouth.rr.com.

Sara Ewell Littlefield and her husband, Thomas, reside in Kingston, Tenn. She recently received her master’s degree in marriage and family therapy. They have one child: Emma, 1. E-mail: ewellse@yahoo.com.

Dr. Deepa Patel is an optometrist for Self/Maxim Eyes Vision. He and his wife, Kamal, reside in Round Rock, Texas. E-mail: drdeepa@hotmail.com.

Burton Thomas Rolutledge and his wife, Tracy (’97), reside in Jackson, Tenn. Burton received his bachelor’s degree in math education and is a teacher and assistant football coach for Crockett County Schools. Tracy is the director of public relations for [blue august] in Jackson, Tenn.

Jamey Northcott Smith and her husband, Tim, reside in Camden, Tenn. Jamey is a social worker for the Benton County Juvenile Court. Tim is the owner of Wendy’s in Camden. They have one child: Zachary, 18 months old. E-mail: jamey-smith1@yahoo.com.

1998

Matthew Burns is a music teacher for the Dickson County School System and resides in Clarksville, Tenn. He received his master’s degree from Austin Peay State University in music education. E-mail: amcdfan1@charter.net.

Terry Curtis is an employee relations manager for Bates LLC. He recently received a P.H.R. certification in human resources. Terry resides in Nashville, Tenn. E-mail: bigtcurtis@hotmail.com.

Lea Gallimore resides in Sudbery, Mass., and is an information systems coordinator for Southworth Milton/Caterpillar. She graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor’s degree in communications. E-mail: lgallimore@hotmail.com.

Vanessa Jean Fowlkes-Madison and her husband, Clinton (’98), reside in Croften, Ky. They are rodeo professionals with the Lone Star Rodeo Co. They have one child: Cutter, 1.

Marcella Cruze-Rodgers and her husband, Kacy, reside in Southlake, Texas. Marcella is a teacher for Covenant Christian school and her husband is a coach for the Dallas Cowboys.

Raymond Kyle Williams graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor’s degree in public administration. He resides in Decatur, Ga., and is an attorney for Weissman, Nowack, Curry & Wilco, P.C. He is also the president of the Georgia Conservancy’s Generation Green.

1999

Stacey Lessenberry Barnett and her husband, Brian, reside in Medina, Tenn. She is a customer service representative for Smurfit-Stone Container Corp. Brian is a sales representative for DET Distributing. They have one child: Hayden, 2.

Jeremy Branch and his wife, Amy, reside in McEwen, Tenn. Jeremy is a chemical plant operator for Dupont. Amy is a radiation technologist.

John Jay Clark and his wife, Robin (’00), reside in Columbia, Tenn. John is a law student. They have one child: John Jay “Jack,” 3 weeks old. E-mail: jcalrk@hardpark.com.

Stephen Faulkner is a financier for Oppenheimer Funds, Inc. and resides in New York City. E-mail: faulkner1129@yahoo.com.

Chad Franks and his wife, Heather (’00), reside in Browns Summit, N.C. Chad is employed as an electrical engineer for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. Heather is in the communications and public relations field. They have one child: Ethan, 8 months old.

Heather Sue Payne Lyles (photo in next column) and her husband, Steven, reside in Chattanooga. Heather is a personal trainer/fitness instructor and Steven will be attending UT-Chattanooga in the fall. They have two children: Elle Caroline, 3 yrs.; and Elijah James, 6 months old. E-mail: swlyles@archchemicals.com.

Lori Michelle Swearingen and her husband, Rodney (’00), reside in Orlinda, Tenn. Lori is the sole proprietor of Elite Dance, Cheer & Gymnastics. Rodney is a utility operator for BellSouth. They have one child: Hayden, 1; and are expecting a child in May.

2000

Daniel King earned his law degree from the University of Memphis and has accepted a position in Jackson. Kelly Lowry King (’01) has graduated from the UT Health Science Center with a master’s degree in physical therapy. E-mail: danielking007@hotmail.com.

Brandy Tallman May and her husband, Wesley (’95), reside in Columbia, Tenn. Brandy received her master’s degree in school counseling and is a school counselor for Maury County Schools. Wesley is teacher and coach at Columbia Academy. They have one child:
**In Memory**

**William Searcy** and his wife, **Angela** ('01), reside in Union City, Tenn. William is a project manager and estimator for Allen Searcy Builder/Contractor. Angela is a kindergarten teacher for the Obion County School System. They have two children: Emily, 4; and Gannon, 1.

**2001**

**Wesley Page** is a branch manager for Helena Chemical and resides in Albany, Ga.

**Brian Price** and his wife, **Tanya** ('00), reside in Waverly, Tenn. Brian is an associate pastor at the First Baptist Church in Waverly. They have two children: Chandler, 3; and Carlie 1.

**Dustin Seratt** and his wife, Shelly, reside in Dyersburg, Tenn. Dustin is a financial analyst for Forcum Lannom Contractors LLC. Shelly is an occupational therapist for West Tennessee Healthcare. E-mail: d_seratt@hotmail.com.

