MARTIN, Tenn. - Phillip Fulmer, current director of athletics and former head football coach at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will present "Life Lessons from Coach" during the University of Tennessee at Martin Ned Ray McWherter Institute's sixth-annual Igniting Innovation fundraising event at 6:30 pm, April 23, in the Boling University Center's Duncan Ballroom.

Fulmer has served the University of Tennessee for more than 40 years. During his time as head coach of the Tennessee Volunteer football team, he led the team to five championship games in the Southeastern Conference (with wins in 1997 and 1998) and a national championship title in 1998. He was most recently inducted into the Tennessee Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017, and he received first-ballot induction to both the National Football Foundation and College Football Hall of Fame in 2012.

UT Martin alumni William Rhodes III, chairman, president and CEO of Autozone, and Ronnie and Jannie Yeargin, owners of Yeargin Farms, will receive R. Clayton McWhorter awards from the Ned Ray McWhorter Institute during the event. These awards recognize members of the regional community who have shown themselves to be innovators in their fields.

Igniting Innovation is an annual fundraising event organized by the Ned Ray McWhorter Institute's sophomore class. The Institute offers a specialized three-year program to select students that includes both domestic and international travel as well as professional training and networking opportunities.

Those interested in attending this event can sponsor a table for $1,000 or purchase individual tickets for $150 each.

For more information on the institute, Igniting Innovation or Fulmer's appearance, contact Joyanne Gansereit, program coordinator, at 731-881-3620 or gansereit@utm.edu.
MARTIN, Tenn. (Erin Chesnut, UTM staff writer) - The Tennessee Higher Education Commission has selected David McBeth, professor of art at the University of Tennessee at Martin, as one of 10 recipients of a 2019 Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award. These awards recognize five students and five faculty and staff members from higher education institutions across the state for their community service efforts.

McBeth, who has worked at UT Martin since 1992, has been instrumental in Martin's annual Empty Bowls Soup Supper for the past 15 years. McBeth donates his time and materials to create handcrafted soup bowls for the event, and this past year he and many of his current and former students worked together to donate 1,500 bowls. The supper supports WeCare Ministries in Martin each year and has donated more than $60,000 in the past 15 years.

"I know the ministry is grateful to David and his students for their unending work to create the bowls and organize the event each year, and those the ministry serves are appreciative as well," wrote Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor, in McBeth's nomination letter.

McBeth has also coordinated Cups for the Cure each February since 2017 in honor of his mother, who died after a short battle with cancer. This event features handmade cups and mugs donated by McBeth and his students, and funds raised benefit Joliet Oncology-Hematology Associates, a foundation at the cancer center where McBeth's mother received treatment.

"I've known and admired David for almost two decades, and I've always known him as someone passionate about serving his community and using his art to lift the spirits of those around him," wrote Carver.

McBeth also assisted the Ken-Tenn Food Bank in Fulton, Kentucky, by donating 250 bowls to its inaugural Empty Bowls event March 21. That organization was able to raise $2,500 for their area residents in their first year.

The Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award is named for the late state representative Harold Love, who was instrumental in passing legislation to create community service recognition programs at the state level in 1991. Kameron Echols, then a UT Martin student and now with the UT Martin Student Success Center, won a student award in 2017, and Dr. Clinton Smith, associate professor of special education, won a faculty award in 2018.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.
Phillip Fulmer to speak during UTM dinner

Phillip Fulmer, University of Tennessee athletics director and former head football coach, current director of athletics and former head football coach at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will speak during the UT Martin Ned Ray McWhorter Institute’s 2019 Igniting Innovation dinner at 6:30 p.m. April 23 in the university’s Duncan Ballroom.

Fulmer will speak on “Life Lessons from Coach” during the fundraiser.

He has been at UT for more than 40 years. During his time as head coach of the Tennessee Volunteers football team, he led them to five championship games in the Southeastern Conference (with wins in 1997 and 1998) and a national championship title in 1998. He was most recently inducted into the Tennessee Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017, and he received first-ballot induction to both the National Football Foundation and College Football Hall of Fame in 2012.

UT Martin alumni William Rhodes III, chairman, president and CEO of Auto Zone, and Ronnie and Jannie Yeargin, owners of Yeargin Farms, will receive R. Clayton McWhorter awards from the McWhorter Institute during the event. These awards recognize members of the regional community who have shown themselves to be innovators in their fields.

Igniting Innovation is an annual fundraising event organized by the institute’s sophomore class. The institute offers a specialized three-year program to select students that includes both domestic and international travel as well as professional training and networking opportunities.

For more information on the institute, Igniting Innovation or Fulmer’s appearance, contact Joyanne Gansereit, program coordinator, at 731-881-3620 or gansereit@utm.edu.

Local students attend UT-Martin Spring Preview Day

Pictured above, (second-to-left), Lauraléa Culver of Trimble and Ellicia Crate (second-to-right), of Newbern, attended the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Spring Preview Day on March 23. This event offers prospective students such as Culver and Crate, both students at Dyer County High School, the chance to learn about academic programs, financial aid, scholarships, housing and student life. It also includes a walking tour of campus and opportunities for interactions with UT Martin students and faculty. The students are pictured with Hazel Weaver (far left), Crystal Culver (center) and Jamye Crate (far right).
For more information about UT Martin or to schedule a campus tour, visit: utm.edu/advantage.
Student artwork to be displayed at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will display student artwork during a juried exhibition Tuesday through April 26 in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building Gallery.

An opening reception will be held 5-6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the gallery.

The exhibition, titled "The Kit and the Caboodle," will feature works by UT Martin students enrolled in art courses during the 2018-19 academic school year. Featured works include both 2D and 3D media within six categories: painting/mixed media, drawing/printmaking, fiber/book art/jewelry, digital art/photography, sculpture and pottery.

Scott Zieher, a New York City poet, artist and co-owner of the contemporary art gallery ZieherSmith, will serve as juror.

The art department will award first-, second- and third-place prizes to student artists in each category as well as an overall "Best of Show" award. Honorable mention certificates will be awarded at the juror's discretion.

UT Martin board to meet Friday

The University of Tennessee at Martin Advisory Board will host a special meeting beginning at 12:30 p.m. Friday in Room 229 of the Boling University Center.

This will be the board's second meeting since its creation in late 2018. Two members will participate via teleconference.

Agenda items include the approvals of five amendments to the advisory board bylaws; modification to the student member appointment process; and a revised schedule for regular meetings in 2019 and 2020.

The full agenda and associated meeting materials are available by contacting Erin Chesnut, university staff writer, by email at echesnut@utm.edu; by phone at (731) 881-7612; or at 304 Hall-Moody Administration Building on campus.

Because this is a special meeting, there will be no opportunity for the public to address the board.

Anyone with a disability who wishes to attend should contact Ms. Chesnut by today to request auxiliary aids.
Transfer and Adult Orientation Scheduled at UTM

Adults and transfer students interested in learning more about life at the University of Tennessee at Martin are encouraged to register for a one-day Transfer and Adult Orientation event from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., April 12.

The day will begin with registration and breakfast from 8-8:45 a.m., with an official welcome to follow. Special interest sessions will be held from 9-10:45. Attendees will have opportunities to learn about financial aid, student life, career planning and development, and the student success center, as well as housing and meal plan options.

Academic advising and registration will begin at 10:45. An optional tour of UT Martin's campus, which is a Level I Certified Arboretum, will start at 1 p.m. after lunch.

Visit utm.edu/transferorientation to register. There is no fee to attend, but students must have received notice of university acceptance to participate. Additional sessions will be held May 31, June 18 and July 19.

No tuition or fee payments will be due until the start of the fall semester.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.

UT’s Economic Impact Tops $9 Billion

KNOXVILLE — The University of Tennessee announced an estimated economic impact of $9.094 billion across the state for fiscal year 2017.

The study includes UT and its campuses located in Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Martin, as well as the Health Science Center in Memphis, the Space Institute in Tullahoma and the statewide Institute of Agriculture and Institute for Public Service. The economic impact was calculated in part through research by UT’s Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research, and used payroll spending and fringe benefits, non-payroll spending, jobs created through system-related spending and tax revenues.

According to the Boyd Center, UT campuses directly contributed $3.5 billion in economic impact in fiscal year 2017. Coupled with previous studies of the direct and indirect economic contributions of the UT Health Science Center, Ag Extension, client-reported impact of the UT Institute for Public Service, and UT Knoxville athletics, UT’s annual impact comes to more than $9 billion. Moreover, this figure does not include the significant role UT has in co-managing Oak Ridge National Laboratory with its more than 4,000 employees and $2.2 billion budget.

“Everywhere you look, UT is making a sizeable impact in the communities it serves,” UT Interim President Randy Boyd said. “While these figures are impressive, our main mission of educating students, helping to establishing a quality labor force and conducting key research is critical to keeping Tennessee’s talent engine fueled for the future.”

Currently, system-wide enrollment is nearly 50,000 students, including both graduate and undergraduate students, and the system employs about 25,000 faculty, staff and student workers.

Key findings for each campus:

**UT Knoxville:**
- Economic impact: $1.697 billion
- Jobs created: 35,232
- UTK Athletics: $150.9 million
- Jobs created: 2,929
- UT Chattanooga: $353 million
- Jobs created: 8,369
- UT Martin: $198.2 million
- Jobs created: 8,338
- UT Health Science Center:
  - Economic impact: $824.5 million
  - Jobs created: 13,188
- UT Space Institute:
  - Economic impact: $15.5 million
  - Jobs created: 292
- UT Institute of Agriculture:
  - Economic impact: $278 million
  - Jobs created: 7,449

UT System and UT Institute for Public Service:
- Economic impact: $104.7 million
- Jobs created: 1,352

Indirect Impact:
- UT Institute for Agriculture Client Reported Impact: $637.1 million
- Jobs created: 6,505
- UT Institute for Public Service Client Reported Impact: $1,671 billion
- Jobs created: 494
- UT Health Science Center Affiliates: $3.162 billion
- Jobs Created: 19,145

To access the full report, please visit tennessee.edu/transparency.

The University of Tennessee is a statewide system of higher education with campuses in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Martin and Memphis; the UT Space Institute in Tullahoma; the UT Institute of Agriculture with a presence in every Tennessee county; and the statewide Institute for Public Service. The UT system manages Oak Ridge National Laboratory through its UT-Battelle partnership; enrolls about 50,000 students statewide; produces about 10,000 new graduates every year; and represents more than 382,000 alumni around the world.
 UT Martin Earns National Acclaim

MARTIN, Tenn. (UT Martin Press Release) – The University of Tennessee at Martin continues to earn national and statewide acclaim for affordability and program quality.

Study.com included UT Martin at number 21 on a list of the most affordable colleges in the nation. UT Martin is the number-one Tennessee school on this list, which examines information on tuition prices, financial aid, scholarships, cost of living and other categories from the U.S. Department of Education. No other Tennessee schools appear in the top 50.

UT Martin’s Bachelor of Nursing degree program is ranked second on RegisteredNursing.org’s list of the best programs for registered nursing in Tennessee for 2019, just behind Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee. This is the third year the website has produced a state-specific list based on each program’s pass rate for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. UT Martin’s NCLEX-RN pass rate has held steady at 100 percent for multiple years.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of University Relations at 731-881-7612.

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Thursday, April 4, 2019

UTM to share brain info
University of Tennessee at Martin students will be at Discovery Park of America on Saturday for Brain Awareness Day.
Interactive stations will be available throughout Discovery Center from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. offering information about brain safety and health.
The event is included with park admission.
VTA art exhibit, April 9

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will display student artwork during a juried exhibition April 9-26 in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building Gallery. An opening reception will be held from 5-6:30 p.m., April 9, also in the gallery. The exhibit is free and open to the public from 1-5 p.m. daily.

The exhibition, titled "The Kit and the Caboodle," will feature works by UT Martin students enrolled in art courses during the 2018-19 academic school year. Featured works include both 2D and 3D media within six categories: painting/mixed media, drawing/printmaking, fiber/book art/jewelry, digital art/photography, sculpture and pottery.

Scott Ziehier, poet, artist and co-owner of the contemporary art gallery ZiehierSmith, will serve as juror for the exhibition. Ziehier, of New York City, New York, has written several books of poetry toward his proposed 13-volume project "Triskadekalog." The fifth volume in this project, "Two Poems," coincided with his solo art exhibition "Totems & Cantos," featured at Ampersand Gallery in Portland, Oregon. His works have also been featured at the Usable Space Gallery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and She Gallery in New York City. Ziehier's artwork will also be featured in a solo exhibition at Marvin Gardens in Indiana this summer.

The art department will award first, second and third-place prizes to student artists in each category as well as an overall "Best of Show" award. Honorable mention certificates will be awarded at the juror's discretion.

For more information, contact David McBeth, UT Martin associate professor of art, at dmcbeth@utm.edu or contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

UTM MUSIC WEEKEND EVENTS

FRIDAY
Clarinet Studio Recital
This semester's Clarinet Studio Recital will take place on Friday at 7:30 p.m. It will feature works from the Classical era to the present, including pieces by Johannes Brahms, Leonard Bernstein, Robert Schumann, Francis Poulenc, Carl Stamsitz, and Andre Bloch. This semester's soloists are senior Jack Mergen, junior Emily Campbell, sophomore Taylor Grimes, and freshmen Briana Hampton, Gage Shelton. This event, held in Blankenship Recital Hall, is free and open to the public.

SATURDAY
Jonathan Tyree, Senior Percussion Recital

On Saturday Jonathan Tyree will be presenting his Senior Recital. He will be performing various pieces by various composers. Jonathan's recital will begin at 7:30 p.m., in the Blankenship Recital Hall. Admission to this recital is free and open to the public.

SUNDAY
Flute Studio Recital

The Flute Studio of UT Martin will present a Spring Studio Recital in Blankenship Recital Hall. Solo and ensemble pieces will be performed and will include compositions by Prokofiev, Vivaldi, Taktakishvili, Hummel, Hindemith, Schocker, and Clarke. The 3 p.m. performance will feature UTM flutists Bria McCay, Eva Olveras, Lilah Senibaldi, Caitlin Jones, Shannon Reid and Krista Mergen. The recital is free and open to the public.

GROUP UNITED — Members of the UT Martin Civil Rights Conference Committee joined with other community members to work toward getting the Lynching Memorial in place for Weakley County. Members said they were excited that 13-year-old Malachi Chandler took time to come out and participate. "A young man who gives up his Friday evening certainly speaks volumes to commitment. The only way our nation can heal is that we bring to the table discussions pertinent to our country and to Weakley County. Our work doesn't stop when February ends... it revolves... and that's what we will continue to do," Deborah Boyd, long-time CRC committee member, said. On hand for the discussion were (from left) Frank Black, Onessa Horton, David Barber, Molly Mack, Malachi Chandler, Deborah Boyd, Joyce Washington and Tim Hacker.
McBeth lauded for community service

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission has selected David McBeth, professor of art at the University of Tennessee at Martin, as one of 10 recipients of a 2019 Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award.

These awards recognize five students and five faculty and staff members from higher education institutions across the state for their community service efforts.

McBeth, who has worked at UT Martin since 1992, has been instrumental in Martin’s annual Empty Bowls Soup Supper for the past 15 years.

McBeth donates his time and materials to create handcrafted soup bowls for the event, and this past year he and many of his current and former students worked together to donate 1,500 bowls.

The event supports WeCare Ministries in Martin each year and has donated more than $60,000 in the past 15 years.

“I know the ministry is grateful to David and his students for their unending work to create the bowls and organize the event each year, and those the mini-

SEE McBeth
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CREATING FOR A CURE — David McBeth, professor of art, creates ceramic mugs during the 2019 Cups for the Cure event, which was held earlier this year.

Ken-Tenn Food Bank in Fulton, Kentucky, by donating 250 bowls to its inaugural Empty Bowls event March 21. That organization was able to raise $2,500 for their area residents in their first year.

The Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award is named for the late state representative Harold Love, who was instrumental in passing legislation to create community service recognition programs at the state level in 1991.

Kameron Echols, then a UT Martin student and now with the UT Martin Student Success Center, won a student award in 2017, and Dr. Clinton Smith, associate professor of special education, won a faculty award in 2018.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of University Relations at (731) 881-7615.
Transfer And Adult Orientation Slated

Adults and transfer students interested in learning more about life at the University of Tennessee at Martin are encouraged to register for a one-day Transfer and Adult Orientation event from 8 a.m. through 1 p.m., April 12th.

The day will begin with registration and breakfast from 8 a.m. through 8:45 a.m., with an official welcome to follow. Special interest sessions will be held from 9 a.m. through 10:45 a.m. Attendees will have opportunities to learn about financial aid, student life, career planning and development, and the student success center, as well as housing and meal plan options.

Academic advising and registration will begin at 10:45 a.m. An optional tour of UT Martin's campus, which is a Level 1 Certified Arboretum, will start at 1 p.m. after lunch.

Visit utm.edu/transfocrontilation to register. There is no fee to attend, but students must have received notice of university acceptance to participate. Additional sessions will be held May 31st, June 18th, and July 19th. No tuition or fee payments will be due until the start of the fall semester.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.

Fulmer to speak at UTM on April 23

Phillip Fulmer, current director of athletics and former head football coach at UT-Knoxville, will present "Life Lessons from a Coach" during UTM's 6th annual Igniting Innovation dinner. The event will be held on Tuesday, April 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Boling University Center's Duncan Ballroom.

Igniting Innovation is an annual fundraising event organized by the Ned Ray McWherter Institute's sophomore class. The institute offers a specialized 3-year program to select students that includes both domestic and international travel as well as professional training and networking opportunities.

Fulmer has served UT for more than 40 years. During his time as head coach of Vols' football, he led the team to five championship games in the SEC, with wins in 1997 and 1998 and a national championship title in 1998. He inducted into the Tennessee Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017, and he received first-ballot induction to both the National Football Foundation and College Football Hall of Fame in 2012.

Chairman William Rhodes III, president/CEO of Autozone and a UTM alumni, and Ronnie and Jannie Yeargin, owners of Yeargin Farms, will receive R. Clayton McWherter awards from the Ned Ray McWherter Institute during the event. These awards recognize regional residents who have shown themselves to be innovators in their fields.

Those interested in attending this event can sponsor a table for $1,000 or purchase individual tickets for $150 each. For more information on the institute, the Igniting Innovation fundraiser, or Fulmer's appearance, contact Program Coordinator Joyanne Gansereit at 731-881-3620 or gansereit@utm.edu.
Adult/Transfer orientation scheduled at UTM

Adults and transfer students interested in learning more about life at the University of Tennessee at Martin are encouraged to register for a one-day Adult and Transfer Student Orientation event from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on Friday, April 12.

The day will begin with registration and breakfast from 8-8:45 a.m., with an official welcome to follow. Special interest sessions will be held from 9-10:45 a.m. Attendees will have opportunities to learn about financial aid, student life, career planning and development, and the student success center, as well as housing and meal plan options.

Academic advising and registration will begin at 10:45 a.m. An optional tour of the UTM campus, which is a Level I Certified Arboretum, will start at 1 p.m. after lunch.

Visit utm.edu/transferorientation to register. There is no fee to attend, but to participate, students must have received notice that they have been admitted to UTM.

Additional sessions will be held May 31, June 18, and July 19. No tuition or fee payments will be due until the start of the fall semester.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.

UTM Dance Ensemble schedules concert

The University of Tennessee at Martin Dance Ensemble will give its annual spring concert at 8 p.m. Thursday and April 12 in the UT Martin Student Life Center.

The performance, titled “I’ll Be Me,” will feature works choreographed by both UT Martin students and faculty in styles such as hip hop, ballet, contemporary, lyrical, modern and post-modern dance.

Student choreographers include Kimani Subber, a communications major; Anna Lax-Gatti, a fine and performing arts major; Melody DeMoulin, a health and human performance major; and Maaliyah Austin, a fine and performing arts major.

Additional works choreographed by Sarah McCormick, associate professor of dance, will include two full ensemble performances as well as a collaboration between McCormick and mechanical engineering major Laryn Hampton.

Tickets are $15 for adults, $5 for UT Martin students with their student ID and free for children ages 10 and younger. Tickets will only be available for purchase at the box office, opening one hour prior to the show.

The Student Life Center is located at 199 Moody Ave. in Martin. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

Alyssa Salazar, a sophomore from Adams, is shown performing in the spring 2018 dance ensemble production at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This year’s dance ensemble production will be at 8 p.m. Thursday and April 12, in the Student Life Center.
MARTIN, Tenn. - Virginia Grimes, of Martin, and Alisha Melton, of Dresden, received Spring 2019 Outstanding Employee Awards from the University of Tennessee at Martin during a breakfast reception April 3.

Grimes currently serves as coordinator of the WestStar Leadership Program and has worked with the program for almost 30 years. During her tenure as coordinator, the WestStar family has grown to nearly 800 alumni across West Tennessee and the state. Grimes organizes all WestStar board meetings, alumni receptions, class sessions and several conferences, including the Working Women’s Conference, African American Leadership Conference, and both the RisingStar and FutureStar youth leadership summits.

She also serves as treasurer of the Tennessee Association of Community Leadership, a volunteer organization that builds community leadership across the state. Grimes has coordinated TACL meetings since its inception in 1997. She is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County and received the Robert M. Smith Outstanding Leadership Educator Award in 2012.

Melton serves as the budget manager for the U.S. Department of Education Title III grant program at UT Martin and has filled this position for the past four years. Her management of grant funds has allowed the program to expand and continue beyond the original grant timeline. During the five years UT Martin has received Title III funding, the university has improved facilities for the Veterinary Health Technology Program, created a culture of assessment for campus accreditation and improvement, established new student leadership initiatives, implemented new campus advising software and launched a new faculty program yielding more than 20 faculty research projects.

Melton is known for taking on responsibilities outside her job description and was selected to assist with the implementation and launch of the DegreeWorks student advising software program. She also worked closely with UT Martin Online to coordinate the launch of the Skyhawk Summer Academy in 2018 and has collaborated with many departments across the UT Martin campus to ensure that all students and faculty are able to access Title III grant programming.

