‘WE BACK PAT’ RETURNS TO UT MARTIN

Our alum. Our family. Our history.

UT Martin is proud to announce the return of “We Back Pat” Night on Thursday, Feb. 23, when the Skyhawk men’s and women’s basketball teams host Tennessee State inside the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

The women’s game will air live on ESPN+ at 5 p.m., with the Skyhawk men returning to national television for the first time in seven years with an 8 p.m. tip-off on ESPNU.

As part of the “We Back Pat” initiative, the Skyhawk men’s and women’s teams will wear special purple shooting shirts to raise awareness for Alzheimer’s, the disease that took Summitt’s life in 2016. UT Martin will also hand out a limited number of orange “We Back Pat” shirts and bracelets to fans in exchange for a $5 donation, with all proceeds going to the Pat Summitt Foundation.

The organization was created in 2011 by Pat and her son, Tyler Summitt. Its mission is to award grants to nonprofit organizations that advance research for treatment and a cure, provide care and support for patients and caregivers, and educate the public about Alzheimer’s disease.

With the young Skyhawk women’s push to the OVC tournament and the Skyhawk men’s one-year turnaround (from 8-22 in 2021-22, to 18-11 and 14-1 home record in 2022-23), admission to “We Back Pat” night is free with the coupon found at www.utmsports.com.

For more information on the Pat Summitt Foundation and its mission, visit www.patsummitt.org, or follow on Twitter and Instagram @webackpat.

A celebration of Chancellor Carver’s service to UTM

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2 p.m. in the Latimer-Smith Building lobby
YoUTMs

Laura Sherrod, curriculum catalog coordinator in the Department of Curriculum and Assessment, will have pieces of her photography work on display at The Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center in Huntingdon. The work is part of a larger photography exhibit from students of Jim Veneman, a visiting professor of photojournalism at California Baptist University, who teaches photography at The Dixie.

UT PRESIDENT RANDY BOYD TO DELIVER 5TH STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS

University of Tennessee System President Randy Boyd will deliver his annual State of the University address virtually Thursday, Feb. 23.

Boyd’s speech will be webcast beginning at 10 a.m. EST/9 a.m. CST. UT System faculty and staff, students and alumni as well as elected officials, business leaders and other stakeholders are invited to watch this virtual event.

The address will outline UT’s plans for 2023 and highlight the ways in which the system is uniquely positioned to make a positive impact through its statewide presence, people, expertise, resources and influence.

“I’m grateful for the tremendous success UT experienced in 2022, but I’m even more excited for the year ahead,” Boyd said. “Together, we will work to provide a better tomorrow for all of Tennessee and make this the greatest decade—not just in the history of UT, but for all of Tennessee.”

This State of the University address is Boyd’s fifth since joining the UT System in November 2018.

To watch the address, please visit tennessee.edu.

PRESENTATION FOR KIWANIS—Emily Pennington (left), a senior Mass Media and Strategic Communication student, presented a program about her personal platform of “Embracing the Elderly” when she spoke at the Feb. 15 Kiwanis meeting in the Boling University Center. Pennington is involved in the Miss Tennesse Volunteer organization as Miss Northwest Tennessee and will compete for the title of Miss Tennessee Volunteer in July. Pennington defined the term “elder orphan” as an individual who is over the age of 65 and is either socially or physically isolated with no family member or surrogate family member to provide support. She explained that the elderly orphan population is increasing with the aging of the Baby Boomers generation and that, according to the PHI advocacy and research group, in 2028 there will be an estimated 59,000 openings in Tennessee for home-health and personal-care aides. She said that since 2017, Embracing the Elderly, her service-oriented initiative, has provided more than 19,000 items to nursing homes across the state of Tennessee and spent more than 1,000 hours inside nursing homes. Pennington is pictured with Dr. Ann Gathers, president of the Martin Kiwanis Club and associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.
The J. Houston Gordon Museum, located in the University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library, will host award-winning actress and Memphis activist Florence Roach at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23, in the library’s Special Collections Reading Room. Roach will perform a dramatic monologue titled “The Widow” in conjunction with the museum’s current exhibit “I am a Man: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement, 1960-1970.” The performance tells the story of the deaths of two Memphis sanitation workers told by one of the widows. Roach is a professional actress, playwright, director, producer, poet, singer and songwriter. She has performed on stage, in movies, training videos and TV/radio commercials and at special events. Roach’s awards include her Rotary Award for Teaching Excellence, her Tennessee Theater Teacher’s Hall of Fame Award, and her Paul Roberson Award. Roach’s performance is free and open to the public. The Special Collections Reading Room is located left off the Paul Meek Library lobby through the Corbitt Special Collections reading area. Event parking is available in lots near the library located off Mr. Pelia Road on either side of Wayne Fisher Drive by requesting a temporary permit at www.utm.edu/offices-and-services/public-safety/. Select the “parking” link and then the “special events and online event parking permits” to complete a brief form and receive a temporary parking permit.