**2002**

**Nicole Gilchrist Gibbs** and her husband, Daniel, reside in Cleveland, Tenn. Nicole is director of communications for Tennessee Wesleyan College. Daniel is a police officer for the city of Chattanooga. E-mail: ngibbs@twcnet.edu.

**Kurt Holmes** and his wife, **Amanda** ('01), reside in Medina, Tenn. Kurt is a co-manager of 84 Lumber Co. Amanda is creative director of Lamar Advertising in Jackson, Tenn.

**2003**

**Carol Elizabeth Bayer**, a marketing assistant for Bethel College, resides in Martin, Tenn. E-mail: carebaye@yahoo.com.

**Tim Fisher** is a financial planner at Northwestern Mutual Financial Network and resides in Jackson, Tenn. E-mail: timfisher36@msn.com.

**Amy Holman Stone** and her husband, Ryan, reside in Obion, Tenn. Amy is a safety coordinator for Obion Grain Company. Ryan is a marketing representative for Wood Communications. E-mail: amyholman@yahoo.com.


Phillips was a native of Chester County, the son of the late Lester D. Phillips and Dona Dyer Phillips. He was a graduate of Chester County High School, a graduate of UT Martin and received a master's degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He served with the 8th Medical Battalion in Germany.

He was employed with the USDA Cotton Division and began his career in Birmingham, Ala., as a field representative. He later transferred to Atlanta, Ga., as supervisor and market reporter. He transferred to Memphis in 1972 to the Cotton Standards Section and retired in 1996.

He is survived by his wife, Ywain McMahan Phillips, of Beech Bluff; a son, David Phillips (Teri) of Franklin; three daughters: Dianne McCullar-McGorory (Tommy) of Memphis, Donna Davis of Mifflin and Debra Banks (Brent) of Mifflin; a sister, Ruth Ledbetter of Henderson, and nine grandchildren.

**Ethan Jethro Stansbury**, 51, died in Plattsburg, N.Y., in 2003. Jethro received his bachelor’s degree from UT Martin. He received a commission as a 2nd Lt. in the medical service corps from UT Martin’s ROTC department. He was a distinguished military graduate. After 20 years in the army, he retired as a lieutenant colonel and became a hospital manager in Plattsburg, N.Y. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, daughter, Heather, and son, Ethan.

**Wilfred O. Head** died April 17, 2003. Wilfred was retired from the New Orleans Public School System, where he was a high school principal. He is survived by his wife, Primrose, and brother, Robert J. Head.

**Moriah McNeil**, 9-year-old daughter of former UT Martin football standout Emmanuel “Big Mac” McNeil, died April 20, 2004, at Methodist Children’s Hospital in San Antonio, Texas. She fought a rare brain tumor for two years. Moriah is survived by her mother, father and stepfather; brothers, Marcus and Robbie McNeil, of Richmond; stepsiseter, Ashley Melchior, of San Antonio; and numerous relatives and friends.

**Dr. James Wesley “Wes” Henson** of Martin died Jan. 29, 2004, at Volunteer Community Hospital. He was 74. Dr. Henson was UT Martin professor emeritus of biology. He retired in 1998 after 30 years of service to the university. He played a key role in the development of the Reelfoot Lake Biological Station and worked as a researcher for many years studying the flora of the lake and its environment. Survivors include his wife, Carol Jean Johnson Henson, of Martin.

**Sculptor Ralph Hearst** died in December 2003 in Tallahassee, Fla. Hearst, 85, was artist-in-residence at UT Martin during the time his wife, Jean, served as chair for the Department of English (1990-93). Mr. Hearst was known for his alabaster sculptures. Examples of these sculptures can still be seen around campus. He also designed the brick sign located in front of the administration building and painted the Fields of Wild Irises #1 and #2 that hang in the Chancellors’ Conference Room. He is survived by his wife, Jean.

**Marine Captain Brent Morel**, 27, was killed in combat April 7 in Fallujah, Iraq. Services were April 15 at the Cherokee Baptist Church in Memphis with burial at the Memphis National Cemetery. He was a 1994 graduate of Bartlett High School and a 1999 graduate of UT Martin. He is survived by his wife, Amy Morel, Camp Pendleton, Calif.; his parents, Mike and Molly Morel, Martin; a sister, Marcy Woods, McKenzie; and grandparents, Paul and Georgette Smith, Martin; Tommy Morel, Mount Juliet; and JoAnn Vester, New Johnsonville.
Welcome Home!

If your travel plan calls for a stopover in Martin, please contact the alumni relations office. If your time permits, we will give you a campus tour, hosted by a retired faculty member or a current Undergraduate Alumni Council member. If you only have a minute, stop by for an orange drink and blueberry muffin and share your stories with us. In our office, you will find a copy of every yearbook, reunion information, and much more. You can contact us by phone at 731-881-7610 or by email at alumni@utm.edu.

UT Martin has added a “Special Features” section to the website (www.utm.edu). One of the features is “Great Things Are Happening!” Click here to read information about many of the great things that are happening at UT locations all across the State.