UT Martin Outstanding Employee Awards are given to one exempt and one non-exempt employee each semester. Recipients are nominated by their coworkers and chosen by a selection committee.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.
Photo: Alisha Melton (right), of Dresden, and Virginia Grimes (left), of Martin, received Spring 2019 Outstanding Employee Awards from the University of Tennessee at Martin during a breakfast reception April 3. They are pictured with UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver.
MARTIN, Tenn. - The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications presented Jim Leighton with the 2019 Department of Communications Distinguished Alumni Award during a reception April 3. Leighton is retired from work with Sony, ESPN, The Disney Company and other corporations throughout the broadcasting industry.
While describing his career for a crowd of communications students and faculty members, Leighton noted a few of his most interesting projects, including working with the engineering team that designed and installed the infrastructure to support the broadcast of the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. The broadcast was actually controlled from the Saturday Night Live soundstage at 30 Rock in New York City, New York.

Leighton also worked on the design team for the first Direct TV upload facility in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and managed the engineering team that designed and implemented the analog infrastructure at Oprah Winfrey’s studio in Chicago. He has worked with E! Entertainment, The Weather Channel and other stations to design and deliver programing as well and has experienced great change in the industry over the past four decades.

“During my 40 years, I experienced a transformation in (the broadcasting) industry like no other. I remember when I first came to Martin, that’s when I experienced cable TV for the first time. ... I saw the evolution of audio and video recording technology. When I started with this business, we were using two-inch open-roll videotape. It went from that to cassettes, and now they’re using hard drives and solid-state media that can either be on-premise or in the cloud. ... It’s not like it used to be,” he said.

Leighton also took the time to deliver three lessons to the assembled students, many of whom are preparing to graduate. First, he stressed the importance of honesty, integrity and trustworthiness in any career field.

“These three traits will become the measure of you as a person and as a professional. Your colleagues, your employers, your customers will all measure you on how you exemplify those three traits,” he said.

He also encouraged students to begin building their personal networks early and to collect a business card or social media connection from every person they meet, because you never know which person might be able to help you get to where you need to go.

“That network will open doors for you that you can’t open for yourself in many cases,” he said. “It will expose you to jobs that you wouldn’t ordinarily know were out there. It will get you an interview for that job that you really want that you haven’t been able to get an interview for. It will open doors to people that you need to see for whatever reason that you haven’t been able to get in to see. It will become the most valuable asset you will have in your career.”

Finally, he urged students to evaluate not only a position’s potential paycheck but also the benefits a company might offer to stretch their money further into retirement, such as insurance benefits, on-site gym and childcare facilities, and matching funds for retirement plans.

“There’s no time like the present to start planning for the future,” he said. “Have a plan for where you’re going to be in five years, 10 years, and so on.”

Leighton joins a group of distinguished alumni award-winners that includes broadcast personality Van Jones, meteorologist Charlie Neese and radio station owner Nick Martin.

For more information, contact the Department of Communications at 731-881-7546.

Photo: From left, Dr. Richard Robinson, professor of communications; Leighton; Rodney Freed, instructor of communications; and Dr. Robert Nanney, chair, Department of Communications.
Service & Sacrifice: Combat veteran helping vets transition to civilian life at UT Martin


Brittney Goode, Aaron Dyer, and Mitchell Roland


The University of Tennessee at Martin (https://www.utm.edu/) recognized that back in 2017 when it launched its Office of Veteran Services (http://www.utm.edu/departments/veteranaffairs/). Veterans have access to counseling about their benefits, guidance about financial aid, and academic counseling.

Johnny Dyer runs the program. He's a combat veteran. Johnny served as a paratrooper in Panama, Operation Desert Shield, and Desert Storm. When he came home at 21 years old, he had no idea what to do next and no real guidance. What he did know was that he was far from done living a life of service and sacrifice.

It's the spring semester on the campus of UT Martin. Every step in the quad, click of the calculator, and math problem solved brings students like Mitchell Roland, Brittney Goode, and Aaron Dyer closer to something they've worked hard for.

Aaron Dyer and his dad Johnny walk through UTM's quad.
"I was like, I don't know if I'll be able to do this," Aaron said.

"Finally finishing a goal that I've had set for, since I was in high school," Mitchell explained.

They're talking about getting their college degree.

"Decided that working a minimum wage job wasn't really what I wanted," Brittney said. "So, I ended up going back to school."

They share that goal and something else: They're all veterans.

(Aaron Dyer works out a problem in math class.

"My father was what mainly drew me into the Navy," Mitchell said. "I just personally think it was just meant for me to always be in there."

Mitchell is in the Navy Reserve. Brittney left the military a few years back to focus on her new son. It wasn't an easy decision. She loved the Navy.

"I was on an aircraft carrier. It's one of the bigger ones," she said. "I worked on the hanger bay or on the flight deck — so right next to all the planes — and it was, it was amazing."
inspired him to serve in the Navy.

"I've always wanted to serve," said Aaron, who serviced in the U.S. Army Infantry. "It was a challenge, but you know, I got through it."

He proved something to himself.

They're proving something again by going to college, but it isn't easy to get a degree after serving.

"Honestly, the transition was pretty difficult," Mitchell said.

To go from a military life of strict oversight to almost no oversight was a big change.

"It was scary, honestly. It was different," Brittney said. "And I've, missed it. I've missed the military, and the traveling, and the structure and all that."

Brittney Goode poses on an aircraft carrier during her time in the Navy.

Talking about how he runs UTM Veteran Services, Dyer said "It's very personal for me."

When the program started about two years ago, Dyer said they were helping a little more than 100 students. Now, nearly 800 students are being helped. They've grown so much, they no longer fit in their offices in University Center.

They'll get a bigger office soon, and that may very well be because of Johnny. He helped start Veteran Services as an education student several years ago.
"During that time I was approached by a professor to start the veterans program here. It was a student group," Johnny said. "We worked together, got that going pretty quick. Called it the Skyhawks Veterans Association."

The kickoff was Veterans Day 2011. There were just three members at the time.

"We laid the groundwork for this position," Johnny said, referring to his job now. "And then, when we got the opportunity, I applied for it."

Now, it's an official university office that helps hundreds of veterans and dependents get a quality education.


Johnny's been in his son Aaron's shoes. He knows how Mitchell and Brittney feel.

"At 18 I was in a combat zone in Panama, and at 19 I'm Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm," Johnny said. "Turned 20 during Desert Storm and thought, you know what, I can do a little bit better. And I thought, sitting there on the sand dune, what do you want to do with your life?"

When he came home, he tried to go to college at UTM.

"I myself back in '92 was denied entry into UT Martin because of poor grades in high school," Johnny said.

But what he learned as a paratrooper stuck.

"It taught you grit, and determination, and never quit," Johnny explained.

He went to school at UTM for a short time, then left to work at Goodyear. When Goodyear closed years later, he came back to UTM to become a teacher.
The do-not-quit attitude is one he applies to his job now, working with veterans.

"I'm very demanding. I hold them to a very high standard," Johnny said. "They know that I'm passionate about it. They know that I care about them."

Johnny's son, Aaron, is just getting started at UTM, but he's feeling confident with backup in the Veteran Services program.


"The group here, you know, is, we're all veterans," Aaron said. "It's, you know, nice talking to other veterans, you know, very now and then we get to share stories."

Brittney's motivated by her peers too, and her 4-year-old son, Luke. He's watching his mom do better for herself — and for him.

"There are days he doesn't want to go to school, and I'm like, 'Well, Mommy's got to go school, and you've got to go to school,'" Brittney said. "And he's like, 'Oh, OK!'"

"I probably wouldn't be in college anymore to be honest with you," Mitchell said, if this program didn't exist. "After my first full fall semester, it was very difficult."

Mitchell graduates soon. He'll be the first in his family to have a bachelor's degree.

"A successful day is seeing somebody achieve something that they didn't believe that they could," Johnny said.

That's happening every day on the campus of UTM, but not without service and sacrifice.
How The University Of Tennessee Plans To Make College Tuition-Free For Low-Income Students

By LEIGHTON ROWELL (PEOPLE/LEIGHTON-ROWELL) & VIRGINIA PRESCOTT (PEOPLE/VIRGINIA-PRESCOTT)

APR 9, 2019

The University of Tennessee is making a big promise: Starting in 2020, the system will offer free tuition to qualifying low-income students (https://www.tennessean.com/story/news/education/2019/03/14/university-of-tennessee-launching-free-college-tuition-program/3139831002/) enrolling at its Knoxville, Chattanooga and Martin campuses.

The program, called UT Promise (https://news.tennessee.edu/2019/03/14/ut-promise-scholarship/), is the first of its kind among public universities in the South. UT Interim President Randy Boyd (https://president.tennessee.edu/biography/randy-boyd/), a first-generation college graduate himself, is the architect of the program. Boyd joined On Second Thought from WUOT in Knoxville to explain why Tennessee is making this promise, how the university will fund it and how other Southern states could follow suit.

On Second Thought host Virginia Prescott speaks with Randy Boyd.

"I think our biggest challenge in our state is our culture: a culture of low expectations," Boyd says. "That culture is based on the assumption by many parents that ... they could never afford to send their children to school. We're hopeful that we can begin to let them know that if your child will work hard academically to earn the right to come in, money won't be a barrier."
UTM NRMI students enjoy international experience of a lifetime

By KAREN CAMPBELL Press Reporter

Visits to a bullfighting ring and palace, flamenco dancing, soccer and lots of tasty food make for a good trip to Spain.

Add in an additional stop in Morocco, with not one of the 12 in the traveling group able to speak the language, the opportunity to visit a mountain village and eat with a family, overcoming challenges in the market, plus a few more surprises and it's another successful experience for students in the Ned Ray McWherter Institute (NRMI) at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

For Savannah Stanley of Mt. Juliet, traveling to Spain and Morocco with nine other students was her first international experience. For fellow junior and seasoned traveler Alex Dunn of Dresden, the trip was simply refinement of her love of exploring other cultures. For both, planning and executing the March 1-10 itinerary broadened perspectives and forged friendships.

They, along with other NRMI participants, chose their destination, researched costs and cultural norms, and selected the various activities that would make up their daily itineraries. They spent two nights in Madrid before arriving in Marrakesh and then taking a train ride to Casablanca.

"The international travel experience is designed to challenge the Innovators and push them outside their comfort zone," said Steve Vantrease, the NRMI manager who, along with Carrie Humphreys, assistant professor of Political Science and International Studies, served as support for the group. "As faculty/staff mentors, we have to be sure this is done in a safe and educationally sound way. In doing so, we are proud to see them succeed and see how they benefit from the experience."

According to 21-year-old Dunn, who is majoring in health and human performance, and 20-year-old Stanley, who is studying organizational biology, the learning experience was such a rich one, they are ready to do it again.

"I've got a new perspective on things I usually take for granted," said Stanley post-trip. She references the people she witnessed in a small village on an excursion to the Atlas Mountains. "I'm trying to take one day at a time [like the villagers], I love how they embraced just being together. They had a selflessness, always doing for someone else."

Even Dunn, whose previous travels include Cuba, the Bahamas, Mexico and Puerto Rico, felt she was pushed, in a good way, outside of what was comfortable. As an example, she recounted how the group was ushered into cars after landing in Africa and, without benefit of explanation, dropped off at the entrance to the old city, complete with "dancing cobras on the street and monkeys on leashes" and then escorted by "two guys with carts" to the riad (a former family home which is now a hotel) where they were staying in Marrakesh. (They later learned that cars were not permitted within the old city and their reception was typical of all travelers in the streets. But with each small setback came new understanding.

Stanley said her own curiosity about camel riding helped her better understand the questions she's often asked as a barrel racer with UTM Rodeo and the visitors to Nashville who don cowboy hats and boots in a skewed effort to look "country."

"You don't think you scream tourist, but you do," she laughingly confessed.

Dunn was so taken with the cultural opportunities, she refused to slow down, even when the itinerary called for a few hours of rest. "I don't take a single day for granted," she explained of her travel philosophy. "I like to seize the moments." Those moments include checking out what McDonald's serves in Morocco that isn't served in the U.S. (The answer is beer.)

Dunn easily responds when asked what her next destination is — Australia and New Zealand. For Stanley, it's Italy. But first, both are headed to further study to become physicians' assistants — a discovery they say underscores the benefits of joining a program like NRMI.

"I wanted to be better prepared for my future, that's what they [NRMI] promised and they delivered," Stanley pointed out, adding that the other participants' diverse personalities and majors add to the experience as people with very little in common begin to work together.

Dunn agreed that NRMI delivers on friendships as she looked to Stanley. "She rodeos; I scuba dive. We are diverse, but unified because of this experience," she said.

"I can't imagine my college experience without it."

The Ned Ray McWherter Institute is a three-year, progressive, interdisciplinary program customized to the individual student and focuses on Discovery, Refinement, Experience/Exposure, Application, and Mentoring.
TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS — Members of the Ned Ray McWherter Research Institute traveled to Spain and Morocco as part of their ongoing leadership development. The student-planned trip included a visit to the Atlas Mountains where they grabbed a chance to show UTM pride: (bottom row, left to right) Mary Lane Minatra, Savannah Stanley, Meera Patel, Stone Craft; (top row, left to right) Brooke Boshers, Erin Young, Alex Dunn, Willie McNeal, John Fritts, and Kalen Royal. NRMI manager Steve Vantrease and assistant professor Carrie Humphreys accompanied the group. Alex Dunn and Savannah Stanley, featured in the story, are shown in the bottom right photo drinking the ever-present mint tea.
Grimes, Melton awarded for outstanding service

Virginia Grimes, of Martin, and Alisha Melton, of Dresden, received Spring 2019 Outstanding Employee Awards from the University of Tennessee at Martin during a breakfast reception April 3.

Grimes currently serves as coordinator of the WestStar Leadership Program and has worked with the program for almost 30 years. During her tenure as coordinator, the WestStar family has grown to nearly 800 alumni across West Tennessee and the state. Grimes organizes all WestStar board meetings, alumni receptions, class sessions and several conferences, including the Working Women’s Conference, African American Leadership Conference, and both the RisingStar and FutureStar youth leadership summits.

She also serves as treasurer of the Tennessee Association of Community Leadership, a volunteer organization that builds community leadership across the state. Grimes has coordinated TACL meetings since its inception in 1997. She is a graduate of Leadership Weakley County and received the Robert M. Smith Outstanding Leadership Educator Award in 2012.

Melton serves as the budget manager for the U.S. Department of Education Title III grant program at UT Martin and has filled this position for the past four years. Her management of grant funds has allowed the program to expand and continue beyond the original grant timeline. During the five years UT Martin has received Title III funding, the university has improved facilities for the Veterinary Health Technology Program, created a culture of assessment for campus accreditation and improvement, established new student leadership initiatives, implemented new campus advising software and launched a new faculty program yielding more than 20 faculty research projects.

Melton is known for taking on responsibilities outside her job description and was selected to assist with the implementation and launch of the DegreeWorks student advising software program. She also worked closely with UT Martin Online to coordinate the launch of the Skyhawk Summer Academy in 2018 and has collaborated with many departments across the UT Martin campus to ensure that all students and faculty are able to access Title III grant programming.

UT Martin Outstanding Employee Awards are given to one exempt and one non-exempt employee each semester. Recipients are nominated by their coworkers and chosen by a selection committee.

Transfer and adult orientation to be held at UTM on Friday

Adults and transfer students interested in learning more about life at the University of Tennessee at Martin are encouraged to register for a one-day Transfer and Adult Orientation event from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday.

The day will begin with registration and breakfast from 8:00 a.m.-8:45, with an official welcome to follow. Special interest sessions will be held from 9:00-10:45 a.m.

Attendees will have opportunities to learn about financial aid, student life, career planning and development, the student success center, and housing and meal plan options.

Academic advising and registration will begin at 10:45. An optional tour of UT Martin’s campus, which is a Level I Certified Arboretum, will start at 1 p.m. after lunch.

Visit utm.edu/transferorientation to register. There is no fee to attend, but students must have received notice of university acceptance to participate. Additional sessions will be held May 31, June 18 and July 19. No tuition or fee payments will be due until the start of the fall semester.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (731) 881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.
UTM Dance Ensemble To Perform Spring Concert

APRIL 10, 2019 AT 9:29 AM  POSTED BY SHANNON MCFARLIN

PHOTO: Alyssa Salazar, a sophomore from Adams, is shown performing in the spring 2018 dance ensemble production.

MARTIN, Tenn. - The University of Tennessee at Martin dance ensemble will give their annual spring concert at 8 p.m., April 11 and 12, in the UT Martin Student Life Center.

The performance, titled "I'll be Me," will feature works choreographed by both UT Martin students and faculty in styles such as hip hop, ballet, contemporary, lyrical, modern and post-modern dance. Student choreographers include Kimani Subber, a communications major; Anna Lax-Gatti, a fine and performing arts major; Melody DeMoulin, a health and human performance major; and Maaliya'h Austin, a fine and performing arts major.

Additional works choreographed by Sarah McCormick, associate professor of dance, will include two full ensemble performances as well as a collaboration between McCormick and mechanical engineering major Laryn Hampton.

Tickets are $15 for adults, $5 for UT Martin students with their student ID and free for children ages 10 and under. Tickets will only be available for purchase at the box office, opening one hour prior to the show.

The Student Life Center is located at 199 Moody Ave. in Martin. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.
Dance ensemble to give spring concert

The University of Tennessee at Martin dance ensemble will give its annual spring concert at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday in the UT Martin Student Life Center.

The performance, titled "I'll Be Me," will feature works choreographed by both UT Martin students and faculty in styles such as hip hop, ballet, contemporary, lyrical, modern and post-modern dance.

Tickets are $15 for adults or $5 for UT Martin students with their student ID, with children ages 10 and younger admitted free. Tickets will only be available for purchase at the box office, opening one hour prior to the shows.

The Student Life Center is located at 199 Moody Ave. in Martin.

Steve Barnett hired to lead athletic bands

Steve Barnett, formerly coordinator for the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Educational Outreach, has been hired as the university’s new director of athletic bands, effective July 1.

Barnett spent 24 years in Mississippi working as a band director at both the high school and collegiate levels, including four years with the University of Mississippi.

He also taught at Marshall University in West Virginia, where he served as a professor of music, director of bands, program director for the School of Music and Theatre, coordinator of music education and conductor for marching band and wind symphony during 11 years with the university.

He then worked for Amro Music Co. in Memphis as an educational music representative for West Tennessee before accepting his previous position at UT Martin in 2016.

He has published 15 marching band arrangements through Jalen Publishing Co. in Orlando, Fla., and serves as a staff arranger for the company.

Barnett holds a bachelor of music degree from the University of Mississippi and a master’s degree in music education from Mississippi College.

“The music faculty and I are thrilled with the hire of Steve Barnett. He brings decades of experience in developing outstanding band programs, and we are very fortunate to have him join our department,” said Dr. Julie Hill, chair of the Department of Music.

“Steve’s teaching style when it comes to marching band is based on the SEC model, which focuses on a variety of music and changes parts of the performance throughout the season.

“His goal is to make the Aviators Marching Band the center of game-day spirit involving as many student performers and fans in the crowd as possible,” she said.

Transfer and orientation scheduled at UT Martin

Adults and transfer students interested in learning more about life at the University of Tennessee at Martin are encouraged to register for a one-day Transfer and Adult Orientation event from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday.

The day will begin with registration and breakfast from 8-8:45, with an official welcome to follow. Special interest sessions will be held from 9-10:45 a.m. Attendees will have opportunities to learn about financial aid, student life, career planning and development, the student success center, and housing and meal plan options.

Academic advising and registration will begin at 10:45. An optional tour of UT Martin’s campus, which is a Level I Certified Arboretum, will start at 1 p.m. after lunch.

Visit utm.edu/transferorientation to register. There is no fee to attend, but students must have received notice of university acceptance to participate. Additional sessions will be held May 31, June 18 and July 19. No tuition or fee payments will be due until the start of the fall semester.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (731) 881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.
Jazz trumpeter to perform as guest artist in UTM series

Jazz trumpeter Dan Miller will give a performance at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the University of Tennessee at Martin Fine Arts Building's Blankenship Recital Hall as a part of the Allison Nelson Guest Artist Series.

Tickets are $10 for the public, $5 for non-UT Martin students and free for UT Martin students with their student ID.

The UT Martin Department of Music's big band ensemble will join Miller in the concert.

Miller will also hold a free guest master class from 2-2:50 p.m. Monday, also in the Blankenship Recital Hall, as well as an improvisation clinic from 5-6:30 p.m. in Room 136 of the Fine Arts Building.

Miller, a Chicago native, is a member of the Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra and serves as music director for its youth counterpart. He has previously toured and recorded internationally as a member of the Harry Connick Jr. Orchestra for 11 years and has studied with renowned musicians Don Jacoby, Bobby Shew and John Haynie, among others.

Miller has also been recognized as a Yamaha clinician and performing artist and is an artist-in-residence for the University of Central Florida's School of Music in Orlando.

In addition, the department will host Denese Odegaard, president of the National Association for Music Education, during its second season of the #MusicEdLove lecture series and podcast.

She will give a presentation at 7 p.m. April 18 in Room 136 of the UT Martin Fine Arts Building. The presentation is free to the public and will also be available online on the #MusicEdLove podcast.

Practicing music educators may receive up to two hours of professional development for attending the lecture.

Ms. Odegaard serves as the public schools performing arts curriculum specialist in Fargo, N.D. She has taught orchestra for 33 years and served on the boards of both the American String Teachers Association and the National Association for Music Education. She is the two-time recipient of the American String Teachers Association Citation for Leadership Award and is the author or co-author of multiple published works, including "Music Curriculum Writing 101: Assistance with Standards-based Music Curriculum and Assessment Writing."

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Music at (731) 881-7402 or email music@utm.edu.

ATTENDS PREVIEW DAY — Obion County Central High School student Audri Hill (center) of South Fulton attended the University of Tennessee at Martin's Spring Preview Day recently. She was joined by her parents, Shane and Tina Hill. The event offered prospective students the chance to learn about academic programs, financial aid, scholarships, housing and student life.
STUDENTS EXCEL — Wearing their official shirts from the Missouri S&T “PickHacks” hackathon recently were (from left) Hunter Haislip of Gates, Brayden Faulkner of Henderson and Garrett Hay of Union City. They are students at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Computer science students excel at national competition

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently sent nine students to the Missouri University of Science and Technology to participate in “PickHacks,” a hackathon event for computer science students across the country. Six UT Martin students won prizes for their work.