Read more UT Martin news online at utm.edu/news.
UT MARTIN J. HOUSTON GORDON MUSEUM HOSTS “I AM A MAN” EXHIBITION

Mari Morgan, a senior English and History major, explores the I AM A MAN: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement exhibition earlier this month. The exhibition is open for public viewing until March 10.

The UT Martin J. Houston Gordon Museum is hosting I AM A MAN: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement, 1960-1970, an exhibition from ExhibitsUSA, a national program of Mid-America Arts Alliance. The exhibit features a wide range of photographs taken by amateurs, local photojournalists and internationally known photographers.

Viewers of the exhibition will recognize the photographs of protestors who carried signs with messages such as “I Am A Man” or were seated at segregated lunch counters as iconic images associated with the movement. Numerous other photographs presented in the exhibition have rarely been seen until now. These photographs provide a vivid visual story of the evolution of the civil rights movement and shed light on the movement’s integration in daily living in the American South.

I AM A MAN: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement, 1960-1970, is open for public viewing until March 10. The J. Houston Gordon Museum is open to the public 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. The gallery is located off the Paul Meek Library lobby through the Corbitt Special Collections reading area. Parking will be in the Paul Meek Library parking lot on Wayne Fisher Drive off Mt. Pelia Road. Parking permits are available online at www.utm.edu/offices-and-services/public-safety/ by selecting the “Online Visitor Parking Permit” link.

For more information, contact Samuel Richardson, J. Houston Gordon Museum curator, at 731-881-7094 or sricha12@utm.edu.

View more UT Martin photos online at utm.edu/photo.

TDOE, TN Grow Your Own Center and Study.com bring “Keys to the Classroom” resources to future Tennessee teachers

The Tennessee Department of Education, in partnership with Study.com, recently announced all Tennessee Teacher Apprenticeship candidates through the Tennessee Grow Your Own Center have free access to “Keys to the Classroom” to provide test prep support for their licensure tests to earn their Tennessee teacher’s license.

“Keys to the Classroom” will provide high-quality test preparation supports, removing barriers for teacher apprentices preparing to take licensure tests to earn their teacher’s license. Participating districts in the Tennessee Grow Your Own Center will have access to 1,200 free licenses for their prospective teachers to be equipped with the tools and knowledge needed to prepare for and pass their teacher licensure tests.

In Tennessee and across the nation, passing the required licensure test to earn a teacher’s license can be a significant obstacle and further challenges districts as they work to combat staffing shortages. This initiative, as a part of the state’s Grow Your Own strategic efforts, will help eliminate barriers to ensure more qualified teachers are entering the teaching profession in Tennessee.

“Leveraging the “Keys to the Classroom” resources in Tennessee further emphasizes our commitment to ensure every child has a well-trained, high-quality educator in their classroom,” said Commissioner Penny Schwinn. “Too often, the financial and preparation barriers prevent outstanding Tennesseans from entering our classrooms. We are grateful that partners like Study.com are joining in our strategic efforts through teacher apprenticeships to strengthen the educator pipeline through no-cost, high-quality opportunities.”

Tennessee is the first state in the country to sponsor registered teacher occupation apprenticeships between school districts and Educator Preparation Providers (EPPs).

To read the full GYO story, visit this link.
You Tell Me

• **Question** – Has anyone considered opening half of the parking lot between the library and EPS to the students again since engineering, computer science and chemistry and physics are no longer holding classes in EPS? The parking lot stays half empty now.

• **Answer** – Public Safety is currently working with the traffic office to conduct a study on the amount of available parking spaces in the EPS lot throughout the week. After gathering data, they will make a decision on whether or not to move forward with sending the issue to the traffic authority. Public Safety would like to make sure they are not going to create a parking issue with the staff who do utilize the lot.

Submit your questions to Addenda at addenda@utm.edu.