Garrett Hay, a junior from Union City, worked with students from Missouri and Indiana to create SmarterNotHarder.tech, a website that uses machine learning to create custom workout and nutrition plans for users. The team won the “Best Use of Google Cloud Platform” prize.

Chris Humphreys, a senior from Kuna, Idaho; Brayden Faulkner, a senior from Henderson, Lucian Freeze, a senior from Hornbeck; and Adam Chisolm, a senior from Paris, collaborated to create Infect.tech, a web-based zombie survival game that encourages users to get outside and interact with other players. Their mobile application won awards in the “Most Fun Hack” and “Best Hack/Website Submitted on a .tech Domain” categories.

Hunter Haislip, a junior from Gates, created ScoutingConnect, a website designed to help high school athletes in lesser-known sports connect with college coaches across the country and receive scholarship information at applicable universities. Haislip’s submission won the “Best Human Centered Design (UI/UX)” award.

Other competitors from UT Martin include Matthew Austin, a senior from Jackson; Meredith Brown, a senior from Trezevant; and Mel Howard, a sophomore from Columbia, S.C., who created GeoBlitz, a GPS-enabled web application based on the game of Battleship.

A hackathon is a computer science programming event where teams and individuals spend up to 36 hours creating brand new websites, programs, apps and other technology from scratch. PickHacks is the first such event to be held at Missouri S&T and was officially sponsored by Major League Hacking.

UT Martin hosted its first hackathon event March 30.
The Tennessee Higher Education Commission has selected David McBeth, professor of art at the University of Tennessee at Martin, as one of 10 recipients of a 2019 Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award.

These awards recognize five students and five faculty and staff members from higher education institutions across the state for their community service efforts.

McBeth, who has worked at UT Martin since 1992, has been instrumental in Martin's annual Empty Bowls Soup Supper for the past 15 years.

He donates his time and materials to create handmade soup bowls. The event, and this past year he and many of his current and former students worked together to donate 1,500 bowls. The supper supports We Care Ministries in Martin each year and has donated more than $60,000 in the past 15 years.

"I know the ministry is grateful to David and his students for their unending work to create the bowls and organize the event each year, and those the ministry serve are appreciative as well," wrote Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor, in McBeth's nomination letter.

McBeth has also coordinated Cups for the Cure each February since 2017 in honor of his mother, who died after a short battle with cancer. This event features handmade cups and mugs donated by McBeth and his students, and funds raised benefit Joliet Oncology-Hematology Associates, a foundation at the cancer center where McBeth's mother received treatment.

"I've known and admired David for almost two decades, and I've always known him as someone passionate about serving his community and using his art to lift the spirits of those around him," Carver wrote.

McBeth also assisted the Ken-Tenn Food Bank in Fulton by donating 250 bowls to its inaugural event March 21. That organization was able to raise $2,500 for their area residents in their first year.

The Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award is named for the late state representative Harold Love, who was instrumental in passing legislation to create community service recognition programs at the state level in 1991.

Kameron Echols, then a UT Martin student and now with the UT Martin Student Success Center, won a student award in 2017, and Dr. Clinton Smith, associate professor of special education, won a faculty award in 2018.
UTM Faculty Honored For Outstanding Scholarship

Pictured after the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony April 7 are (front row, l-r) Devin Majors, president, UT Martin Student Government Association; Dr. Keith Carver, chancellor; award presenters Dr. Kimberly Williams, Outstanding UTAA Teacher Award 2018, and Dr. Sandy Mehlhorn, Cunningham Outstanding Teacher Award 2018; Jake Bynum, Weakley County mayor; (second row) Dr. Angela Ammerman, Outstanding Academic Advisor Award 2019; Dr. Laura Brown, Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award 2019; Dr. Danny Walker, Outstanding UTAA Teacher Award 2019; (back row) Jason Stout, Outstanding UTAA Teacher Award 2019; Dr. Philip Acree Cavalier, university provost; Dr. Andy Lewter, vice chancellor for student affairs; and Dr. James Smart, Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award 2019. Not pictured is Dr. Anderson Starling, Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award 2019.
Jessica Davis (left), of Sharon, received two awards from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. Davis was recognized with both the Terry and Mitzi Hailey Award and the Virgil and Agnes Hoyer Memorial Award. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Davis is pictured with Terry Hailey of Thunderbolt Broadcasting. For more information, contact the department at 731-881-7546.
Team plans special tribute to fallen cowboy

By KAREN CAMPBELL
Press Reporter

On Friday night of UT Martin’s Rodeo Week the stands should be a bit brighter to behold. Fans are encouraged to “Orange Out for Wyatt” and wear the school color and a favorite of Wyatt Cole, the rodeo student-athlete, who died Feb. 10 after a car accident near Martin.

In a night of tribute to the 20-year-old known to be a free spirit and true cowboy, team members, family, friends and rodeo visitors will get a glimpse of the young man and the sport he loved. The evening’s activities include a collection of donations for the newly-established Wyatt Cole Memorial Scholarship and teammates sharing a bit about his short, but adventurous life.

Team members will be sporting memorial bands designed by UTM rodeo leadership and Anita Allen of Monograms and More (who also creates the T-shirts each year). They will also be donning an element the crowd won’t see but will help keep Wyatt close to their hearts as his mother Isabella has taken one of the familiar long-sleeved shirts he was known for and crafted squares that can be sewn inside the team members’ vests.

Cole, a junior from Owenton, Kentucky, was majoring in agricultural business and in his second season with the UT Martin rodeo team.

Katie White, booster club president for the rodeo, explained that after Wyatt’s funeral, Wyatt’s father Greg pulled a few of the UTM team representatives aside with a specific request about the planned tribute. In a nod to Wyatt’s big, bold personality, he said, “I want a nice tribute. But I don’t want to cry.”

As a result, while the tradition of having a riderless horse will be carried out with Wyatt’s horse and Wyatt’s saddle, the conclusion of the tribute will reflect the quirkier traits of the cowboy.

While she doesn’t want to reveal the planned conclusion of the tribute, she does acknowledge it’s “pretty cool” and involves George Strait’s “Cowboys Like Us” which includes the lines: "Cowboys like us sure do have fun"

Racin’ the wind, chasin’ the sun
Take the long way around back to square one
Today we’re just outlaws out on the run
There’ll be no regrets, no worries and such
For cowboys like us.

Cole advanced to the finals of three collegiate rodeos during the 2018-19 season, representing UT Martin in team roping at Missouri Valley College and in steer wrestling at both Three Rivers College and Murray State. He accumulated team points in each of his steer wrestling performances, including a career-best third-place finish in average (13.6 seconds) at Murray State.
The 51st-annual University of Tennessee at Martin Spring College Rodeo is set for 7:30 p.m., April 11-13, at the Ned Ray McWherter Agricultural Pavilion. The UT Martin rodeo, which has been named the Ozark Region’s “Rodeo of the Year” for 13 consecutive years, features both timed and rough-stock events (including bull riding) each night.

All tickets are $6 for Thursday night’s session, while adult tickets are $10 on Friday and $12 on Saturday.

Tickets for children ages 6-12 and UT Martin students with a valid student ID are $7 for both Friday and Saturday. A $20 weekend pass for all three performances is also available, while children ages 5 and under get in free with a paid adult.

In addition to UT Martin, teams from the University of Arkansas-Monticello, East Mississippi Community College; University of Kentucky; Mississippi State University; Missouri Valley College; Murray State University; Northwest Mississippi Community College; Pearl River Community College; Southern Arkansas University; the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Three Rivers College and University of West Alabama are scheduled to appear during the three-day event.

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture is sponsoring a crawfish supper at 5:30 p.m., April 10, at the American Legion building in Martin. Hamburgers and hot dogs will also be available as well as corn-on-the-cob and new potatoes.

Tickets are $15 per person and support the UT Martin Rodeo Scholarship Fund.

Thursday’s competition is sponsored by Tyson, Obion County Complex, and fans can enter a drawing for a chance to win an MTD riding lawnmower. Friday is sponsored by Tennessee Tractor, LLC, and is also “Orange Night” to raise money for the Wyatt Cole Memorial Scholarship Fund. If the MTD riding lawnmower is not won on Thursday, a second drawing will take place Friday evening.

Saturday will begin with a free barbecue lunch at 11 a.m. in Festival Park in downtown Martin, sponsored by Edward Jones Investments. The Martin Paving Company Championship Finals follow that evening, where the top 10 contestants from the two opening rounds will compete.

A silent auction will be held during all three nights of the rodeo to help fund the UT Martin Rodeo Scholarship Fund. A scholarship auction will also take place at noon on Saturday after the free county-wide barbecue. For a full list of auction items, please visit the UTM Rodeo Facebook page at facebook.com/utm.rodeo. Garrett Yerigan will once again serve as this year’s announcer, alongside rodeo clown Dusty Myers. Bucking bulls and horses will be provided by Mark Johnson of Universal Rodeos in Jonesboro, Arkansas.
SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS FUND STUDENT PROGRAMS — The University of Tennessee at Martin Center for Sustainability has awarded the first Campus Sustainability Grants to fund student projects during the 2019-20 academic year. Student groups submitted proposals for the grant, and three programs were selected for funding. Benjamin Ort, of Medina, received two separate grants totaling $1,100 to recycle the large quantity of used notebooks discarded by students who move out of campus housing units each semester and to replace light bulbs in the apartments of incoming freshmen with energy-efficient LED bulbs. Ort works with the UT Martin Office of Housing and will coordinate with the housing staff to complete these two projects. Rebekah Hawthorne, of Dickson, submitted a proposal on behalf of the West Tennessee Association for Children’s Early Education Student Organization to fund a project to create a small-animal habitat, nature-based playspace and interactive flower bed at the Margaret Perry Children’s Center. Students then plan to create sustainability-focused lesson plans to teach children at the center about gardening, wildlife and the environment, among other topics. This project was funded in the amount of $1,100. Pictured in front of the Children’s Center are (l-r) Ort; Austin Avallone, an assistant on the housing project; Hawthorne; and Dr. Keith Dooley, faculty adviser for WTACEE and interim chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The University of Tennessee at Martin will officially begin work on “The NPHC Greek Garden at Unity Circle” during a groundbreaking ceremony at 3 p.m., April 24, north of Clement Hall.

This tribute area will honor the “Divine Nine” traditionally African American fraternities and sororities, all of which are represented at UT Martin.

“The Divine Nine chapters are part of the historic fabric of UT Martin,” said Dr. Andy Lewter, vice chancellor for student affairs. “They add a great deal to the college experience, not just for their members but for the entire student body. I’m glad we will have a dedicated place on campus to honor their contributions to our university.”

This new garden area will feature individual plaques with information on the founding and purpose of each of the National Pan-Hellenic Council chapters on the UT Martin campus. An official dedication ceremony is scheduled to take place at 11:30 a.m., Nov. 2, during UT Martin’s homecoming festivities.

The nine National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations represented at UT Martin are Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Sigma Gamma Phi Sorority Inc. and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Life and Multicultural Affairs at (731) 881-7525.
MARTIN — The University of Tennessee System and University of Tennessee at Martin honored six local faculty members during UT Martin’s annual Honors Day ceremony held Sunday.

Dr. Anderson Starling, assistant professor of political science, received the UT Martin Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award for excellence in the classroom. Starling has worked with the university since 2014 and is a current member of the American, Midwest and Southern political science associations. He holds both a bachelor’s degree in communications and a doctoral degree in political science from the University of Alabama.

Dr. Laura Brown, professor of health and human performance, and Dr. James Smart, professor of biology, both received UT Martin Cunningham Outstanding Faculty Awards.

Jason Stout, associate professor of art, and Dr. Danny Walker, associate professor of animal science, both received Outstanding UTAA Teacher Awards. These awards are given by the University of Tennessee Alumni Association each year.

Stout began teaching at UT Martin in 2005 and has artwork displayed in public and private collections across the country, including at the University of West Georgia, Jacksonville State University and UT Martin. His work is represented by REM Gallery in San Antonio, Texas.

Stout holds a bachelor’s degree from UT Martin and a master’s degree from the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Walker has taught at UT Martin since 2012 following 32 years in small-animal veterinary practice. He is currently serving as president of the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association and is the lead professor in the UT Martin veterinary health technology program. Walker holds a bachelor’s degree from UT Martin and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Auburn University.

FACULTY FROM PAGE B1

Smart, professor of biology, both received UT Martin Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Awards. Brown started working with UT Martin in 1993 and is also the spring 2019 Featured Faculty Scholar. She holds a bachelor’s degree from UT Martin, a master’s degree from Murray State University, and both education specialist and doctoral degrees from Union University.

Smart has worked with the university since 2005 and was awarded the UT Martin Reagan Faculty Leave Award to pursue outside research in 2017. He holds both bachelor’s and doctoral degrees from Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada.

Dr. Angela Ammerman, assistant professor of music, received the UT Martin Outstanding Academic Advisor Award for 2019. She began working with UT Martin in 2017 and is also the director of the music education program and the UT Martin string orchestra.

She holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, a master’s degree from Boston University and a doctoral degree from George Mason University.

Jason Stout, associate professor of art, and Dr. Danny Walker, associate professor of animal science, both received Outstanding UTAA Teacher Awards. These awards are given by the University of Tennessee Alumni Association each year.
UTM MUSIC EVENTS PLANNED

SUNDAY
Percussion Ensemble Concert
The UT Martin Percussion Ensemble will present an exciting concert of music focusing on 20th Century repertoire Sunday at 3 p.m. in the band room in the Fine Arts building on the UT Martin campus. Featured will be both classics and new pieces in the group's repertoire, including pieces by Gene Koshinski, David MacBride, Ivan Travino, Stephen Snowden, Lou Harrison, and Brian Nozny.

Wind Ensemble Concert
The UT Martin Wind Ensemble will present its final performance of the year on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Band-Rehearsal Hall, FA 136. The performance will open with five movements of Patrick Dunnigan's arrangement of music from Thielman Susato's Danserye, a set of 50 short dances used for courtly purposes in the Renaissance. Following will be Czech composer Václav Nejhrbe's monumental classic, Trizico, a three-movement wind band masterwork to close the first half of the performance. The second half of the concert will open with Joseph Schattner's From a Dark Millennium, which uses smaller forces, extended harmonies, and intense rhythms. The performance will conclude with Henry Fillmore's Lassus Trombone, featuring both the trombone section and Professor Steve Barnett, guest conductor. The performance is free and open to the public.

TUESDAY
Dan Miller with the UT Martin Big Band
Jazz trumpeter Dan Miller, grew up in the vibrant music scene of Chicago during the 1980's. He attended the University of North Texas and moved to New York City in 1991. He spent eleven years (1990-2000) as a member of the Harry Connick Jr. Orchestra and has toured and recorded internationally. Dan is currently a member of the Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra. He is an Artist-in-Residence for the University of Central Florida's School of Music in Orlando. Admission to this concert is $10 general; $5 students; free to UT Martin students with ID.

‘I HEART UTM’ WEEK shows Skyhawk pride
The University of Tennessee at Martin will host its fifth-annual ‘I Heart UTM’ week April 22-26 to celebrate Skyhawk pride and community support. Events throughout the week will feature prizes, free food and opportunities to thank alumni and supporters who contributed during Captain’s Challenge, hosted April 3.

Monday is “Philanthropy Day” and begins with Donuts for Donors from 8:30-11 a.m. outside the Boling University Center. Anyone who comes to write a thank-you card for Captain’s Challenge donors will be able to partake in donuts and enter giveaways for prizes. The annual Mike Minkel Barbeque will be that evening from 4:30-6:30 p.m. next to Pacer Pond, and Captain’s Pantry will conduct a canned food drive during the event to benefit students with food insecurities.

Tuesday is “Thankful Tuesday” and features the opportunity for students to thank a faculty or staff member for the role they have played in the student’s educational experience from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. outside the Boling University Center. A crawfish and shrimp boil will begin that evening at 5 p.m. between University Village Phase I and Phase II. The event is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Housing and will feature music by DJ Narley.

Wednesday is “Hump Day” and begins with “Coffee with Carver” from 8-9 a.m. in the Boling University Welcome Center. The afternoon brings back the classic camel ride and petting zoo from noon-3 p.m. in the university quadrangle as well as Carver’s Corner, where lawn games and Chick-Fil-A drinks will be available in the quad during the same timeframe.

Thursday is “Senior Day” beginning with the senior drive-thru, during which seniors planning to graduate in both May and December can pick up blueberry muffins and Orange Crush sodas from 9 a.m.-noon at the Dunnigan Alumni Center. The traditional senior walk—a congratulatory parade through the quad where faculty, staff and friends cheer on the graduating class—will begin at 3 p.m. Comedian Alex Bobbitt will perform at 9 p.m. in Watkins Auditorium.

The week ends with “Community Day” on Friday, where community members are encouraged to wear their “I Heart UTM” T-shirts and display UT Martin or Skyhawk items in their stores and businesses. Many area businesses will also feature Skyhawk Specials on this day.

For more information, contact Matt Borden, associate director of annual giving, at (731) 881-3611 or mborden5@utm.edu.
Today marks national celebration of pets

By LAUREN TAYLOR
Special to The Press

For humans, pets are only there for a part of the human’s life. But for pets, humans are there for the pet’s entire life.

“Many people believe that humans are superior to animals, but is that really true? We’re not able to come close to possessing the pure and perfect unconditional love that animals offer. If we could, we’d have no need for this day ... because all the shelters would be empty,” Colleen Paige noted.

Paige is a Pet and Family Lifestyle Expert, as well as the creator of today’s National Pet Day, founded in 2006. This animal welfare advocate wanted to bring joy and celebration to the pets that provide people with so much in their everyday lives. Paige wanted to grow the awareness of animals in shelters around the globe and to bring forth the benefits to what pets of all shapes, sizes, color, and species can do for people.

Lauren Taylor, a loving dog mom, says, “Owning my dogs has helped me grow as a person. Knowing I have two living souls other than myself to care for brings great responsibility and joy to my life. My dogs depend on me, and I depend on them. My two dogs, Maggie (Great Dane Lab mix) and Grizzly (Husky Lab mix), love me unconditionally, no matter the mistakes I have made. They are always there for me and cheer me up on the worst days. I know I can always count on them to listen to me as well, because well ... they are dogs and they will not go tell anyone else!”

When speaking with the Clint Ary, DVM and Assistant Director of Animal Science at the University of Tennessee at Martin, he says there are many benefits to having pets. “Pets can act as social lubricators. They serve as great conversation starters and help get people out of their houses and into their communities. Some pets, such as dogs, help people to get more exercise. There are other health benefits, like decreased blood pressure and cholesterol levels, that have been attributed to pet ownership but may be more related to socioeconomic status,” Ary said.

Kelcee McMillin of Martin, a lifelong bird owner, says this about why birds are their family pet of choice.

BUDDIES FOR LIFE — Cheyenne Johnson and her horse Buddy spend a lot of time together. Buddy has been in the UT Martin student’s life for many years, including time spent as show horse for 4-H in high school. Johnson said livestock is a major investment as family pets, but her horse is one of the family.

Advised from inside house pets, there is another category of outside pets that are perfect for National Pet Day as well.

One animal in that category is a horse. Cheyenne Johnson, a devoted horse owner, gives some input about her life owning horses.

“Buddy, my horse, has taught me time management and responsibility. I used to show Buddy as a show horse for 4-H. With that came the responsibility of feeding, grooming, and ensuring his health to make sure he was in top condition for showing. I cared for him just like a child; in this case, he is my child,” Johnson shared.

The ASPCA estimates 70-80 million dogs and 74-96 million cats are owned in the US. Not far behind them are fish, birds, reptiles, turtles, and gerbils. Many Americans consider their pets a vital member of the family. Even if people do not have a pet on National Pet Day, there are many ways they can help out.

Volunteer at a local shelter, assist pet owners in need of food and supplies, and maybe think of adopting an animal of their own are just some of those ways to celebrate pets.

Dr. Ary gives advice for people who are looking to get a pet of their own.

“Take some time and consider your lifestyle before settling on a specific type of pet or breed. It is an important decision that affects two lives, not just one.”
"A bird isn’t an ‘easy’ pet. They are cool, and can be taught very neat tricks. But, most birds have a lifespan of 30-80 years. They require lifelong commitment and are a part of the family. Before someone decides to make the commitment of adding a bird to their family, they should do heavy research. Volunteer at a shelter for avian pets before making the decision. Visit the bird more than once before bringing home. If they have young children, put that into consideration. Not all birds talk, so if that’s the reason for wanting a bird, consider if you will keep it as a part of your family if it decides to never talk,” McMillin offered.

Taylor adds in advice for people thinking of getting a dog, “Before you go and pick out a dog, make sure you are financially, emotionally, and physically ready for one. You have to take them for regular vet visits (especially as a puppy).

“There is heartworm testing and medicine, as well as potty training them. This process takes time, just like having children. They can’t just be chained up outside or kept inside all day either, they need daily exercise and interaction. Most importantly, they need love."

When owning livestock and larger animals like Johnson does, there are precautions one should take before acquiring one as well.

“You need to make sure you are financially and socially ready to own a horse. You must have the money to keep up with vetting, supplies, feed, and boarding (if they are not staying on your land). You also need to have the time to spend with them daily and make sure to not leave them unattended for long periods of time. They are a lot of responsibility and you need to do your research on them to make sure you can handle it, as well as get the right one for you,” Johnson explains.

Pets come in many shapes, forms, sizes, colors, and species. One thing for sure is that when deciding on a pet for you or the family, make sure to do your research and understand what it takes to give that pet a good home.

Pets are family members to many people, and some pets go unnoticed and underappreciated.

Today, on National Pet Day, give some extra love to your pet. Take them for a walk, give them a special treat, share your pet’s picture on social media and educate people on why your pet is so wonderful. Maybe that will encourage others to get pets as well.

To gather more information on National Pet Day, visit www.nationalpetday.com.
UTM places second in national aerospace competition

Senior Caleb Wassman, of Camden, was among a team of 11 UTM students that placed second in the nation and fifth internationally at the 2019 SAE International Aero Design East Competition, held March 8-10 in Fort Worth, Texas. This annual event invites teams of student engineers from around the world to compete in the design, presentation, and flight of a self-constructed aircraft.

UTM competed against 20 other schools in the advanced category and was one of the only institutions represented that does not have a dedicated aerospace engineering program. Despite this fact, UTM students have placed among the top three in the nation three times in the past five years.

Each competition has a unique challenge for participating teams to achieve while constructing and testing their aircraft. This year, UTM came in fifth in the world behind Georgia Tech, Wroclaw Tech in Poland, Pontifical Catholic University in Brazil, and Vellore Tech in India (first through fourth place, respectively).

"The objective of this year's mission was to design and construct a primary aircraft capable of delivering a colonist delivery aircraft, habitats, and water payload to a specific drop target," said Team Leader Connor Alley, a senior from Martin. In other words, the aircraft had to transport several contained loads, including two independently-functioning colonist pods, and drop those loads precisely within a target zone.

The students designed, constructed, and tested the aircraft and all electrical and mechanical components themselves over the course of a year in preparation for the competition. While the aero design team is open to students of all majors, non-engineering students often are reluctant to participate. However, the 2019 team included two computer science students, a vet tech student, and pre-vet student.

"Having non-engineering students participate greatly improved our team in several ways by providing multiple sources of information and resources," Alley said. "It also helped by allowing the engineers to focus on the design project while the non-engineers took on tasks such as project management, finances, and marketing."

In addition to Wassman and Alley, the team includes seniors Matthew Austin (Jackson), Caleb Bell (Bartlett), Meredith Brown, Trezevant), Samantha Curd (Westmoreland), Sydney Tittle (Kingston Springs), Justin White (Tiptonville), junior Jon Wilbert and sophomore Erich Otto (both of Medina), and freshman Haley Baker (Arlington). Engineering professor Dr. Doug Sterrett and lecturer Ashley Owens serve as faculty advisers to the team. Sterrett is also the official plane pilot during competitions.

"This competition is a truly worldwide stage. It's run by companies such as Lockheed Martin, Solidworks, and SpaceX, which recruit students from the best teams in the competitions," Alley added. "The design analysis that a project of this scale requires gives students ample experience to set them up for the workplace."

For more information about the aerospace competition or engineering programs at UTM, contact the UTM Department of Engineering at 731-881-7571.
SECOND PLACE DESIGN - The winning UTM Aerospace Design Team includes (from left) Haley Baker, Caleb Wassman (a senior from Camden), Erich Otto, Matthew Austin, Sydney Tittle, Caleb Bell, Team Leader Connor Alley, Justin White, Jon Wilbert, and Samantha Curd. Not shown: Meredith Brown, Ashley Owens, and Dr. Doug Sterrett.

COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS - From left, Mariah Purcell, of Big Sandy, UTM Communications Professor Dr. Jerald Ogg, and Jonathan Kirkland, of Martin, celebrate the students' outstanding work in communications over the past year. Purcell and Kirkland each received a Dr. Jerald Ogg Communications/Public Relations scholarship from the UTM Dept. of Communications during a reception on April 3. Purcell also was recognized with an officer's award from the Women in Communications organization.
UTM has two music events planned

Two events are upcoming at the University of Tennessee at Martin. At 7:30 p.m. Sunday, the UTM Wind Ensemble will present its final performance of the year in the Fine Arts Band Rehearsal Hall.

The performance will open with five movements of Patrick Dunnigan’s arrangement of music from Thielman Susato’s “Danserye,” a set of 50 short dances used for courtly purposes in the Renaissance.

Following will be Czech composer Vaclav Nelhybel’s monumental classic, “Trittico,” a three-movement wind band masterwork which will close the first half of the performance.

The second half of the concert will open with Joseph Schantner’s “From a Dark Millenium,” which uses smaller forces, extended harmonies, and intense rhythms.

Sunday’s performance will close with Henry Fillmore’s “Lassus Trombone,” featuring the trombone section with Professor Steve Barnett as guest conductor.

This performance is free and open to the public.

Then at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, trumpeter Dan Miller will perform as the Allison Nelson guest artist with the UTM Big Band.

Miller grew up in Chicago during the 1980s. He attended the University of North Texas and then moved to New York in 1991.

Miller has studied with Don Jacoby, Bobby Shew, John Haynie, Ed Treutel, Brad Goodie, Nick Drozdoff and Barry Harris.

He spent 11 years as a member of the Harry Connick Jr. Orchestra and has toured and recorded internationally.

Miller is a member of the Naples Philharmonic Jazz Orchestra as well as the musical director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Jazz Orchestra.

He is a Yamaha Clinician and Performing Artists, and works with college and high school bands and private students nationwide.

Miller is an artist-in-residence for the University of Central Florida’s School of Music in Orlando.

Admission to this concert is $10 general admission, $5 for students, and free for UTM students with ID.
Spring Hill student receives ag award

By Special to The Daily Herald
Posted Apr 13, 2019 at 12:01 AM
Updated Apr 13, 2019 at 11:27 AM

Anna Whitt, of Spring Hill, received the Outstanding Agriculture Student Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources.

UTM Orchestra, Wind and Percussion, Westview Band to perform free concert Monday night

Posted on April 14, 2019 by Steve James in Local News

The UT Martin Orchestra, along with select members of the UT Martin Wind and Percussion, and students from the Westview High School Band perform collaboratively Monday night at Westview High School.

The bands will be performing music from “Moana,” “La La Land,” “Game of Thrones,” and other films and television series.

The performance begins at 7:30 and is free to the public.
University of Tennessee at Martin ranked for program quality, affordability

kmorris 4/15/2019

kmorris

Study.com included the University of Tennessee at Martin at number 21 on a list of the most affordable colleges in the nation. UT Martin is the number-one Tennessee school on this list, which examines information on tuition prices, financial aid, scholarships, cost of living and other categories.

UT Martin’s Bachelor of Nursing degree program is ranked second on RegisteredNursing.org’s list of the best programs for registered nursing in Tennessee for 2019, just behind Lee University. This is the third year the website has produced a state-specific list based on each program’s pass rate for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. UT Martin’s NCLEX-RN pass rate has held steady at 100 percent for multiple years.
BOYD FLIES IN — Randy Boyd (right), interim president of the University of Tennessee, flew into Everett-Stewart Regional Airport near Union City Thursday. He paused to visit with interim airport manager Chris Rodgers before heading to the University of Tennessee at Martin. Everett-Stewart is frequently utilized by UT Martin, which maintains an excellent working relationship with the local airport.

LOCAL STUDENT RECOGNIZED DURING UT MARTIN HONORS DAY — Tori Galloway, of Milan, received the Lower Division Chemistry Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Chemistry and Physics. For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu.

LOCAL STUDENT RECOGNIZED DURING UT MARTIN HONORS DAY — Jessica Schaefer, of Milan, received the Jeanne Wright Literary Award in the Short Story on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages. For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu.
Crafton scholarships available to students in health care paths at UT campuses

High school seniors are now in the final stretch of securing scholarships to help with college expenses, and the E.C. Crafton Memorial Scholarship Committee is receiving applications for the upcoming school year. Area students who are entering, or are already in, a career in a health care field at any University of Tennessee campus may apply.

The E.C. Crafton Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1980 to commemorate a life of giving by a beloved Trenton physician. Dr. E.C. Crafton was a founder of Gibson General Hospital and a physician in Trenton from 1953 until his death in 1980. He was a graduate of the University of Tennessee and of the UT Medical School. The E.C. Crafton Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in his memory through the University of Tennessee. These scholarships provide financial assistance to worthy area students who are entering a course of study in any medical field at a University of Tennessee campus. Students can be in a professional or pre-professional curriculum.

Since 1982 students in the fields of medicine, pharmacy, physical therapy, dentistry, occupational therapy, and nursing have benefited through the Crafton scholarships. These scholarships are available for renewal as long as the student remains in a medically-related curriculum at a UT campus; however, the renewal request must be made annually by the student.

Scholarship amounts are awarded at the discretion of the committee, based on funds available from the endowment. The scholarship committee is composed of Carol Gordon, Carol Weems, and Jim Hall, all of Trenton. Applications can be requested from high school guidance counselors or any committee member. Both applications and renewal requests, including a photograph, should be submitted by April 26 to a committee member for consideration for the 2019-20 school year.

For more information contact Carol Gordon, 803 Gibson Rd., (855-1675); Carol Weems, 247 Alamo Highway, (855-2802); or Jim Hall, 88 Dyersburg Highway, (855-9067).

HONORS CHAMBER FESTIVAL - (from left) Chloe Shelton, Anna Nowell and Sarah Carlton, members of the Peabody Band of Gold participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin's Honors Chamber Festival March 28-30. The students rehearsed and performed in small ensembles with other students from across West Tennessee. "Congratulations to these students on their call to go above and beyond," said Steven Westbrook, Band of Gold director.
DEDICATION — The Verna B. Coleman Center for Women and Gender Equality is located on the second floor of the Paul Meek Library. Pictured after the dedication ceremony are (from left) Dr. Philip Acree Cavalier, university provost; Dr. Lynh Alexander, dean, College of Humanities and Fine Arts; Martha Edinger, donor and granddaughter of Verna B. Coleman; Dr. Keith Carver, university chancellor; Dr. Renee LaFleur, center director; and Dr. David Coffey, chair, Department of History and Philosophy.

UT Martin dedicates new women’s center

MARTIN — The University of Tennessee at Martin dedicated the new Verna B. Coleman Center for Women and Gender Equality in room 255 of the Paul Meek Library during a reception held April 8. The center is named for the grandmother of major donor Martha Edinger, a 1984 UT Martin alumna and longtime resident of Obion and Weakley counties.

“I wanted to name this for our grandmother who didn’t have the opportunities that I had in her life. But yet she took what she had, and she made the best of it and left a long family legacy in this area of Obion and Weakley County,” said Edinger.

The center was originally established by Drs. Teresa Collard, associate professor of communications, and Lisa LeBleu, professor of family and consumer sciences, in 2011. The center was first located in Grove Apartments on University Street before moving into the Paul Meek Library last fall. The new space on the second floor of the library was constructed by the UT Martin Physical Plant and includes activity space, as well as a private area that will serve as a lactation room for student mothers.

“I hope students who use the center will find a community that supports them in the difficulties they face as students, as women, as LGBT+,” said Dr. Renee LaFleur, center director and associate professor of history.

“The programs we offer are meant to give students the knowledge and skills they need to succeed, but also to cope with the challenges they encounter. Whether it’s learning how to support a friend who has been assaulted, recognizing the signs of depression or learning salary negotiation techniques, I want students to be able to help themselves and others.”

The center hosts a lunchtime speaker series, Women’s History Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities, and a period supply donation drive for female students who are unable to afford such items. Donations can be taken to the Women’s Center from 1-5 p.m. on weekdays, and supplies are made available to all students in need.

For more information, contact LaFleur at (731) 881-7534 or rlafleur@utm.edu.
Soybean lineup to include Oak Ridge Boys band

As they near almost 50 years together, Duane Allen, Joe Bonsall, William Lee Golden, and Richard Sterban have traveled the world with their country and gospel music, and, in September, they are coming to northwest Tennessee.

The Tennessee Soybean Festival has confirmed that the Oak Ridge Boys, members of the Grand Ole Opry and the Country Music Hall of Fame, will appear Friday, Sept. 6, as part of the musical lineup of the event held in downtown Martin.

Longtime and new fans will want to “giddy up” to hear the allure of “Elvira,” the certified platinum country/pop tune first covered by the Boys in 1981 and re-introduced in 2015 in an a cappella rendition with newcomers Home Free. For gospel music lovers who have known the soul-filled power of their “Rock of Ages” for decades or only recently heard their “Amazing Grace” at the funeral of former president George H.W. Bush, the concert is sure to be an eclectic, family-friendly gathering.

Tickets go on sale May 24 at www.tnsoybeaifestival.org.

UT Martin aero team second in nation

A team of 11 students representing the University of Tennessee at Martin placed second in the nation and fifth internationally at the 2019 SAE International Aero Design East Competition, held recently in Fort Worth, Texas. This annual event, sponsored by professional aerospace firms including Lockheed Martin and SpaceX, invites teams of student engineers from around the world to compete in the design, presentation and flight of a self-constructed aircraft.

UT Martin competed against 20 other schools in the advanced category and was one of the only institutions represented that does not have a dedicated aerospace engineering program.

Despite this fact, UT Martin students have placed among the top three in the nation three times in the past five years. This year, UT Martin came in fifth in the world behind the Georgia Institute of Technology, Wrocław University of Technology in Poland, Pontifical Catholic University-Rio de Janeiro in Brazil and Vellore Institute of Technology in India (first through fourth place, respectively).

Each competition has a unique challenge for participating teams to achieve while constructing and testing their aircraft.

"The objective of this year's mission was to design and construct a primary aircraft capable of delivering a colonist delivery aircraft, habitats and water payload to a specific drop target," said Connor Alley, team leader and a senior from Martin. In other words, the aircraft had to transport several contained loads, including two independently-functioning "colonist" pods, and drop those loads precisely within a target zone. "All this must be accomplished with a miniscule 750 watts of power to the motor on the primary aircraft," added Alley.

The students designed, constructed and tested the aircraft and all electrical and mechanical components themselves over the course of the previous year in preparation for competition this spring. While the aero design team is always open to students of all majors, students not studying engineering are often reluctant to participate. However, the 2019 team included four students outside the engineering major: two computer science students, a veterinary technician student and pre-veterinary student.

"This greatly improved our team in several ways. It has provided the team with multiple sources of information and resources. It has also greatly helped by allowing the engineers to focus on the design project while the non-engineering majors take on tasks such as project management, finance and marketing," said Alley.

"This competition ... is a truly worldwide stage. The competition is funded and run by several large companies such as Lockheed Martin, Solidworks and SpaceX," Alley added. "These companies recruit students for internships and job offers from the best teams in the competitions. The design analysis that a project of this scale requires gives students ample experience to set them up for the workplace."

Alley's team members include Caleb Bell, a senior from Bartlett; Haley Baker, a freshman from Arlington; Caleb Wassman, a senior from Camden; Erich Otto, a sophomore from Medina; Jon Wilbert, a junior from Medina; Matthew Austin, a senior from Jackson; Meredith Brown, a senior from Trezevant; Justin White, a senior from Tiptonville; Sydney Tittle, a senior from Kingston Springs; and Samantha Curd, a senior from Westmoreland.

Dr. Doug Sterrett, professor of engineering, and Ashley Owens, lecturer of engineering, serve as faculty advisers to the team. Sterrett is also the official pilot of the team plane during competitions.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Engineering at (731) 881-7571.
UT MARTIN WILDLIFE SOCIETY COMPETES – The University of Tennessee at Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society recently took 19 students to the Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Ga. The UT Martin team won second place in the two-day quiz bowl competition behind the University of Georgia, which is the chapter’s highest finish to date. Students also participated in a variety of team competitions, including obstacle course (first place), air rifle (third place) and field photography (third place). Nineteen other schools were represented during the event, including the University of Arkansas, Tennessee Tech, Clemson University, Auburn University, the University of Florida and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Pictured with their awards are team members (front row, from left) Colton Barber, of Bradford; Brandon Weber, of Tiptonville; Clint Beel, of Smyrna; Andre Delcalzo, of Bemus Point, New York; (back row) Kenley Schwartz, of Powell; Ethan Brown, of Lawrenceburg; Collin Stanley, of College Grove; Ben Chrestman, of Adamsville; Dr. Eric Pelren, professor of wildlife biology and team adviser; and Dillon Mooney, of Alamo. For more information on the UT Martin chapter of The Wildlife Society, contact Pelren at spelren@utm.edu.
UTM captures second in 51st Annual Spring College Rodeo

Another memorable event is in the books, as the University of Tennessee at Martin hosted the 51st Annual Spring College Rodeo at the Ned McWherter Agricultural Pavilion over the weekend.

Both UT Martin squads came away with second-place finishes, as the men's team collected a season-high 655 points and the women's team cracked the 300-point mark (315) for the second time in 2018-19.

Missouri Valley College won the men's side with 850 points, while Arkansas-Monticello took home the women's title with 590 points.

Three UT Martin cowboys generated points in a tough bareback riding event, led by Hunter Green. The junior from Bastrop, La. split first in average (144) after finishing first in the opening round (76) and second in the short go (68).

Stetson Bierman also produced a solid performance by finishing third in both average (129) and in the short go (66) after taking fourth in the first round (63).

Bryce Sifford completed UT Martin's scoring in the event with a 53 in the short go that placed fifth in the standings.

Chase Thrasher paced UT Martin in calf roping, as he finished second in average (18.9), second in the short round (9.5) and fourth in the opening go (9.4).

Ross Mitchell also earned points in all three phases, as he placed fifth in average (31.4), fifth in the second round (21.1) and sixth in the opening go (10.3).

In breakaway roping, Kailey Schmidt was able to put points on the board for UT Martin. She placed fifth in both average (6.9) and in the short go (3.9).

Robert Haley outlasted a difficult saddle bronc riding field, as the junior out of Fairhope, Ala. was one of only two cowboys to notch points in all three phases.

Haley topped the event in average (149) and in the opening round (74), while finishing second in the short round with a score of 75.

The duo of Hunter Styles and Mitchell each tallied points for UT Martin in team roping. Styles came in third place with a time of 3.9 seconds in the opening round before placing fifth with a 10.3 average.

Meanwhile, Mitchell placed third with a time of 5.0 flat in the short go and second with an 11.0 average.

The women's team received points out of Schmidt and Jayci Braudrick in goat tying. Schmidt secured points in all three phases, placing third in the opening round (7.2), fourth in average (15.7) and fifth in the short go (8.5).

Braudrick's time of 7.3 seconds in the first round was good enough to split fourth in the event.

In team roping, the UT Martin tandem of Quentin Sawyer and Will McCraw managed the second-best finish in the field with an average time of 16.0 seconds.

That came after the duo placed third in both the first round (7.2) and in the short go (8.8).

Four separate UT Martin cowgirls earned points in barrel racing. Casey Allen displayed a dominant effort as she led the field in average (27.68) and had a first-round time (13.88), while also placing second in the short go (13.8).

Raegan Taylor dialed up points in all three phases, finishing second with a 27.74 average after producing the top time in the short go (13.7) and the sixth-best time in the first round (14.04).

Additionally, Madison McFall came in fifth place in the short round (13.97) and sixth place in average (28.11), while Summer Conley's time of 14.04 seconds in the opening go was placed her sixth in the standings.

UT Martin has one regular season rodeo remaining as it will head to Senatobia, Miss. April 25-27 for a rodeo hosted by Northwest Mississippi Community College.
LOOKING FOR POINTS — UT Martin cowboy Hunter Green puts on a bareback riding display in the final round of the event in the 51st Annual Spring College Rodeo on Saturday. Green split first in average after he finished first in the opening round and second in the short go. Photos by Christel Laney

TOUGH RIDE — UT Martin cowboy Ryan McDaniel attempts to stay on the bull for the full eight seconds in Saturday's final round of the 51st Annual Spring College Rodeo, which was held in the Ned McWherter Agricultural Pavilion. None of the cowboys were able to earn points in bull riding in the last two days of the rodeo.
STEER WRESTLING — Hunter Styles showed off his skills in steer wrestling during the 51st annual UT Martin Spring College Rodeo held over the weekend. Styles came in third place in the opening round before placing fifth with a 10.3 average. Photo by Christel Laney

BREAKAWAY ROPING — Kailey Schmidt put points on the board for UT Martin during the 51st annual Spring College Rodeo held over the weekend. Schmidt placed fifth. For more photos and highlights, see Page 8 of today's edition. Photo by Christel Laney

UT MARTIN, WEAKLEY COUNTY PROCLAMATION SIGNED — Jake Bynum (seated, left), mayor of Weakley County, and Dr. Keith Carver, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin, signed a joint proclamation April 5 declaring the month of April to be Sexual Assault Awareness Month in both the county and on the university campus. This partnership with the Wo/Men's Resource and Rape Assistance Program, known as WRAP, urges all members of the local and campus communities to be part of the solution to end sexual assault violence. For more information, contact Katie Noles, sexual assault coordinator, at (731) 499-0688 or visit www.wraptn.org.
UTM Dept. of Public Safety granted outside accreditation

The Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation Program has granted the UT Martin Department of Public Safety full accreditation status.

The announcement came during the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police meeting held April 3 in Franklin.

According to a TLEA press release, agencies seeking TLEA accreditation voluntarily submit to a three-year process designed to improve professionalism and effectiveness by implementing 160 law enforcement standards and participating in an on-site assessment.

The standards evaluate an agency's policies in a variety of areas, including organization, operations and budget management. The program is intended to encourage cooperation, recognize professional standing, develop professional services and ensure public safety across the state.

In the release, Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police President Randy Evans said, "The standard of excellence that is met through this process is to be admired. We are proud to recognize the hard work of the UTM Department of Public Safety, its staff and community leaders."

PHOTO: (l-r) Lt. Jerry Garcia, campus officer; Petra McPhearson, vice chancellor for finance and administration; and Scott Robbins, director of the UT Martin Department of Public Safety, are pictured with the department's certificate of accreditation.

Local student receives communications award

Megan Greene (right), of Dyersburg, received the Outstanding Non-Traditional Student Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences - broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations - each spring. Greene is pictured with Dr. Richard Robinson, professor of communications.
Local student visits Morocco with UTM leadership program

Erin Young (back row, second from right), a chemistry major from Halls, traveled to Morocco and Spain with the University of Tennessee at Martin's Ned Ray McWherter Institute in March. The Ned Ray McWherter Institute is a three-year professional development program that provides travel, networking and leadership opportunities to select UT Martin students across all majors. The institute's junior cohort plans a spring international trip each year to a country where neither English is the official language nor is the United States dollar the official currency. Young, along with nine other class members, chose to travel to both Morocco and Spain, becoming the first cohort to visit two continents. During the trip, students visited sites such as the Royal Palace of Madrid and the Plaza de Toros bullring in Madrid, Spain, as well as the Atlas Mountain range and the Jemaa el-Fnaa market in Marrakech, Morocco. The group is pictured at Riad Hidden, a traditional Moroccan house where the cohort stayed in Marrakech.

Local is chosen for UTM society

Anjalee Patel of Ripley was recently initiated into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Patel is pursuing a degree in Biology at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Patel is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines.
Young receives UTM scholarship
Erin Young of Henning received the Norman and Ruby Campbell Scholarship Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Chemistry and Physics.

Lews receives UTM agricultural award
Chad Lewis of Gates received the Sam and Gladys Siegel Agricultural Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources.

Fulmer will speak at event
Phillip Fulmer, current Director of Athletics and former head football coach at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, will present "Life Lessons from Coach" during the University of Tennessee at Martin Ned Ray McWherter Institute's sixth-annual Igniting Innovation fundraising event at 6:30 pm, April 23, in the Boling University Center's Duncan Ballroom.

Fulmer has served the University of Tennessee for more than 40 years. During his time as head coach of the Tennessee Volunteer football team, he led the team to five championship games in the Southeastern Conference (with wins in 1997 and 1998) and a National Championship title in 1998. He was most recently inducted into the Tennessee Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017, and he received first-ballot induction to both the National Football Foundation and College Football Hall of Fame in 2012.

UT Martin alumni William Rhodes III, chairman, President and CEO of Autozone, and Ronnie and Jannie Yeargin, owners of Yeargin Farms, will receive R. Clayton McWhorter awards from the Ned Ray McWhorter Institute during the event. These awards recognize members of the regional community who have shown themselves to be innovators in their fields.

Igniting Innovation is an annual fundraising event organized by the Ned Ray McWhorter Institute's sophomore class. The institute offers a specialized three-year program to select students that includes both domestic and international travel as well as professional training and networking opportunities.

Those interested in attending this event can sponsor a table for $1,000 or purchase individual tickets for $150 each.

For more information on the institute, Igniting Innovation or Fulmer's appearance, contact Joyanne Gansereit, program coordinator, at 731-881-3620 or gansereit@utm.edu.
STUDENT HONORED — Holly Seng (right) of Union City received the M. Sue Kahle Excellence in Leadership Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a recent reception. Each spring, the department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations. Ms. Seng was congratulated by Dr. Teresa Collard, associate professor of communications.

SF HONOREE — Kevin Bartholomew (left) of South Fulton received the Duke Drumm-WCMT Scholarship from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception recently. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Bartholomew was congratulated by Terry Hailey of Thunderbolt Broadcasting.
RODEO ROUNDUP - Lake Road Elementary School's pre-kindergarten cowboys and cowgirls were very excited to have special visitors from the University of Tennessee at Martin rodeo team ahead of this past weekend's annual rodeo action at UTM. The students enjoyed getting autographs from the rodeo clown, announcer, queen, a cowboy and a cowgirl in their writing journals. During the visit, rodeo announcer Garrett Yerrigan, outfitted with full rodeo clown garb, signed journals for pre-K students (from left) Lillie Windsor, Maylen Burress, Haegan Eaves and Mattye Gurley. The rodeo clown who visited with the group had dressed the announcer as a clown while the youngsters watched, much to their delight.

Greek garden work scheduled to begin

Work will officially begin on "The NPHC Greek Garden at Unity Circle" during a groundbreaking ceremony at 3 p.m. April 24 north of Clement Hall at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

This tribute area will honor the "Divine Nine" traditionally African American fraternities and sororities, all of which are represented at UT Martin.

"The Divine Nine chapters are part of the historic fabric of UT Martin," said Dr. Andy Lewter, vice chancellor for student affairs. "They add a great deal to the college experience, not just for their members but for the entire student body. I'm glad we will have a dedicated place on campus to honor their contributions to our university."

This new garden area will feature individual plaques with information on the founding and purpose of each of the National Pan-Hellenic Council chapters on the UT Martin campus. An official dedication ceremony is scheduled to take place at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 2 during UT Martin's homecoming festivities.

The nine National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations represented at UT Martin are Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Sigma Gamma Phi Sorority Inc. and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc.
Women’s center dedicated at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin dedicated the new Verna B. Coleman Center for Women and Gender Equality in room 255 of the Paul Meek Library during a reception recently.

The center is named for the grandmother of major donor Martha Edinger, a 1984 UT Martin alumna and longtime resident of Obion and Weakley counties.

“I wanted to name this for our grandmother, who didn’t have the opportunities that I had in her life. But yet she took what she had, and she made the best of it and left a long family legacy in this area of Obion and Weakley county,” Ms. Edinger said.

The center was originally established by Drs. Teresa Collard, associate professor of communications, and Lisa LeBleu, professor of family and consumer sciences, in 2011. The center was first located in Grove Apartments on University Street before moving into the Paul Meek Library last fall. The new space on the second floor of the library was constructed by the UT Martin Physical Plant and includes activity space as well as a private area that will serve as a lactation room for student mothers.

“I hope students who use the center will find a community that supports them in the difficulties they face as students, as women, as LGBT+,” said Dr. Renee Lafleur, center director and associate professor of history. “The programs we offer are meant to give students the knowledge and skills they need to succeed, but also to cope with the challenges they encounter. Whether it’s learning how to support a friend who has been assaulted, recognizing the signs of depression or learning salary negotiation techniques, I want students to be able to help themselves and others.”

The center hosts a lunchtime speaker series, Women’s History Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities and a period supply donation drive for female students who are unable to afford such items. Donations can be taken to the Women’s Center from 1-5 p.m. on weekdays, and supplies are made available to all students in need.

For more information, contact Dr. LaFleur at (731) 881-7534 or rlaflleur@utm.edu.

‘I Heart UTM’ set for next week

The University of Tennessee at Martin will host its fifth annual “I Heart UTM” week Monday through April 26 to celebrate Skyhawk pride and community support.

Events throughout the week will feature prizes, free food and opportunities to thank alumni and supporters who contributed during Captain’s Challenge earlier this month.

Monday is “Philanthropy Day” and begins with “Coffee with Carver” from 8-9 a.m. in the Boling University Welcome Center. The afternoon brings back the classic camel ride and petting zoo from noon-3 p.m. in the university quadrangle as well as Carver’s Corner, where lawn games and Chick-Fil-A drinks will be available in the quad during the same time frame.

April 25 is “Senior Day” beginning with the senior drive-through, during which seniors planning to graduate in both May and December can pick up blueberry muffins and Orange Crush sodas from 9 a.m.-noon at the Dunagan Alumni Center. The traditional senior walk — a congratulatory parade through the quad where faculty, staff and friends cheer on the graduating class — will begin at 3 p.m. Comedian Alex Bobbitt will perform at 9 p.m. in Watkins Auditorium.

The week ends with “Community Day” on April 26, when community members are urged to wear “I Heart UTM” shirts and display UTM or Skyhawk items in their stores and businesses.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will feature a variety of student and faculty ensembles during the Discovery Park of America’s “Rhythm on the Rails” music festival this year.

The new family-friendly series will begin at 5 every Thursday evening from May 2 to June 27 around the south lake near the Train Depot at DPA.

Admission is free for park members and guests who purchased admission that day. Tickets for non-members are $5 each.

UT Martin ensembles — including the jazz combo, Brazilian Choro Ensemble, steelworks band, and Coffey and Carithers faculty duo — will perform throughout the series.

“We’re excited about the opportunity for two great local institutions, Discovery Park and UT Martin, to come together to provide an opportunity for our region to celebrate some of their favorite local performers while also having the opportunity to discover new music,” said Dr. Julie Hill of Union City, chair of the UT Martin Department of Music.

Revenue generated from this event will be used to offset the cost of refurbishing a 1916 Ford Model-T planned for public display at the park in fall 2019.

Attendees are welcome to bring blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy the shows.

Food trucks and catch-and-release fishing will also be available during the festival.

A complete performance schedule is available at discoveryparkofamerica.com/musicfestival.

The 2019 event is sponsored by Blue Bank Resort, Williams Country Sausage and The Citizens Bank.

Discovery Park of America is located at 830 Everett Blvd in Union City.

For more information about the music planned, contact the UT Martin Department of Music at (731) 881-7402.

The 21st annual African American Leadership Conference — hosted by the University of Tennessee at Martin WestStar Leadership Program — is set for May 7 at the STAR Center in Jackson.

The event will run from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The conference registration fee is $35 per person and includes both a continental breakfast and lunch. High school and college students can attend for $20 per person. Registration information and payment must be received in the WestStar office by May 1.

Dr. Glenda Baskins Glover, president of Tennessee State University in Nashville, will appear as keynote speaker this year.

Dr. Glover began serving as president of TSU in January 2013 and has since worked to advance a five-point vision focusing on academic progress and customer service; fundraising and partnerships; diversity and inclusion; shared governance; and business outreach.

She is also a certified public accountant and an attorney and is one of only two African American women in the country to hold the PhD-JD-CPA combination. She holds a bachelor’s degree from TSU and a master’s degree from Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta. She then earned a doctoral degree in business from George Washington University and a law degree from Georgetown University, both in Washington, D.C.

The 2019 conference will also feature Yvette Blue, assistant superintendent of Haywood County Schools; Andrea Bond-Johnson, CEO of Golden Circle Insurance in Brownsville; Sharron Murden, a former manager of CB&S Bank in Bolivar; and Dr. Joseph Fouche, a hematologist and oncologist at Kirkland Cancer Center in Jackson, as morning speakers.

After lunch, attendees will hear from Charles Watkins Sr., senior instructor at Operator of Technology Inc., and the Rev. Rufus Smith, senior pastor at Hope Presbyterian Church in Memphis.

All attendees must register online regardless of payment method. Visit utm.edu/weststar and choose the “conferences and events” tab to the left and select “conferences” to find registration information. Payment can be made online via credit or debit card, mailed by check or paid in person.

All checks must be made out to WestStar and mailed to WestStar Leadership Program, Hall Moody Administration Building room 321, Martin, TN, 38238.

Payment must be received no later than May 7.

The annual conference is made possible by WestStar Leadership Program, Simmons Bank of Brownsville, West Tennessee Healthcare, Hardin County, Henson Construction Services, Mark Heaston and the UT Center for Public Service.

The STAR Center is located at 1119 Old Humboldt Road in Jackson.

For more information or registration assistance, contact Virginia Grimes, WestStar program coordinator, at (731) 881-7298 or vgrimes@utm.edu; or Jordan Gardner, administrative specialist, at (731) 881-7005 or jgardn37@utm.edu.

The University of Tennessee at Martin continues to earn national and state-wide acclaim for affordability and program quality.

Study.com included UT Martin at No. 21 on a list of the most affordable colleges in the nation.

UT Martin is the No. 1 Tennessee school on this list, which examines information on tuition prices, financial aid, scholarships, cost of living and other categories from the U.S. Department of Education.

No other Tennessee schools appear in the top 50.

UT Martin’s bachelor of nursing degree program is ranked second on RegisteredNursing.org’s list of the best programs for registered nursing in Tennessee for 2019. This is the third year the website has produced a state-specific list based on each program’s licensure pass rate.
LOCAL STUDENT RECEIVES COMMUNICATIONS AWARD – Kevin Bartholomew, left, of South Fulton, received the Duke Drumm-WCMT Scholarship from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences – broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations – each spring. Bartholomew is pictured with Terry Hailey of Thunderbolt Broadcasting. For more information, contact the department at 731-881-7546. (Photo submitted)

LOCAL STUDENT RECOGNIZED DURING UT MARTIN HONORS DAY – Hailey Slaughter, of Union City, received the Outstanding English Student Award April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages. For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu. (Photo submitted)

LOCAL STUDENT RECOGNIZED BY COLLEGE OF BUSINESS – Brie Cobb, of South Fulton, was named a Faculty Scholar by the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Global Affairs for the 2018-19 academic year. For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu. (Photo submitted)

LOCAL STUDENT RECOGNIZED DURING UT MARTIN HONORS DAY – Hannah Carlisle, of South Fulton, received the Norman and Ruby Campbell Scholarship Award April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Chemistry and Physics. For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu. (Photo submitted)
Local Student Willie McNeal Visits Morocco with UT Martin Leadership Program

Willie McNeal (front row, second-to-right), a fine and performing arts major from Somerville, traveled to Morocco and Spain with the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Ned Ray McWherter Institute in March.

The Ned Ray McWherter Institute is a three-year professional development program that provides travel, networking and leadership opportunities to select UT Martin students across all majors. The institute’s junior cohort plans a spring international trip each year to a country where neither English is the official language nor is the United States dollar the official currency.

McNeal, along with nine other class members, chose to travel to both Morocco and Spain, becoming the first cohort to visit two continents. During the trip, students visited sites such as the Royal Palace of Madrid and the Plaza de Toros bullring in Madrid, Spain, as well as the Atlas Mountain range and the Jemaa el-Fnaa market in Marrakech, Morocco.

Pictured at Riad Hidden, a traditional Moroccan house where the cohort stayed in Marrakech, are (front row, 1-r) Dr. Carrie Humphreys, UT Martin assistant professor of political science and international studies; students Mary Lane Minatra, Meera Patel, Savannah Stanely and McNeal; Ikram Ouinkhir, riad manager; (back row) students Brooke Boshers, Stone Craft, Kalen Royal, Alex Dunn, Erin Young and John Fritts.

For more information about the Ned Ray McWherter Institute, contact Joyanne Gansereit, program coordinator, at 731-881-3620.

DRESDEN ENTERPRISE • APRIL 17, 2019

Local Recognized During UTM Honors Day

Kaitlyn Sanders, of Greenfield, received the Outstanding Family and Consumer Sciences Student Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu.
MARTIN, Tenn. – An Obion County student has been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2018-2019 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

- Rebecca Davis, of Hornbeak, is a senior. She received the Information Systems Award and the Elam Transfer Advance Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN, 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.

THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY ENTERPRISE, RIPLEY, TENNESSEE, APRIL 18, 2019

Students Honored

STUDENTS, Erin Young, left, of Henning, and Chad Lewis, right, of Gates, were recognized during the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony April 7th.

Erin received the Norman and Ruby Campbell Scholarship Award. This award is given by the Department of Chemistry and Physics.

Chad received the Sam and Gladys Siegel Agricultural Award. This award is given by the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources.

For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu.
Visits Morocco

ERIN YOUNG, second from right, in rear, of Henning, along with other students in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Ned Ray McWherter Institute, traveled to Morocco and Spain in March. Erin, a chemistry major, is the daughter of David and Kim Young. The Ned Ray McWherter Institute is a three-year professional development program that provides travel, networking and leadership opportunities to select UT Martin students across all majors. The institute’s junior cohort plans a spring international trip each year to a country where neither English is the official language nor is the United States dollar the official currency. The group chose to travel to both Morocco and Spain, becoming the first cohort to visit two continents. During the trip, students visited sites such as the Royal Palace of Madrid and the Plaza de Toros bullring in Madrid, Spain, as well as the Atlas Mountain range and the Jemaa el-Fnaa market in Marrakech, Morocco. They are pictured at Riad Hidden, a traditional Moroccan house where the cohort stayed in Marrakech. Participants included, in front, from left, Dr. Carrie Humphreys, UT Martin assistant professor of political science and international studies, students, Mary Lane Minatra, Meera Patel, Savannah Stanley and Willie McNeal; and Ikram Ounikhir, riad manager; and in rear, students, Brooke Boshers, Stone Craft, Kalen Royal, Alex Dunn, and John Fritts. For more information about the Ned Ray McWherter Institute, contact Joyanne Gansereit, program coordinator, 731-881-3620.

PHI KAPPA PHI

Anjalee Patel, of Ripley, was initiated into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Patel is pursuing a degree in Biology at The University of Tennessee at Martin.

Patel is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines.
Athletes honored at awards banquet

The second annual UT-Martin's Athletes of the Year were held Monday night at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center as the 436 current University of Tennessee at Martin student-athletes were rewarded for a remarkable 2018-19 season.

Amy McGivern (soccer) was named the 2019 Betty Giles Female Athlete of the Year, while Tyreke Sapp (track and field) was voted the 2019 Bob Carroll Male Athlete of the Year recipient, and Brooke Gyori (volleyball) earned the 2019 Sportsmanship Award.

McGivern was named the Ohio Valley Conference Offensive Player of the Year following an outstanding senior campaign where she helped the Skyhawks set a school record for wins (15) on their way to the OVC regular season championship.

She led the league in points (29), goals (14) and game-winning goals (six) – ranking in the top-20 nationally in goals (11th) and points per match (17th).

The Drummeress, Northern Ireland native currently sports a 3.53 Grade Point Average and has been named to the OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll twice.

A native of Cypress, Texas, Sapp took the OVC by storm during a historical redshirt freshman campaign. He captured seven victories spread out over four different events this season, including the OVC Indoor Championship titles in the 60-meter dash, the 200-meter dash and the distance medley relay.

Owning a 3.68 cumulative GPA, he nabbed victories in the 60-meter, 200-meter, 400-meter and distance medley relay and also broke the school record in each of the preceding events this spring.

Gyori has been a leader for the UT Martin volleyball squad in each of the last two seasons, excelling in both the athletic and academic forums.

She became one of just two players in school history to earn the OVC Defensive Player of the Year nod after leading the league with a 5.33 digs per set average. She also snagged All-OVC first team accolades after ranking 14th in the country with 656 digs last fall.

The Oregon, Ohio native boasts a 3.77 GPA and claimed a spot on the OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll last season.

UT Martin’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee also presented awards during the evening. Soccer’s Danae Kaladaridou won the award for Best Worst Action Shot, while Kelby Kane from equestrian was named the New Kid on the Block.

The Play of the Year went to Sean Dixon (baseball) with a game-saving catch against Samford, while Sade’ Hudson (women’s basketball), Blake Williams (baseball) and Alexius Thomas (soccer) each won the Call of Duty award.

Winning the Helping Hand award was equestrian’s Grace Salmon, while senior academic award recipients included Jemima Potter (tennis), Gyori (volleyball), Bianca McFarland (soccer), Jessie Douglas (softball), Cherie Wilson (cross country/track and field), Sara Ketis (soccer), Andre Delcalzo (rifle), Jonah Brody (baseball), Andrea Plantada (tennis), and Chantal Wilson (cross country/track and field).

Skyhawk athletic director Kurt McGuffin and Leaders Credit Union also presented the point leaders from the Student Rewards program with gifts. Jason Ziegler accumulated the most points this season and was followed by Randy Chavez (second place), Michael Davis (third place), Jule Streif (fourth place) and Hollis Bonds (fifth place) rounded out the top five.
Local athletes show off special skills at Olympics

By CLINTON SMITH
Special to The Press

Local student-athletes showed off their special talents recently when Union City High School hosted the Upper West Tennessee Special Olympics Spring Games April 4.

One hundred and twenty seven Special Olympics athletes from nine schools in Obion, Weakley, and Henry counties participated. The annual event was sponsored by Upper West Tennessee Special Olympics. Athletes participated in track-and-field events such as the 50- and 100-meter dash, softball throw, standing long jump, running long jump, and a new event that was introduced this year, the mini-javelin.

Twelve students from Upper West Tennessee will be chosen to attend the Special Olympics Tennessee Summer Games in Nashville, which will be held May 17-18 at Lipscomb University.

The mission of Upper West Tennessee Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. The experience gives participants continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Each year, the organization hosts two bowling tournaments, a basketball skills day, and three spring games events. In addition, during the school year, Athlete Training Nights are held to provide athletes with skills of learning different sports such as soccer, volleyball, flag football, basketball, baseball, and other fun activities.

Full participation is granted to every athlete regardless of his or her economic circumstances. The ultimate goal of Special Olympics is to help persons with intellectual disabilities participate as productive and respected members of society at large by offering them a fair opportunity to develop and demonstrate their skills and talents through sports training and competition.

To follow the athletes on their journey, visit Upper West Tennessee - Area 7 Special Olympics on Facebook.

Editor's note: Clinton Smith is the Area Director for the Upper West Region Special Olympics Tennessee.
LEADER — Brooke Gyori (center) of the UT Martin volleyball team poses with the 2019 Sportsmanship Award, along with head coach Jaclynn Wilson (left) and Assistant Athletics Director for Academics and Student-Athletic Services Danielle Fabianich. Gyori received the honor at Monday's UT Martin's banquet.

TOP 'HAWKS — UT Martin soccer player Amy McGivern and Tyreke Sapp of the track and field team pose with their awards Monday's UT Martin's banquet. McGivern received the 2019 Bettye Giles Female Athlete of the Year honor, while Sapp earned the 2019 Bob Carroll Male Athlete of the Year award.
UTM hires new director of athletic bands

A new director of athletic bands will take over effective July 1 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Steve Barnett, formerly the coordinator for UTM’s Office of Educational Outreach, was hired last week, according to Julie Hill, chairman of the music department.

Barnett spent 24 years in Mississippi working as a band director at both the high school and collegiate levels, including four years at the University of Mississippi.

He also taught at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va., for 11 years. There, he served as a professor of music, director of bands, program director for the School of Music and Theatre, coordinator of music education and conductor for marching band and wind symphony.

Barnett then worked for Amro Music Co. in Memphis as an educational music representative for West Tennessee before accepting his previous position at UTM in 2016.

He has also published 15 marching band arrangements.

Barnett has a bachelor’s degree in music from Ole Miss and a master’s in music education from Mississippi College.

“The music faculty and I are thrilled with the hire of Steve Barnett. He brings decades of experience in developing outstanding band programs,” Hill said.

“Steve’s teaching style when it comes to marching band is based on the SEC model, which focuses on a variety of music and changes parts of the performance throughout the season,” she said. “His goal is to make the Aviator Marching Band the center of game day spirit involving as many student performers and fans in the crowd as possible.”
MARTIN, Tenn. – Several Henry County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2019-2020 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

- Coleman Davis, son of Clint and Leigh Ann Davis, of Paris, will be a freshman. He received the Chancellor Scholarship.

- Allie Watson, daughter of Ricky and Amanda Watson, of Mansfield, will be a freshman. She received the Achieve Scholarship.

- Chase Wyrick, son of Scott and Barbara Wyrick, of Cottage Grove, will be a freshman. He received the Dean Scholarship.

MARTIN, Tenn. – Several Obion County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2019-2020 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

- Madison Butner, daughter of Chris and Allison Butner, of Union City, will be a freshman. She received the Achieve Scholarship.

- James Ramsey, son of Joseph and Katie Ramsey, of Union City, will be a freshman. He received the Achieve Scholarship.

- Dayton Thompson, of Union City, son of Jamie and Ashley Merrell and Chris and Edie Thompson, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.
MARTIN, Tenn. - Several Weakley County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2019-2020 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

- Brittany Dyer, of Martin, daughter of Bill and Paige Dyer and Amanda Smith, will be a senior. She received the James Augustus Staulcup Scholarship.

- Ethan Garcia, son of Jun and Coleen Garcia, of Martin, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.

- Raegan Johnson, daughter of Sandra Johnson, of Dresden, will be a freshman. She received the Achieve Scholarship.

- Sophia Lamar, daughter of Cecil and Heather Lamar, of Martin, will be a freshman. She received the Achieve Scholarship.

- Leigh Lester, of Martin, daughter of Donald Ricketts, will be a senior. She received the Carol McElvain Memorial Scholarship.

- Justin Nelson, of Martin, son of Sabrina Nelson and Robert Nelson, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.

- Bailey Smith, of Greenfield, daughter of Danny Smith and Christy Smith, will be a freshman. She received the Chancellor Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN, 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.

https://www.overtoncountynews.com/

Mary Rachel Gean receives UT-Martin honor

Apr 23, 2019

Mary Rachel Gean, of Livingston, received the Faculty Women's Club Scholarship on Sunday, April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Honors Day ceremony.

This award is given by the UT Martin Faculty Women's Club. For more information about UT Martin visit utm.edu.
Local Residents Initiated into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, LA (04/15/2019) -- The following local residents were recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society.

Christine Anderson of Milan (Tennessee) was initiated at The University of Tennessee at Martin.

Courtney Jackson of Bradford (Tennessee) was initiated at The University of Tennessee at Martin.

Jordan Reynolds of Bradford (Tennessee) was initiated at The University of Tennessee at Martin.

Keaton Wilson of Humboldt (Tennessee) was initiated at The University of Tennessee at Martin.

Meleah Gateley of Humboldt (Tennessee) was initiated at The University of Tennessee at Martin.

These residents are among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and the Philippines. Its mission is “To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.”

Bell named Beth Maloan Outstanding Student Employee

Jordan Bell of Dresden, received the University of Tennessee at Martin Beth Maloan Outstanding Student Employee Award for the spring 2019 semester during a ceremony April 14. Bell is a junior studying agricultural engineering technology, and he currently works in the Steven E. Rogers Media Center at the Paul Meek Library.

“Jordan goes beyond the normal duties, doing more than expected. He strives for excellence, maintaining the highest standards, looking after the smallest detail and going the extra mile on a daily basis,” wrote Patricia Sanders, media center manager, in Bell’s nomination letter. “He has made himself indispensable, to the point that staff and faculty think he’s a full-time employee and will ask for him by name. … His integrity and work ethic are impeccable.”

Bell is in charge of duplication and 3D printing services in the media center and works with UT Martin students, faculty and staff to manage projects and provide customer service in a variety of areas. He also works on his family’s dairy farm in addition to his academic studies. Bell is also a member of the Ned Ray McWherter Institute, which provides specialized personal and professional development opportunities to a select number of applicants.

The Beth Maloan Outstanding Student Employee Award is named for the late Beth Maloan, longtime UT Martin director of budgeting and payroll, who was a strong advocate of student employment. It recognizes exemplary work ethic and commitment to the university. The award is given each semester to a student nominated by his or her supervising office or department.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.
**WALKER SPEAKS TO K-KIDS —** Dr. Daniel Walker, (left) associate professor of veterinary health technology at the University of Tennessee at Martin, had a "romping good time" on April 18 when he visited with the K-Kids of Martin Elementary School. Dr. Walker, a graduate of UTM, teaches in the veterinary health technology program and explained that a "vet tech" is a veterinary nurse. Accompanying Dr. Walker for the presentation and hands-on activity was Amanda Waldon, instructor in the program and mother of two K-Kids, who brought her dog Chance to meet the students. After donning surgical garb, the students were able to listen to the dog's heartbeat. They learned a dog's heartbeat is not regular like a human heartbeat. They also learned about the essentials of having a pet: water, food, shelter, and affection. Dr. Walker explained about service animals and some of their responsibilities. Some animals see for their owners while others hear and fetch needed objects. Among other things, animals can be trained to detect when an owner might be in danger of low blood sugar or having a seizure. The students impressed "Dr. Danny" by remembering their Jane Goodall study and naming 10 dog breeds. Then they were challenged to name 10 cat breeds, and they did. One of the students even talked about a friend who had numerous types of more exotic pets such as an alpaca.

**SKYHAWK SUMMER ACADEMY —** Dr. Philip Smartt (right), professor of park management, helps a member of the 2018 Skyhawk Summer Academy guide a drone over the university quadrangle outside Gooch Hall while classmates observe.

**UTM to host summer academy**

The University of Tennessee at Martin will host two sessions of the 2019 Skyhawk Summer Academy on June 10-14 and July 15-19 for rising high school juniors and seniors. The registration fee is $40 per person, and registration is open until May 1. Students only attend one campus session.

Participating students will complete online coursework culminating in one week of on-campus hands-on experience. Online coursework is self-paced and hosted through Canvas, UT Martin's online learning platform. Academic areas include chemistry, nursing, veterinary health technology, animal science, agriculture, fine arts, computer science, library technology and more.

These courses do not include college credit. However, participating students interested in pursuing these degree fields as undergraduate students at UT Martin upon graduation from high school will have their admissions application fee waived.

For more information, contact Dr. Adam Wilson, director of UT Martin Online, at awilson9@utm.edu or Alisha Melton, program coordinator, at amelton6@utm.edu.
Leighton presented Distinguished Alumni Award from UT Martin's Department of Communications

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications presented Jim Leighton ('79) with the 2019 Department of Communications Distinguished Alumni Award during a reception April 3. On hand for the presentation were (from left) Dr. Richard Robinson, professor of communications; Leighton; Rodney Freed, instructor of communications; and Dr. Robert Nanney, chair, Department of Communications.

Leighton, who is retired from work with Sony, ESPN, The Disney Company and other corporations throughout the broadcasting industry, described his career for a crowd of communications students and faculty members. Leighton noted a few of his most interesting projects, including working with the engineering team that designed and installed the infrastructure to support the broadcast of the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. The broadcast was actually controlled from the Saturday Night Live soundstage at 30 Rock in New York City.

Leighton also worked on the design team for the first Direct TV upload facility in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and managed the engineering team that designed and implemented the analog infrastructure at Oprah Winfrey's studio in Chicago. He has worked with E! Entertainment, The Weather Channel and other stations to design and deliver programming as well and has experienced great change in the industry over the past four decades.

"During my 40 years, I experienced a transformation in (the broadcasting) industry like no other. I remember when I first came to Martin, that's when I experienced cable TV for the first time. ... I saw the evolution of audio and video recording technology. When I started with this business, we were using two-inch open-roll videotape. It went from that to cassettes, and now they're using hard drives and solid-state media that can either be on-premise or in the cloud. ... It's not like it used to be," he said.

Leighton also took the time to deliver three lessons to the assembled students, many of whom are preparing to graduate. First, he stressed the importance of honesty, integrity and trustworthiness in any career field.

"These three traits will become the measure of you as a person and as a professional. Your colleagues, your employers, your customers will all measure you on how you exemplify those three traits," he said.

He also encouraged students to begin building their personal networks early and to collect a business card or social media connection from every person they meet, because you never know which person might be able to help you get to where you need to go.

"That network will open doors for you that you can't open for yourself in many cases," he said. "It will expose you to jobs that you wouldn't ordinarily know were out there. It will get you an interview for that job that you really want that you haven't been able to get an interview for. It will open doors to people that you need to see for whatever reason that you haven't been able to get in to see. It will become the most valuable asset you will have in your career."

Finally, he urged students to evaluate not only a position's potential paycheck but also the benefits a company might offer to stretch their money further into retirement, such as insurance benefits, on-site gym and childcare facilities, and matching funds for retirement plans.

"There's no time like the present to start planning for the future," he said. "Have a plan for where you're going to be in five years, 10 years, and so on."

Leighton joins a group of distinguished alumni award-winners that includes broadcast personality Van Jones, meteorologist Charlie Neese and radio station owner Nick Martin.

For more information, contact the Department of Communications at 731-881-7546.
Leigh Anne Rainey is completing her first year as principal of Mt. Juliet High School. She is looking forward to watching her seniors walk across the stage at graduation, shaking their hand and saying, “You did it. Now go on and be great!”

“I enjoy being a small part of their story and pushing them to be their best,” she said.

It is Rainey’s eighth year in administration. Previously, she served as principal of Mt. Juliet Middle School and executive principal of The Academies at Jonesboro High School in Jonesboro, Ark.

She is married to Todd Rainey. Their family includes children, Taylor Rainey, 19, a sophomore at the University of Tennessee; Daniel Rainey, 15, a freshman at Mt. Juliet High School; and Jake Rainey, 11, a fifth grader at West Elementary.

In her spare time, Rainey enjoys boating, watching her children play sports and reading.

A woman she admires is Eleanor Roosevelt.

“She was very passionate about her beliefs and was a voice of the ‘underdog’ from a new and very different platform. She was often criticized for using her voice in the platforms that she was given and even for disagreeing with her husband’s policies on several occasions,” she said. “I admire her drive, her tenacity and her ability to use her voice for the betterment of all, even if it draws criticism. She was a ‘force to be reckoned with’ in a time when women were not a loud voice.

Rainey was born on a naval base in Philadelphia. She spent a large portion of her childhood in the Crieve Hall area of Nashville and moved to Franklin as a fourth grader.

Rainey graduated from Franklin High School and earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin. She also earned graduate degrees from the University of Memphis and Arkansas State University.

“I have enjoyed working with students and had a passion to teach since I was in the sixth grade. Through college, I had planned to attend medical school. My senior year, I realized that I really had a passion for being the one that taught the doctors — so I continued my educational studies to pursue my master’s degree in education,” Rainey said. “I began teaching in Memphis City Schools and have loved every part of my job since then.

In 2017, the opportunity to become the principal of Mt. Juliet Middle School opened.

“I was very excited for the opportunity to come back to Middle Tennessee after being gone for 26 years. My family is located in this area and we are thrilled to be home,” she said.
US Rep. Kustoff meets with leadership group from UT Martin

April 24, 2019 by WBBJ 7 Eyewitness News Staff

ALAMO, Tenn. — A U.S. congressman from West Tennessee spoke Wednesday with a group from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Congressman David Kustoff spoke with participants of the Leadership WestStar Program at the Green Frog in Alamo.

Kustoff spoke about energy issues, the environment and the state of our economy. He then answered questions from the group.

Kustoff tells us why events like this are so important.

"The primary job of a congressman is to serve the community, serve the congressional district and know what is on people's minds so that I better know how to vote when I'm in Washington," Kustoff said.

Congressman Kustoff says Republicans are working on regulations that would help the U.S. become more energy independent in the future.

Fulmer at UT Martin: on his "dream job and memories of McWherter"

University of Tennessee athletics director Phillip Fulmer was the keynote speaker at last night's Ned Ray McWherter Institute "Igniting" event.

Before the program, Fulmer told Thunderbolt Radio News about his "dream job" with the Tennessee Vols.

With the event sponsored by the Ned Ray McWherter Institute, Fulmer remembered the former Governor and Weakley County native.

Former West Tennessee players for Fulmer at Tennessee, Chad Clifton of Martin and Trey Teague of Jackson also attended last night's event.
Obion County Students Complete UTM Nursing Program

APRIL 24, 2019 AT 3:10 PM  POSTED BY SHANNON MCFARLIN

MARTIN, Tenn. - Diana Ramos Franco, of Troy, and Paige Russell, of Union City, have finished the University of Tennessee at Martin's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. This rigorous three-year program includes more than 900 hours of clinical experience and has produced high-quality nurses for more than 45 years. Thirty-two students completed the program this year and will receive their degrees during UT Martin's commencement ceremony May 4. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Nursing at 731-881-7131. Photos courtesy of Christie's Photography in Martin.
Former Vols Coach Fulmer speaks at UT Martin

By West Kentucky Star Staff

MARTIN - Phillip Fulmer, current director of athletics and former head football coach at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, spoke during the University of Tennessee at Martin Ned Ray McWherter Institute’s 2019 Igniting Innovation fundraising dinner on Tuesday.

Fulmer praised the leadership of both UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver and UT System Interim President Randy Boyd before sharing what he considers the four pillars of leadership with his audience, which included university donors, community supporters and NRMI students and staff.

“The first (pillar of leadership) is communication. Don’t surprise me. As much as we can, we want to communicate and make sure that we’re going through the processes that we’re supposed to go through so that we don’t surprise each other. Number two is trust, and trust is not given. It’s earned over a period of time,” he said.

“The third thing, for us as an athletic department … is warmth. Warmth for each other, meaning I care about you and you care about me. We all care about our student-athletes. We all care about our university. We all care about our community and our state and what we represent. We’re working hard to be warmer at the University of Tennessee,” Fulmer continued. “The last (pillar) is intensity. Get up every day to be the very best that you can possibly be. … Everyday get up to beat Georgia, Florida and Alabama.”

Fulmer has served the University of Tennessee for more than 40 years. During his time as head coach of the Tennessee Volunteer football team, he led the team to five championship games in the Southeastern Conference (with wins in 1997 and 1998) and a national championship title in 1998. He was most recently inducted into the Tennessee Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017, and he received a first-ballot induction to both the National Football Foundation and College Football Hall of Fame in 2012.

UT Martin alumni William Rhodes III, chairman, president and CEO of Autozone, and Ronnie and Jannie Yeargin, owners of Yeargin Farms, received R. Clayton McWhorter awards from the Ned Ray McWherter Institute during the event. These awards recognize members of the regional community who have shown themselves to be innovators in their fields.

For more information on the institute, Igniting Innovation or Fulmer’s appearance, contact Joyanne Gansreit, program coordinator, at 731-881-3620 or gansreit@utm.edu.
African American Leadership Conference Schedule for May 7

MARTIN, Tenn. – The University of Tennessee at Martin WestStar Leadership Program will host the 21st-annual African American Leadership Conference from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m., May 7, at the STAR Center in Jackson.

The conference registration fee is $35 per person and includes both a continental breakfast and lunch. High school and college students can attend for $20 per person. Registration information and payment must be received in the WestStar office by May 1.

Dr. Glenda Baskins Glover, president of Tennessee State University in Nashville, will appear as keynote speaker this year. Glover began serving as president of TSU in January 2013 and has since worked to advance a five-point vision focusing on academic progress and customer service; fundraising and partnerships; diversity and inclusion; shared governance; and business outreach.

She is also a certified public accountant and an attorney and is one of only two African American women in the country to hold the PhD-ID-CPA combination. She holds a bachelor’s degree from TSU and a master’s degree from Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia. She then earned a doctoral degree in business from George Washington University and a law degree from Georgetown University, both in Washington, D.C.

The 2019 conference will also feature Yvette Blue, assistant superintendent of Haywood County Schools; Andrea Bond-Johnson, CEO of Golden Circle Insurance in Brownsville; Sharron Murden, northwest district manager of CB&S Bank in Bolivar; and Dr. Joseph Fouche, a hematologist and oncologist at Kirkland Cancer Center in Jackson, as morning speakers. After lunch, attendees will hear from Charles Watkins Sr., senior instructor at Operator of Technology Inc., and Rev. Rufus Smith, senior pastor at Hope Presbyterian Church in Memphis.

All attendees must register online regardless of payment method. Visit utm.edu/weststar and choose the “conferences and events” tab to the left and select “conferences” to find registration information. Payment can be made online via credit or debit card, mailed by check or paid in person. All checks must be made out to WestStar and mailed to WestStar Leadership Program, Hall-Moody Administration Building room 321, Martin, TN, 38238. Payment must be received no later than May 7.

The African American Leadership Conference is made possible by the WestStar Leadership Program, Simmons Bank-Brownsville, West Tennessee Healthcare, Hardin County, Henson Construction Services, Mark Heaston and the UT Center for Public Service. The STAR Center is located at 1119 Old Humboldt Road in Jackson.

For more information or registration assistance, contact Virginia Grimes, WestStar program coordinator, at 731-881-7298 or vgrimes@utm.edu or Jordan Gardner, administrative specialist, at 731-881-7005 or jgardn37@utm.edu.

Locals Initiated into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

The following local residents were recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Abigail Fritts of Martin, Avery Blanchard of Martin, Celina Gelpey of Martin, Christopher Swann-Gunleifson of Martin, Elizabeth Longwell of Martin, Emma Bruner of Martin, Kinlee Moore of Sharon, Ashley Kite-Rowland of Martin, Michael Singer of Martin, Olivia Reagan of Dresden, Shae Tyler of Martin, and Shadow Robinson of Martin

These residents are among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.
Jordan Bell (center), of Dresden, received the University of Tennessee at Martin Beth Maloan Outstanding Student Employee Award for the spring 2019 semester during a ceremony April 14. He is pictured with Maloan family members Jennifer Stroh and Chancellor Mike Maloan.

Bell Named Beth Maloan Outstanding Student Employee

MARTIN, Tenn. – Jordan Bell, of Dresden, received the University of Tennessee at Martin Beth Maloan Outstanding Student Employee Award for the spring 2019 semester during a ceremony April 14. Bell is a junior studying agricultural engineering technology, and he currently works in the Steven E. Rogers Media Center at the Paul Meek Library.

“Jordan goes beyond the normal duties, doing more than expected. He strives for excellence, maintaining the highest standards, looking after the smallest detail and going the extra mile on a daily basis,” wrote Patricia Sanders, media center manager, in Bell's nomination letter. “He has made himself indispensable, to the point that staff and faculty think he’s a full-time employee and will ask for him by name. … His integrity and work ethic are impeccable.”

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For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.
**Students To Perform Plays During Spring Showcase**

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Vanguard Theatre will present a student-directed showcase at 8 p.m., April 26 and 27, in the Vanguard Little Theater located inside the UT Martin Fine Arts Building. This event is free to the public.

The event will showcase final projects produced in this semester’s directing and play analysis course. The course challenges students to select a 10- to 30-minute one-act play to direct and produce from the auditioning process all the way to the final performance.

“The plays involve 22 characters played by students from all over campus—not just theatre or fine arts students—so the showcase offers opportunities for all (UT Martin) students to be involved in theatrical productions,” said Dr. Kevin Shell, UT Martin assistant professor of theatre and director of the Vanguard Theatre.

“The showcase also offers the work and creativity of our students to the campus and the community.”

The showcase will also include an innovative theatre and dance piece that was created, choreographed and directed by Macc Andrews, a senior fine and performing arts major, for the theatre senior project course. Both Andrews and Madison Lee, a junior fine and performing arts major, will present their own original works created during the fall 2018 playwriting course.

The showcase schedule is as follows:
- **April 26**
  - “Seaba Lessons” by Joseph Zeccola; directed by Erin Criswell, of Memphis
  - “I Dream Before I Take the Stand” by Arlene Hutton; directed by Lymonte Thomas, of Memphis
  - “Out of the Water Closet” by Andrews; directed by Andrews, of Humboldt
  - “Talk to Me Like the Rain and Let Me Listen…” by Tennessee Williams; directed by Macy Earley, of Union City

**Local Students Receive Scholarship to Attend UTM**

Several Weakley County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2019-2020 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

Brittany Dyer, of Martin, daughter of Bill and Paige Dyer and Amanda Smith, will be a senior. She received the James Augustus Stautcup Scholarship.

Ethan Garcia, son of Jun and Coleen Garcia, of Martin, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.

Raegan Johnson, daughter of Sandra Johnson, of Dresden, will be a freshman. She received the Achieve Scholarship.

Sophia Lamar, daughter of Cecil and Heather Lamar, of Martin, will be a freshman. She received the Achieve Scholarship.

Leigh Lester, of Martin, daughter of Donald Ricketts, will be a senior. She received the Carol McElvain Memorial Scholarship.

Justin Nelson, of Martin, son of Sahara Nelson and Robert Nelson, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.

Bailey Smith, of Greenfield, daughter of Danny Smith and Christy Smith, will be a freshman. She received the Chancellor Scholarship.

Lyndsey Beck, daughter of Jimmy and Dotty Kirksey, of Martin, received the Carl Seale Teaching Honors Day Award.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT: Martin, Martin, TN, 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.
Fulmer: Count your pennies, but make your pennies count

By KEVIN WEAKS
Sports Editor

Phillip Fulmer wanted to make sure the college students in his audience understood the value of life and living.

Using a story to illustrate his point, Fulmer's message was simple: "It's important to count your pennies," he said. "But, it's a lot more important to make your pennies count."

Fulmer was closing his address as keynote speaker for the Ned Ray McWherter Institute's sixth annual Igniting Innovation banquet, held Tuesday night in the Boling University Center on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus.

The NRMI is a three-year experience for UTM students, beginning in their sophomore year, to grow individually and collaboratively through several opportunities. Included are mentorships, leadership training, travel, networking and WestStar involvement.

The students selected go through a rigorous interview process, and Tuesday's event was a fundraiser for the program.

Prior to the event, Fulmer took time to get to know the current students in the program and hear about what is offered. He compared their work with what is going on throughout the University of Tennessee system under its new leadership, including Randy Boyd as UT president and Keith Carver as UTm chancellor.

"If there's one thing we're doing here tonight with these young people and with Keith or at our place under the leadership of Randy, I do believe we're making our pennies count," he said.

Fulmer is a 1972 Tennessee graduate and a player for the Vols during a period (1969-71) when the program posted a 30-5 record with an SEC championship and a Sugar Bowl win.

He served as the head coach at his alma mater for 17 years, guiding the Vols to a 152-52 record, five SEC Championship Game appearances with wins in 1997 and '98 and the 1998 national championship.

He spoke Tuesday about the four fundamental principles he brought back to Tennessee when he was hired as the athletic director on Dec. 1, 2017.

Communication: "Don't surprise me. Eighteen-to-22 year-olds can surprise you sometimes. Sixty-to-80 year-olds can surprise you sometimes. But, as much as we can, we want to communicate and go through the processes as best we can so we don't surprise each other."

Trust: "Trust is not given. It's earned over a period of time, and I think we're doing that."

Warmth: "I feel we have lost this in the athletic department over the years. Warmth is, I care about you, and you care about me. We all care about our student-athletes, our university, our community and our state. We're all working harder on that."

Intensity: "Get up every day to be the very best you can possibly be. You can say that another way — get up every day to beat Florida, Georgia and Alabama."

Fulmer noted the importance of mentors, looking at Doug Dickey, his former boss at Tennessee, ex-Nebraska coach Tom Osborne and former Florida State coach Bobby Bowden as his mentors.

He pointed out the things he feels are necessary for success.

"To do anything and be successful, you have to have passion, a work ethic and a determination about you to get where you want to," Fulmer said. "Our teams had that, and we're getting back to that now.

"Three things that go into passion — greatness, talent and effort. They're on parallel paths. You can't have one without the other."

He saw that on full display in 1994, when he was coaching he calls his favorite team.

A year after quarterback Heath Shuler headed to the NFL, the 1994 Vols battled through injuries and a 1-3 start to finish 8-4 and beat Virginia Tech in the Gator Bowl.

"It took tough times to bring out that passion," he said.

Sports editor Kevin Weaks can be contacted by email at kweaks@ucmessenger.com.
MAKING HIS POINT — Tennessee athletic director Phillip Fulmer spoke to University of Tennessee at Martin students in the Ned Ray McWhetter Institute as UTM chancellor Keith Carver listened in prior to his keynote speech at the NRMI banquet on Tuesday night. The former Volunteers football coach, who has been in his new position since Dec. 1, 2017, spoke to the group about the value of their life decisions and leadership. (See related coverage, Page 12.)

MEMORY TIME — Tennessee athletic director Phillip Fulmer smiles as he gets ready to autograph a media guide from his first full season as the Volunteers’ football head coach in 1993. Fulmer was in Martin on Tuesday night as the keynote speaker for the UT Martin Ned Ray McWhetter Institute Igniting Innovation banquet.
Every Vol success a thrill for Fulmer

By KEVIN WEAKS
Messenger Sports Editor

Phillip Fulmer loves seeing young people succeed. As the football head coach at Tennessee, he witnessed that up close for 17 years, leading his young players to a 152-52 record with two SEC championships and the national title in 1998.

Since Dec. 1, 2017, he's has been able to see that on a wider scale as the boss of the entire Tennessee athletic department.

Tuesday night, Fulmer was in Martin to help honor the successes of the Ned Ray McWherter Institute students at UT Martin.

Prior to serving as the keynote speaker, he sat down with some local media members and spoke on a variety of subjects.

It was another celebration of young athletes, held the night before in Knoxville, that made an impression on him.

"We had the Volscaa (Monday) night — it's a play on the Oscars," he said. "It was just us, just the student athletes. They planned the whole nine yards, and then they get in there and celebrate each other, the best and the brightest, and the funniest. It was really touching to see those young people interact."

While the success of Tennessee is ultimately measured by football and the basketball programs, Fulmer said he has enjoyed getting to know and understand the other sports as well. He noted that he had one daughter who played softball and another who was on the diving team, which gave him some understanding of those sports.

"Those kids — some of them come without scholarships, some with partial scholarships — their sports are as important to them as football and basketball is to those athletes. They're all great students and hardly have any issues to speak of, so that's been fun, too."

Fulmer touched on several subjects in a media session prior to the event:

KELLIE COMES HOME
Fulmer hired former Lady Vols player Kellie Harper, known as Kellie Jolly when she was point guard on three national title teams in the 1990s, as the women's basketball head coach earlier this month.

"We're excited about Kellie, obviously, in having been a part of Pat Summit's legacy and winning three national championships," Fulmer said. "She went to the NCAA Tournament at all of her stops, so she's a person who can change a program. She's an outstanding disciplinarian, and she's already come in and made an impact on our team. I'm happy about where we are."

Harper replaces Holly Warlick, who took over the program when legendary coach Pat Summit had to step down and guided the team for seven years.

BID FOR BARNES
Also this month, Fulmer was able to keep UCLA from hiring away men's basketball coach Rick Barnes, who had just guided the Vols to a Sweet 16 appearance.

UCLA contacted Barnes on a weekend, and then Fulmer met twice with his coach. Fulmer credits the administration now in place in Knoxville for stepping up to keep Barnes in the Big Orange family.

"In Rick's case, I thought I was done with those kinds of conversations, but UCLA was a place that was attracted to him," Fulmer said. "I appreciate him being so honest about it. I asked him to give us some time because I think it was pulling at his heartstrings to make a decision. But I asked that he give us some time and we'd come back with some options."

"And, honestly, I didn't want someone coming in and buying a coach. I didn't want to show a weakness that way."

HE'S THE BOSS
Fulmer says running the athletic department at Tennessee is a unique opportunity.

"It's the only job I ever would've taken," he said. "My wife (Vicky) thinks I've lost my ever-loving mind. She says, 'You have failed miserably at retirement.' I wouldn't do this anywhere else. I was really happy being the assistant baseball coach for my 10-year-old's (grandson) travel team. This is kind of like when momma calls, and I like it. I really enjoy being around the young people and seeing them achieve."

In 15 months, we've gone from being 41st in the all-sports trophy to 24th. I think that's because of culture and attitude, expectations and accountability."

He credits a lot of that culture change to the leadership of UT interim chancellor Wayne T. Davis and interim UT president Randy Boyd.

"We went through a wandering through the desert in athletics for a little while, and we're trying to build a stability," he said. "I think I've brought a calmness to athletics, Wayne Davis has done the same thing to the campus and Randy Boyd has done the same thing across the state. All of a sudden, we're communicating and trusting each other, and I think that's a wonderful place to be."

KNOWING NED RAY
Fulmer has fond memories of his time getting to know the late governor, a friendship that developed through one of Fulmer's best friends while playing at Tennessee in the early 1970s.

Carl Johnson was a teammate of Fulmer and served two positions in McWherter's administration.

"Ned and I were friends," Fulmer said. "Certainly being the governor and overseeing the university system, he was somebody I got to know. He loved us for us to win. When we beat Alabama, which we did pretty often back then, I'd send him a big cigar. I'd get a note back saying, 'Thank you and Go Vols.' He was a great guy."

Sports editor Kevin Weaks can be contacted by email at kweaks@ucmessenger.com.
Dr. Lovett to speak at commencement

Dr. Kenyatta Lovett, executive director for Complete Tennessee, will serve as keynote speaker during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s spring 2019 commencement ceremony, scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. May 4 in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Lovett is responsible for developing and implementing the programming necessary to support Tennessee’s vision to increase the number of state residents who hold postsecondary degrees by the year 2025.

He also leads Complete Tennessee’s research initiatives to shape policies and practices regarding higher education statewide.

Before accepting his current position, Lovett served as assistant vice chancellor for the Tennessee Board of Regents, where he led statewide initiatives to enhance Tennessee’s community college system and helped to implement statewide higher education reforms, including the Complete Tennessee Act of 2010 and former Gov. Bill Haslam’s Drive to 55. The Tennessean also recognized Lovett as one of five key people in the launch of the Tennessee Promise scholarship program. His wife, Tracey, is also a UT Martin alumna.

More than 700 UT Martin students are eligible to graduate this semester, and each student attending the commencement ceremony has been issued six tickets for friends and family members. Spring commencement is a ticketed event, and tickets will be checked at the door. Those without tickets will be able to watch the ceremony live from the Skyhawk Fieldhouse or online at utm.edu/commencement.

Dr. Linda Martin, vice president for academic affairs and student success for the University of Tennessee System, will represent the UT System during the ceremony.

Spring showcase features self-directed student plays

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Vanguard Theatre will present a student-directed showcase at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Vanguard Little Theater inside the Fine Arts Building.

The free event will showcase final projects produced in this semester’s directing and play analysis course. It challenges students to select a one-act play to direct and produce.

“The plays involve 22 characters played by students from all over campus, not just theater or fine art students, so the showcase offers opportunities for all (UT Martin) students to be involved in theatrical productions,” said Dr. Kevin Shell, assistant professor of theater and director of Vanguard Theatre. “The showcase also offers the work and creativity of our students to the campus and the community.”

The showcase will also include a theater and dance piece created, cho...

Skyhawk Summer Academy set

The University of Tennessee at Martin will host two sessions of the 2019 Skyhawk Summer Academy — June 10-14 and July 15-19 — for rising high school juniors and seniors.

Registration is $40 per person, and registration is open until May 1. Students attend one campus session.

Participants will complete online coursework culminating in one week of on-campus hands-on experience. Online coursework is self-paced.

Courses do not include college credit, but students interested in pursuing these degree fields as UTM undergraduate students upon high school graduation will have the admissions application fee waived.

For more information, contact Dr. Adam Wilson at awilson9@utm.edu or Alisha Melton at amelton6@utm.edu.

Safety division accredited

The Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation Program has granted the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Public Safety full accreditation status.

The announcement was made during the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police meeting held earlier this month in Franklin.

According to TLEA, agencies seeking TLEA accreditation voluntarily submit to a three-year process designed to improve professionalism and effectiveness by implementing 160 law enforcement standards and participating in an on-site assessment.

The standards evaluate an agency’s policies in a variety of areas, including organization, operations and budget management. The program is intended to encourage cooperation, recognize professional standing, develop professional services and ensure public safety across the state.

“The standard of excellence that is met through this process is to be admired. We are proud to recognize the hard work of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Public Safety, its staff and community leaders,” said Randy Evans, TACP president.
Simmons named assistant principal at Hillcrest Elementary School

Brittany Simmons has been named the new assistant principal at Hillcrest Elementary School in Troy.

The announcement was made recently by Hillcrest principal Travis Johnson.

"During her time as a teacher, Brittany has displayed many excellent leadership qualities, and we are very excited to see what kind of positive impacts she is going to have on our already great school," Johnson said.

Mrs. Simmons is a veteran teacher with nine years of teaching experience. Eight of those years came from teaching eighth-grade math at Lake Road Elementary.

In her time at Lake Road, Mrs. Simmons has taken on various leadership roles, including serving as teacher leader for the past two years.

She has a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin and is currently seeking her Ed.S. from Trevecca Nazarene University.

She is married to Will Simmons, who is the welding instructor at Obion County Central High School, as well as the coach of the OC Anglers fishing team. They have been married for eight years and they are the parents of a daughter, Reagan.

Mrs. Simmons is very excited for this new adventure in her life.

"My family is my world, and I am very thankful for the blessings God continues to give us. I am excited about this new opportunity, and I am looking forward to working with the wonderful faculty and staff at Hillcrest," she said.

Mrs. Simmons will begin the process of acclimating to her new role after state testing.

"Even though she will not begin working full-time as our assistant principal until after the current school year ends, she has already shown a dedication and a desire to hit the ground running," Johnson said. "We are very happy to welcome Brittany to the Hillcrest family."
Four locals earn UTM scholarships

Four Lauderdale County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2018-2019 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

• Chad Lewis, son of Allen and Tammie Lewis, of Gates, is a senior. He received the Anna Kate Wenz FIGHT Scholarship, the Matt Barnes Scholarship, the Parker Agricultural Scholarship, the Sam and Gladye Siegal Agricultural Honors Scholarship, and the Deans Scholarship.

• Allison Webb, daughter of Kim Webb, of Ripley, is a senior. She received the Music Scholarship, the Gooch Academic Scholarship, the James and Blondell Bailey Scholarship, the Chancellor Music Award, and the Dean Scholarship.

• Britney Fisher, daughter of Novie and Carol Fisher, of Ripley, will be a freshman. She received the Buford/Beatrice Irwin Family and Consumer Science Scholarship.

• Madison Griggs, of Ripley, daughter of Tommy Mills, Jean Mills, and Kelly Simpson, will be a sophomore. She received the Elam Transfer Promise Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn., 38238, or by calling 731-881-7040.
Local geologist comments on recent West Tennessee earthquake

April 25, 2019 by Ali Mason

MARTIN, Tenn. — Wednesday morning wasn’t West Tennessee’s first shake up.

The New Madrid Fault Line runs from Illinois, through Missouri, into West Tennessee and ends in Arkansas.

"The New Madrid Fault is actually a story that goes back about 750 million years, when the North American crust tried to tear itself apart, but didn’t really finish the job, so it basically left a scar in the earth’s crust," UT Martin professor of geology Angie Van Boening said.

Earthquakes happen because of tectonic plate activity.

However, fault lines can be located further inland on tectonic plates.

"When you have the plates moving, all of the stresses kind of build up along those scars, and so every once in a while you’ll have an earthquake that comes through along those places," Van Boening said.

Significant earthquakes don’t happen as often along the New Madrid Fault as they do on the San Andreas fault in California.

Smaller earthquakes are more common for West Tennessee.

The last major earthquakes took place between 1811 and 1812. Van Boening says those earthquakes ranged from a 7 to over an 8 in magnitude.
“When those happened, it did cause the Mississippi River to flow backwards at times and shift out of its banks, and so the Reelfoot Lake was created when it basically went through one of the earthquakes, kind of shifting the river and leaving behind a bend in the river, and so now it's a lake, rather than still being connected to the Mississippi,” Van Boening said.

In geological age, Reelfoot Lake is considered to be very young.

Earthquakes are measured from 1 to 10 on the Richter scale, and scientists use different tools to measure their magnitude.

Van Boening says there is about a 7 to 10 percent chance of another large earthquake over the next 50 years.
UT Martin Prepares Space To Honor "The Divine Nine"

Photo: The Divine Nine presidents and other campus representatives are pictured after the ceremony. Pictured are (l-r) Gerard Cox, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; Amberly Baker, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; Nick Marte, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; Jamal Roman-Carter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; Ashton Sawyers, National Pan-Hellenic Council president; UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver; Monice Moore Hagler, UT Advisory Board Member; John Abel, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs; Myesha Goodwin, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; James Fogg, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.; Kimani Subber, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.; Jameela Ahmad, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.; and Keley Johnson, Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.

MARTIN, Tenn. – The University of Tennessee at Martin officially broke ground on the creation of a dedicated space to be known as "The NPHC Greek Garden at Unity Circle" during a ceremony April 24. This tribute area will honor the "Divine Nine" traditionally African American fraternities and sororities, all of which are represented at UT Martin.

"This is not just a great day for our students and not just a great day for our Greek-letter organizations and for our alums. This is a historic and important day for UT Martin," said Chancellor Keith Carver. "With the construction of the Greek Garden, we celebrate the Divine Nine. We also celebrate our students and our diversity and our commitment to the future."

John Abel, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, remarked on the legacy of the Divine Nine organizations.

"The University of Tennessee at Martin welcomed its first black Greek-letter organization way back in 1970 with the arrival of Delta Sigma Theta. Many more would follow, and collectively they would leave a legacy that continues to impact our campus and community even to this very day. We are gathered here to commemorate these contributions and celebrate their legacies," he said.
Ashton Sawyer, a senior from Gallatin, addressed the crowd as the current president of the National Pan-Hellenic Council at UT Martin. He noted that UT Martin’s first African American president and vice-president of the Student Government Association, homecoming queen, homecoming king and many other campus leaders have all been part of the council and have contributed to the legacies left by the Divine Nine in recent years.

“This moment here today captures a commitment by the University of Tennessee at Martin to celebrate our NPHC members and our diverse backgrounds and accomplishments to the campus. We established a culture that positively influences the campus experience at UT Martin, and our presence is felt in the surrounding communities,” he said. “We hope that this place serves as a reminder of our legacy, of our commitment to service and our impact on the campus here at UT Martin – past, present and for many years to come.”

The ceremony ended with remarks from Monice Hagler, a partner in The Hagler Law Group, PLLC, in Memphis and member of the UT Martin Advisory Board. Hagler is a 1975 UT Martin graduate and an alumna of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

“It is my extreme pleasure to be here today to be excited along with the Divine Nine and all of you who have participated in making this day happen,” she said. “As an alumna to the UT Martin campus, this dedication represents a salute to the values and mission of all of the Divine Nine. As an advisory board member, I am pleased that there is such a strong commitment to the support of the Divine Nine, and this Greek Garden is a visible sign of that dedication because gardens speak life.”

The new garden area will feature individual plaques with information on the founding and purpose of each of the National Pan-Hellenic Council chapters on the UT Martin campus. An official dedication ceremony is scheduled to take place at 11:30 a.m., Nov. 2, during UT Martin’s homecoming festivities.

The nine National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations represented at UT Martin are Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Sigma Gamma Phi Sorority Inc. and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Life and Multicultural Affairs at 731-881-7525.
LIKE OLD FRIENDS — University of Tennessee Athletic Director Phillip Fulmer (left) and UT Martin chancellor Dr. Keith Carver have a good laugh Tuesday afternoon while both spoke with students who organized the Ned Ray McWherter Institute's igniting Innovation fundraising event. Fulmer was the keynote speaker. He spent some time with The Press before the dinner discussing Tennessee athletics. For the related story, see Page in the Sports section of today's edition. Photo by Sports Editor Randy Cavin

Local veterinarian named to state board

NASHVILLE — The Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) recently named its 2019-20 Executive Board. The Board is comprised of veterinarians from across the state. Among those, a local veterinarian was appointed to lead the Board for the upcoming year.

The newly elected officers are:
- President — Danny Walker, DVM, University of Tennessee at Martin;
- President-Elect — Matt Povlovich, DVM, Tennessee Equine Hospital, Thompson’s Station;
- Vice-President — Tai Federico, DVM, Riverview Animal Hospital, Chattanooga;
- Secretary/Treasurer — Margaret (Midge) Phillips, DVM, Clovercroft Veterinary Hospital, Franklin and
- Immediate Past President — Russell Reel, DVM, Morristown Animal Hospital, Morristown.

Six members-at-large were also elected to represent East, West and Middle Tennessee. They are: Joanne Hibbs, DVM, Tazewell Pike Animal Clinic, Corryton; Robert Monin, DVM, Mountain Empire Large Animal Hospital, Johnson City; Bob Parker, DVM, Shelby Center Hospital for Animals, Bartlett; Laura Dabney, Northside Animal Clinic, Humboldt; Beau House, DVM, Nashville Veterinary Specialists, Nashville; and Julie Buford, DVM, Nashville Veterinary Specialists, Nashville.

Deloris Green Gaines, CMP, serves as the executive director for the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association.

Since 1909, the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association has been committed to advancing the science and art of veterinary medicine. More than 1,200 members work to ensure that laws and regulations promote the health and well-being of all animals, and protect public health and human welfare. Large and small animal practitioners, students, and veterinary school graduates make up TVMA membership. For additional information, visit www.tvmanet.org.
Dr. Kenyatta Lovett, executive director for Complete Tennessee, will serve as keynote speaker during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s spring 2019 commencement ceremony, scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. May 4, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Lovett is responsible for developing and implementing the programming necessary to support Tennessee’s vision to increase the number of state residents who hold postsecondary degrees by the year 2025.

He also leads Complete Tennessee’s research initiatives to shape policies and practices regarding higher education statewide.

Before accepting his current position, Lovett served as assistant vice chancellor for the Tennessee Board of Regents, where he led statewide initiatives to enhance Tennessee’s community college system and helped to implement statewide higher education reforms, including the Complete Tennessee Act of 2010 and former Gov. Bill Haslam’s Drive to 55.

The Tennessean newspaper also recognized Lovett as one of five key people in the launch of the Tennessee Promise scholarship program.

His wife Tracey is also a UT Martin alumna.

More than 700 UT Martin students are eligible to graduate this semester, and each student attending the commencement ceremony has been issued six tickets for friends and family members. Spring commencement is a ticketed event, and tickets will be checked at the door.

Those without tickets will be able to watch the ceremony live from the Skyhawk Fieldhouse or online at utm.edu/commencement.

Dr. Linda Martin, vice president for Academic Affairs and Student Success for the University of Tennessee System, will represent the UT System during the ceremony.

For more information, contact the UT Martin office of University Relations at (731) 881-7615.

Vanguard to present student-directed plays

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Vanguard Theatre will present a student-directed showcase at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the Vanguard Little Theater located inside the UT Martin Fine Arts Building. This event is free to the public.

The event will showcase final projects produced in this semester’s directing and play analysis course.

The course challenges students to select a 10- to 30-minute one-act play to direct and produce from the auditioning process all the way to the final performance.

“The plays involve 22 characters played by students from all over campus—not just theatre or fine arts students — so the showcase offers opportunities for all (UT Martin) students to be involved in theatrical productions,” said Dr. Kevin Shell, UT Martin assistant professor of theatre and director of the Vanguard Theatre.

“The showcase also offers the work and creativity of our students to the campus and the community.”

The showcase will also include an innovative theatre and dance piece that was created, choreographed and directed by Maxx Andrews, a senior fine and performing arts major, for the theatre senior project course. Both Andrews and Madison Lee, a junior fine and performing arts major, will present their own original works created during the fall 2018 playwriting course.

The showcase schedule is as follows:

**FRIDAY**
- “Scuba Lessons” by Joseph Zeccola; directed by Erin Criswell, of Memphis
- “I Dream Before I Take the Stand” by Arlene Hutton; directed by Lymonte Thomas, of Memphis
- “Out of the Water Closet” by Andrews; directed by Andrews, of Humboldt
- “Talk to Me Like the Rain and Let Me Listen. . .” by Tennessee Williams; directed by Macy Earley, of Union City

**SATURDAY**
- “Her Heart,” an excerpt from “Almost Maine,” by John Cariani; directed by Thomas Rinehart, of Millington
- “Kate in a Cage” by Lee; directed by Lee, of La Vergne
- “Murder by Midnight” by Jeff Goode; directed by Zach Stone, of Paris
- Senior Project; directed by Andrews

For more information about the showcase or the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts, contact (731) 881-7400.
Phillip Fulmer pleased the situation with basketball coaches ended well

By Randy Cavin
Press Sports Editor

It takes a humble and determined person to go through a trying month as an athletic director at a major university. UT Knoxville athletic director Phillip Fulmer is that kind of person.

He had to deal with the dismissal of Lady Vols head basketball coach Holly Warlick and find her replacement, while also having to figure a way to keep men's basketball head coach Rick Barnes from taking the UCLA head coaching position. All of that happened within the last month, and he found a way to do it.

Fulmer was in Martin Tuesday evening to be the keynote speaker at the Ned Ray McWherter Institute's Igniting Innovation event and took the time to speak to members of the media about the two head coaching jobs, and other things about the University of Tennessee athletics programs.

The athletic director not only was able to keep Barnes as the men's head coach, but he was also able to hire Kellie Harper to replace Warlick as the women's head coach. Harper has a long history with the Lady Vols, having been a member of the team that won three straight national championships.

"It was a very interesting month," Fulmer said. "We are excited about Kellie, obviously being part of Pat Summitt's legacy. She won three national championships, and she went to the tournament at all of her stops along her way. She is a person who can change a program, and she is an outstanding disciplinarian. She has already come in and made an impact on our girls. I am really happy about where we are.

"In Rick's case, I thought I was kind of done with those kinds of conversations. But, as it turned out, UCLA was a place that attracted him, and they were obviously attracted to the coach. I appreciate him being so honest about it."

Fulmer wanted to keep Barnes at Tennessee. He did not want another fiasco like what happened several years ago with a certain former football head coach, who jumped ship and attempted to sneak out of Knoxville at night.

He had a couple of discussions with Barnes, and all he asked of the head coach was for some time to come up with something that would keep him at Tennessee.

"I heard about it on a Saturday night, and I met with him that Sunday night at 6:30 and I met with him again at 8:30," Fulmer said. "I asked him to give us some time, because they were pulling at his heartstrings a little bit to make a decision. Just give us some time, and we will come back with some options for you."

Fulmer was able to come up those options thanks to the UT administration wanting to keep Barnes in Knoxville as well.

"I give our administration some great credit," the athletic director said. "They stepped up in a big way. It is not for what only he has done on the basketball court, and that is big. But it was more so for the man that he is. He is a great influence in our community. And honestly, as an athletic director, I did not want somebody to come in and buy our coach. I did not want to show a weakness in that."

Having the administration going along with him to keep Barnes as the head coach is nothing new to Fulmer. He had seen it happen in the past when he was the head coach of the football team and as an assistant coach under Johnny Majors.

"That is what I come to expect from Tennessee," the athletic director said. "That is the way it was in our best times when I was a
Fulmer...
(Continued from Page 9)

coach. I think we, what I call, went wandering through the desert for a little while in athletics. We are trying to build stability, and I think I brought a calmness to the athletics. All of sudden we are communicating.”

Getting Fulmer to take the athletics director job in December of 2017 when it became available was not necessarily easy to do. Here he was retired and spending time with his wife, Vicky, his three daughters, Courtney, Brittany, Allison, and his son, Phillip Jr.

He was also involved with his grandchildren.

“It is the only job I would have taken,” he said. “My wife thinks I lost my ever-loving mind. She said, ‘You have failed miserably in retirement.’ But, I wouldn’t do this anywhere else. I was happy being an assistant baseball coach with my 10-year-old grandson’s travel team. I missed so much of my children, but I wasn’t going to do it with my grandchildren. This is like when momma calls.

“I like it. I really enjoy it most every day. Now, every day is not perfect. I really enjoy being around the young people and seeing them achieve. In 15 months or 16 months, we have gone from being 41st in the All-Sports trophy to 24th. I think a lot of that is with the culture, expectations and accountability.”

One thing Fulmer did when he was the head coach of the football team was recruit student-athletes in the state. He recruited and signed three players from Westview, who went on to have outstanding college careers at Tennessee.

Fulmer would like to see the best student-athletes go to Tennessee, but he knows that cannot always happen due to the competition from other universities, which wants to tap into what the state has to offer each year. However, there are years when the talent level in the state is just not what Tennessee is looking for, and that happens across the country.

“It just depends on the kind of years, really,” Fulmer said. “The fact that Nashville is growing like it is growing is certainly going to help. There have always been good players in the state, but not always will there be a fit for any particular school. They (coaches) have to recruit for positions now.

“When I was coaching, there were only 40 scholarships, so we kind of took them all just to keep them from going somewhere else. But now, you have to be recruiting positions. It is population-based, and we are not a big as some of our peers in our conference. But now we have a tradition to where we can go anywhere in the country and attract athletes to our school.”

A Tennessee program stayed in-state for one of its signees as Westview senior softball pitcher Anna Hazlewood is going to take her talent to Knoxville in the fall.
DRAWS ATTENTION — The University of Tennessee athletic director Phillip Fulmer (standing, fifth from left) poses with the organizers of the Ned Ray McWherter Institute’s Igniting Innovation event, in which he was the keynote speaker. Joining Fulmer are (sitting from left) Charris Waters, Danielle Gruenke, Leslie Burton, Emily Sutherland, Caroline Webb, (standing) Steve Vantrease, Dr. Keith Carver, Jordan Bell, Jeanette Stirman, Miles Wilbur, Ben Allen, Taylor McNeal, Diane Austin, and Joyanne Gansereit. Fulmer also spoke to members of the media about various topics pertaining to Tennessee athletics, which includes basketball, football, and recruiting in the state.

Area recruiters share same vision

By SABRINA BATES
News Producer

Army recruiters from two states came together recently to share one vision in the Paul Meek Library on the UT Martin campus.

Just outside of the double-doors leading to their training room was the bust of the late Marine Capt. Brent Morel, who was killed in Iraq in 2004. Morel was an alumnus of UTM and his family calls Martin its home.

A plaque hung beside his bronze bust highlights Morel’s service to his country and the medals he earned during service and posthumously. Visitors will notice embedded within the memorial site at the UT Martin library the stars and stripes that are representative of the United States of America.

The flag serves as the symbol of freedom in this country, bought and paid for by members of the United States Armed Forces. That symbol is a representation of the shared vision that was apparent as around 20 United States Army recruiters from Tennessee and Mississippi gathered for a brainstorming session recently hosted by the recruiting station.

"It is an honor and privilege to serve. We wear this flag on our uniform for honor, courage and valor and to

SEE VISION

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pay tribute to so many who have sacrificed," said Sgt. 1st Class Harvey McCuiston of Corinth, Mississippi. Sgt. McCuiston served active duty in the U.S. Army for 17 years before making the switch to the Army Reserve. As with many long-serving members, his dad served for 27 years in the military before retiring.

At his recruiting station in Oxford, Mississippi, McCuiston helps recruits on the Reservist path into the Army.

"The Reserve path is one that many, for example, a student at UT Martin could complete basic training and schooling for the Army and return home and continue his/her studies at UTM," McCuiston explained.

This path is one that offers a safe, sure, positive path of return. Not only does the Army benefit from another soldier joining its ranks; the Reservist receives tuition assistance to continue his education and still receive all of the benefits of being a service member. A Reservist path allows one to remain home as a citizen soldier and devote two days each month for Army training.

McCuiston and Martin-area recruiter and active-duty serviceman Sgt. Raymond Outlaw shared the same goal — to give potential soldiers the guidance needed for a path that fits their lifestyles.

"We are ambassadors to our communities. Locally, we want to ensure we are exemplifying what it takes to fulfill that role," McCuiston said.

"We believe honesty is the best policy. We want to lead people down the right path by being a part of a solution and not the problem," he added.

As recruiters brainstormed best practices and the best ways to lead a potential soldier on to a path suitable to the individual, it served as a reminder of what Outlaw says about his colleagues — they are normal human beings who, like so many civilians, want to do well at their jobs every day.

Just as the meaning of recruiter is "to recruit," Outlaw said evaluating and educating potential soldiers are the keys to success.

"From job availabilities to possible locations within that job classification and family life to situational circumstances, our role is to find the best possible fit for each individual," Outlaw shared.

As an active-duty recruiter, he said he tells many of his young enlistees who are looking to join the service to travel that they'll see more in one year in Army than potentially in their entire life.

Sgt. Outlaw is in his second year of a three-year recruiting term. He and his wife moved here from Colorado Springs, where he served as an Automated Logistics Specialist moving goods from warehouse and supply chains. The couple has one child and another on the way.

Sgt. Outlaw also spent part of his military career jumping out of airplanes; something he said is looking to do once again. As for now, he spends his days providing outreach to the community and grooming potential full-time soldiers.

"I tell people interested in the Army that now is a good time to enlist. We do not have a lot of conflicts right now and that gives people room for a lot of professional growth. The Army has a variety of jobs to suit someone based on their lifestyle and what their vision is," Outlaw added.

Whether it is a path to the Army or the Army Reserve, the brainstorming session recently held on the UT Martin campus highlighted the commitment recruiters share when it comes to preparing future soldiers for their journey into a lifestyle of service for a country dubbed as the land of the free because of the brave.

A free service offered by the U.S. Army, March-2Success, provides an online study service to help students prepare for standardized tests such as the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) exam.

It features tracking tools for parents and educators to help students with coursework.

For more information about the U.S. Army, contact the Martin Army Recruiting Station, located at 113 Regina St. in Martin by calling (731) 587-9058.
Local students receive scholarships to UT Martin

Three Henry County students have been awarded scholarships from the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2019-20 academic year. Receiving scholarships are Coleman Davis of Paris, Allie Watson of Mansfield and Chase Wyrick of Cottage Grove. Davis is the son of Clint and Leigh Ann Davis. He received the Chancellor scholarship. Watson is the daughter of Ricky and Amanda Watson. She received the Achieve scholarship. Wyrick is the son of Scott and Barbara Wyrick. He received the Dean scholarship.

Annual African American Leadership Conference is coming up May 7

The UTM WestStar Leadership Program will host the 21st African American Leadership Conference from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 7, at the STAR Center in Jackson. The event will feature seven renowned speakers from Middle and West Tennessee.

The African American Leadership Conference is made possible by the WestStar Leadership Program, Simmons Bank-Brownsville, West Tennessee Healthcare, Hardin County, Henson Construction Services, Mark Heaston, and the UT Center for Public Service. The STAR Center is located at 1119 Old Humboldt Road in Jackson.

Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover, president of TSU in Nashville, will be the keynote speaker. Glover began serving as president of TSU in January 2013 and has since worked to advance a five-point vision focusing on academic progress and customer service; fundraising and partnerships; diversity and inclusion; shared governance; and business outreach.

Glover holds a bachelor’s degree from Clark Atlanta University, a doctoral degree from George Washington University, and a law degree Georgetown University. She is also a CPA, and is one of only two African American women in the country to hold the PhD-JD-CPA combination.

Morning speakers will include Yvette Blue, with Haywood County Schools; Andrea Bond-Johnson, with Golden Circle Insurance; Sharron Morden, with CB&S Bank; and Dr. Joseph Fouche, with Kirkland Cancer Center. After lunch, attendees will hear from Charles Watkins, with Operator of Technology Inc.; and pastor Rufus Smith, with Hope Presbyterian Church.

The conference registration fee is $35 per person and includes both a continental breakfast and lunch. High school and college students can attend for $20 per person. All attendees must register online, and registration must be completed by May 1.

To register, visit utm.edu/weststar and choose the "conferences and events" tab to the left and select "conferences" to find registration information. Payment can be made online via credit or debit card, mailed by check, or paid in person. All checks must be made out to WestStar and mailed to WestStar Leadership Program, Hall-Moody Admin. Bldg. room 321, Martin, TN, 38238. Payment must be received no later than May 7.

For more information or registration assistance, contact WestStar program coordinator Virginia Grimes at 731-881-7298 or vgrimes@utm.edu, or administrative specialist Jordan Gardner at 731-881-7005 or jgardn37@utm.edu.
Dr. Kenyatta Lovett, executive director for Complete Tennessee, will serve as keynote speaker during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s 2019 spring graduation ceremony, scheduled to begin at 11 a.m., May 4, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

More than 700 UTM students are eligible to graduate this semester, and each student attending the commencement ceremony has been issued six tickets for friends and family members. Spring commencement is a ticketed event, and tickets will be checked at the door. Those without tickets will be able to watch the ceremony live from the Skyhawk Fieldhouse or online at utm.edu/commencement.

Lovett is responsible for developing and implementing the programming necessary to support Tennessee’s vision to increase the number of state residents who hold postsecondary degrees by the year 2025. He also leads Complete Tennessee’s research initiatives to shape policies and practices regarding higher education statewide. His wife Tracey is a UTM alumna.

Previously, Lovett served as assistant vice chancellor for the Tennessee Board of Regents, where he led statewide initiatives to enhance Tennessee’s community college system and helped to implement statewide higher education reforms, including the Complete Tennessee Act of 2010 and former Gov. Bill Haslam’s Drive to 55. The Tennessean also recognized Lovett as one of five key people responsible for the launch of the Tennessee Promise scholarship program.

Dr. Linda Martin, vice president for academic affairs and student success for the University of Tennessee System, will represent the UT System during the ceremony. For more information, contact the UTM Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Lauderdale County students, who have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2019-2020 academic year, include:

- Britney Fisher, daughter of Novie and Carol Fisher, of Ripley, will be a freshman. She received the Buford/Beatrice Irwin Family and Consumer Science Scholarship.
- Madison Griggs, of Ripley, daughter of Tommy Mills, Jean Mills, and Kelly Simpson, will be a sophomore. She received the Elam Transfer Promise Scholarship.
- Chad Lewis, son of Allen and Tammie Lewis, of Gates, is a senior. He received the Anna Kate Wenz FIGHT Scholarship, the Matt Barnes Scholarship, and the Sam and Gladye Siegal Agricultural Honors Scholarship, and the Deans Scholarship.
- Allison Webb, daughter of Kim Webb, of Ripley, is a senior. She received the Music Scholarship, the Gooch Academic Scholarship, the James and Blondell Bailey Scholarship, the Chancellor Music Award, and the Dean Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UTM Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN, 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.
To get degree

Caleb Hawley of Paris has finished the University of Tennessee at Martin's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. A three-year program, it includes more than 900 hours of clinical experience producing nurses for more than 45 years. Thirty-two students completed the program this year and will receive their degrees during UT Martin's commencement ceremony May 4.

Winners announced in Tennessee AP college awards for 2018

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Winners of the 2018 Tennessee Associated Press Broadcasters and Media Editors college journalism competition were announced Saturday.

Nearly 300 entries were submitted by student-led newspapers, TV stations, radio stations and digital operations at Tennessee schools. TAPBME conducts the contest to recognize the best college journalism in the state.

The AP is a not-for-profit news cooperative representing thousands of newspapers and broadcasters in the United States.

COLLEGE NEWSPAPER DIVISION:

Feature Story: 1, Hayden Goodridge, Middle Tennessee State University, "A Farmer's Forgiveness"; 2, Taylor Stephenson, Middle Tennessee State University, "A Letter a Day."

Sports Reporting: 1, Max Schneider, Vanderbilt University, "Man on the Move: Pat DeMarco's Journey to Stardom at Vanderbilt"; 2, Cutler Klein, Vanderbilt University, "From PICC Lines to Picking Corners: Haley Hopkins Heating up After Medical Scare."

News Graphic/Illustration: 1, Elisa Razak, University of Tennessee at Knoxville-The Daily Beacon; 2, Shania Green, Austin Peay State University.

College Photojournalist: 1, Claire Barnett, Vanderbilt University; 2, Cade Deakin, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga University Echo.

Specialized/Topic Reporting: 1, Max Schulman, Vanderbilt University, "How #MeToo is and isn't Changing Vanderbilt"; 2, Barbara Harmon and Taylor Stephenson, Middle Tennessee State University, "Relationships with 'Asexual' Requirement."

Investigative/In-Depth Reporting: 1, Brinley Hineman, Middle Tennessee State University, "MTSU Students Say Title IX Failed Them in Handling of Stalking Allegations"; 2, Gabriela Szymanowska, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, "Campus Fraternity Investigated for Scavenger Hunt Targeting Asian Students."

News Story: 1, Logan Garrett and Cade Deakin, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga University Echo, "President Donald Trump, VP Mike Pence Hold Rally on UTC's Campus"; 2, Maria Monreros, Trevecca Nazarene University, "Want Your Chapel Credit? Put Away Your Electronic Device."

Newspaper Reporter: 1, Brooklyn Dance, Trevecca Nazarene University; 2, Kylie Hubbard, University of Tennessee at Knoxville-The Daily Beacon, "Campus Community, the Rock Sets Stage for Free Speech Battle."

COLLEGE ONLINE DIVISION:
SCOTT RECEIVES AWARDS — Kait Scott (right) of Martin received both a Senior Ambassador Award and the Chairman's Outstanding Senior Award for public relations from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Scott is pictured with Dr. Robert Nanney, department chair.

BRUNER RECEIVES AWARDS — Emma Bruner (left) of Martin received several awards from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. Bruner was honored with the Swafford Public Relations Scholarship, the Faculty PReps Award, the Nick and Cathy Dunagan Team Spirit Award and an officer’s award from the Women in Communications organization. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Bruner is pictured with Dr. Teresa Collard, associate professor of communications.

WHS STUDENT RECEIVES AWARD — Dylan Ingram (right) of Martin received an incoming freshman scholarship from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. Ingram is a senior at Westview High School. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Ingram is pictured with Dr. Angie Glunz, lecturer of communications.

DUNLAP RECEIVES AWARD — Callie Dunlap (right) of Martin received a junior scholarship from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Dunlap is pictured with Henri Giles, lecturer of communications.
Heidi James of Dresden was invited into the University of Tennessee at Martin's chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, an international honors society that recognizes business students. This honor is awarded to students in the upper 10 percent of their programs in the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs. An induction ceremony will be held April 25 at UT Martin.

Barrett Belote of Martin was recognized as a faculty scholar by the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Global Affairs. Faculty members in the college each select one student to receive this award in honor of their outstanding work.

Morgan Curlin of Martin was named a Dean's Scholar by the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Business and Global Affairs for the 2018-19 academic year.

Luke Winters of Martin was invited into the University of Tennessee at Martin's chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, an international honors society that recognizes business students. This honor is awarded to students in the upper 10 percent of their programs in the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs. An induction ceremony will be held April 25 at UT Martin.

Brendon Page (right) of Martin received the WLJt Scholarship from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Page is pictured with Mike Peery, CEO and general manager of WLJt.
VINCENT RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP — John Vincent of Martin received the William H. Baker Scholarship Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the College of Business and Global Affairs.

LESTER RECOGNIZED — Leigh Lester of Martin received the Carol McElvain Memorial Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Nursing.

RECEIVES AWARD — Connor Alley of Martin received the Outstanding Upper Division Engineering Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Engineering.

RECEIVES STUDENT AWARD — Kaitlyn Sanders of Greenfield received the Outstanding Family and Consumer Sciences Student Award on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Honors Day ceremony. This award is given by the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

DAVIS EARNs AWARDS — Jessica Davis (left) of Sharon received two awards from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. Davis was recognized with both the Terry and Mitzi Hailey Award and the Virgil and Agnes Hoyer Memorial Award. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Davis is pictured with Terry Hailey of Thunderbolt Broadcasting.

BARNES RECEIVES AWARD — Anna Barnes (right) of Martin received the Media Design Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Barnes is pictured with Dr. Tracey Rutledge, associate professor of communications.
STUDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS — Jonathan Kirkland (right) of Martin received one of two Dr. Jerald Ogg Communications/Public Relations Scholarships from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications during a reception April 3. The department recognizes the most outstanding students in each of the four academic sequences — broadcasting, media design, newswriting and public relations — each spring. Kirkland is pictured with fellow award-winner Mariah Purcell (left) of Big Sandy, and Dr. Jerald Ogg, professor of communications.

LOCAL STUDENTS FINISH UT MARTIN NURSING PROGRAM — Madison Nelson Shumake and Katelyn Howell Walker, both of Martin, have finished the University of Tennessee at Martin's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. This rigorous three-year program includes more than 900 hours of clinical experience and has produced high-quality nurses for more than 45 years. Thirty-two students completed the program this year and will receive their degrees during UT Martin's commencement ceremony May 4. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Nursing at 731-881-7131. Photos courtesy of Christie's Photography in Martin.
LOCAL STUDENTS FINISH UT MARTIN NURSING PROGRAM – Pictured top row (l to r) Jaden Cole, of Yorkville; Madison Dowdy, of Milan; Lexi Whitley Rham and Morgan Selph, both of Rutherford; and Katherine Smith and Sarah Terry, both of Bradford; have finished the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. This rigorous three-year program includes more than 900 hours of clinical experience and has produced high-quality nurses for more than 45 years. Thirty-two students completed the program this year and will receive their degrees during UT Martin’s commencement ceremony May 4. For more information, contact the UT Martin
Trenton Gazette
Tuesday, April 30, 2019

BRADFORD STUDENTS FINISH UT MARTIN NURSING PROGRAM – Katherine Smith and Sarah Terry of Bradford have finished the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. This rigorous, three-year program includes more than 900 hours of clinical experience and has produced high-quality nurses for more than 45 years. Thirty-two students completed the program this year and will receive their degrees during UT Martin’s commencement ceremony May 4.

Gibson County students receive scholarships to attend UT Martin
Two Gibson County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2019-2020 academic year.
Asia Brown of Trenton, the daughter of Latisha Williams and Tyrone Brown, will be a freshman. She received the Golightly Foundation Family and Consumer Science Scholarship, the Harold Conner Scholarship and the Achieve Scholarship.
Kaley Holland, the daughter of Michael and Pamela Holland of Milan, will be a freshman. She received the Dean Scholarship.

LOCAL STUDENT RECOGNIZED DURING UT MARTIN HONORS DAY – Ben Allen of Trenton received the George and Ruth Horton Curricula Award for Pre-Health on April 7 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Honors Day ceremony. This honor is awarded to a student enrolled in the health sciences pre-professional programs.
Three Countians Complete UT-M Nursing Program

MARTIN — April 23, 2019 — Rachel Kincy, of McKenzie, and Morgan McMackin and Abigail Pierce, both of Huntingdon, finished the University of Tennessee at Martin's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. This rigorous three-year program includes more than 900 hours of clinical experience and has produced high-quality nurses for more than 45 years. Thirty-two students completed the program this year and will receive their degrees during UT Martin's commencement ceremony May 4. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Nursing at 731-881-7131. Photos courtesy of Christie's Photography in Martin.

Local Students Receive Scholarships to Attend UT-M

MARTIN — Several Carroll County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2019-2020 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

Emily Bolin, daughter of Stephanie Bolin and the late James Bolin, of McKenzie, will be a freshman. She received the Excellence Scholarship.

Claire Craddock, daughter of Bryan and Allison Craddock, of McKenzie, will be a freshman. She received the Advance Scholarship.

Victoria Galloway, daughter of Rick and Amanda Galloway, of Lavinia, will be a sophomore. She received the Sliger Pre-Professional Scholarship.

Jared Hodo, son of Duane and Lacey Hodo, of Huntington, will be a freshman. He received the Chancellor Scholarship.

Samantha Smith, daughter of Quintin and Stephanie Smith, of Atwood, will be a freshman. She received the Achieve Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN, 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.