

addenda



The University of Tennessee at Martin Faculty and Staff Newsletter | April 11, 2022

UT MARTIN ACHIEVES NEW RECORD FOR CAPTAIN'S CHALLENGE

UT Martin set new records of \$470,000 raised and approximately 1,400 gifts for the eighth annual “Captain’s Challenge – Captain Skyhawk’s Day Off” in less than 24 hours on April 6. The records were achieved in plenty of time for Captain to make it back to his residence hall room before anyone realized he had taken the day off.

This year’s Captain’s Challenge theme was based on the popular 1986 film, “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off.” Viewers saw Captain Skyhawk fake an illness to get out of attending a home Skyhawk game so he could fundraise for Captain’s Challenge instead. With the help of two students, Captain went door to door searching for donors. Through these efforts and the help of the

UT Martin community and alumni, the goal of \$400,000 was exceeded with more than five hours remaining in the day.

“The generosity of Skyhawk

“For the past eight years, UT Martin alumni and friends have increased their level of support year after year.”

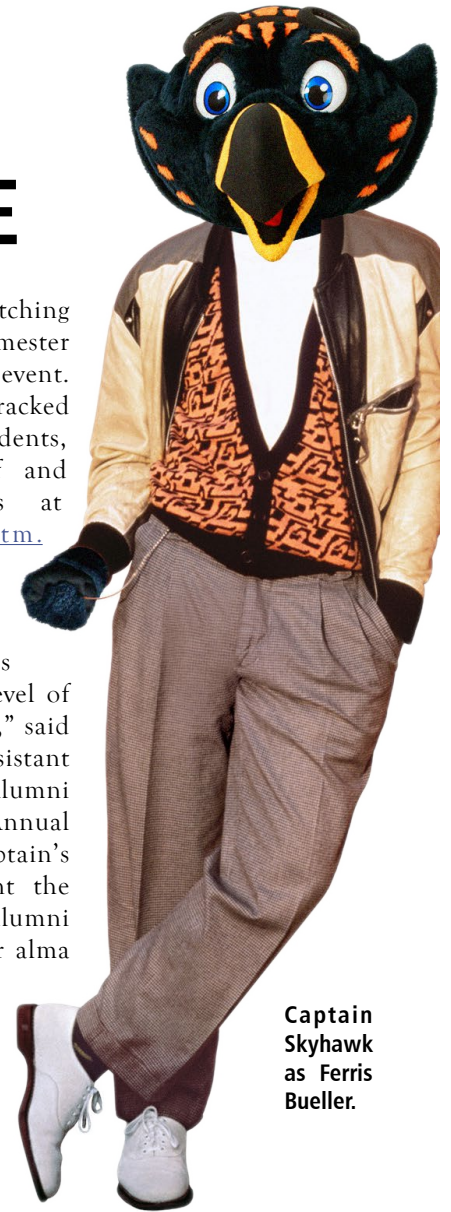
alumni and friends touched every corner of campus, from academics to athletics, student life to scholarships—even the Margaret N. Perry Children’s Center,” said **Matt Borden**, associate director of annual giving.

The UT Martin Office of Alumni Relations begins

searching for matching donors in the fall semester ahead of the spring event. On April 6, the office tracked donations made by students, alumni, faculty, staff and community members at <https://challenge.utm.edu>.

“For the past eight years, UT Martin alumni and friends have increased their level of support year after year,” said **Jackie Johnson**, assistant vice chancellor of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving. “Through Captain’s Challenge, it’s evident the level of care our alumni have in regard to their alma mater.”

For more information, contact Alumni Relations at 731-881-7610 or alumni@utm.edu.



Captain Skyhawk as Ferris Bueller.



NEXT STOP, YOUR TOWN!

SEE MIKE KEITH & AMIE WELLS LIVE!

APRIL 14 | CHAMPION'S CLUB | 3 P.M.

The Official Titans Podcast is coming to UT Martin! Special Guest: Chancellor Keith Carver. Click the above image to RSVP. We hope to see you there!

YoUTMs

highlighting the excellence of our faculty and staff



Dr. Sean Walker, professor of behavioral management, was featured in WalletHub’s recent study about “The Best States for Working from Home.” You can find the story [here](#). WalletHub, based in Washington, D.C., is a financial website that offers information such as credit-improvement advice and personalized savings alerts. The site’s business-related features are supplemented with information from subject-matter expert.



Dr. Mahmoud Haddad, professor of finance, attended and participated in the Economic Research Forum (ERF) 28th Annual conference virtually, March 26-31, 2022. Haddad was the reviewer and discussant of the following papers: “Is There a Change in the Investor Sentiment and Herding Behavior in the MENA Region After COVID-19?,” “The Covid-19 Pandemic Impact on the Saudi Arabia Tourism Sector: An Accountancy Approach” and “The Risk Transmission from the COVID-19 to MENA Stock Markets: What is the Best Safe Haven Asset During the Pandemic?” Haddad was also elected to serve for three years on the ERF Board to Trustees.

[Submit a YoUTM.](#)



The UT Martin JED Campus Committee had a JED Team Campus Visit from Leah Finch, JED campus advisor, and Dr. Louise Douce, JED campus external contributor, to discuss strategic planning. Pictured front row (l-r) are Gina McClure, John’Na Webster, Shannon Deal, Douce, Finch, Jenifer Hart and Shannon Perry. Pictured middle row (l-r) are Dana Hagan, Heather Kingery, Grace Rui, Laura Kepler, Ashley Bynum and Hannah Alexander. Pictured back row (l-r) are Ryan Martin, John Abel, Dr. George Daniel, Anthony Prewitt, Dr. Todd Sherman, Kameron Echols and Andy Lewter. JED Campus is a nationwide initiative of The Jed Foundation (JED) designed to guide schools through a collaborative process of comprehensive systems, program and policy development with customized support to build upon existing student mental health, substance use/misuse and suicide prevention efforts.



tennessee.edu/values

PML scavenger hunt set for April 19

The Paul Meek Library invites students, faculty and staff to participate in a PML Scavenger Hunt, April 19, 3-5 p.m. The program is intended to introduce students to the library – and provide a refresher to faculty and staff – empowering access to the library’s varied information

resources. Feedback from the April event will help create a fun and informative exercise that instructors may insert in their syllabus for fall semester classes. Everyone is welcome and questions, comments and feedback can be directed to Kathryn Brown kbrow164@utm.edu.

UT Martin closed April 15; Other facility holiday schedules noted

Boling University Center

Thursday, April 14	Open: 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday, April 15	Closed
Saturday, April 16	Closed
Sunday, April 17	Open: 4 p.m.-11 p.m.

Student Recreation Center

Thursday, April 14	Open: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday, April 15	Closed
Saturday, April 16	Closed
Sunday, April 17	Closed

Elam Center and Elam Center Pool

Thursday, April 14	Pool (Fitness Swim) and Racquetball: open 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (Elam Center closes at 5 p.m., April 14)
Friday, April 15	Closed
Saturday, April 16	Closed
Sunday, April 17	Closed

Paul Meek Library

Thursday, April 14	Open: 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, April 15	Closed
Saturday, April 16	Closed
Sunday, April 17	Closed

PUTTIN' ON A SHOW AT RODEO



For the first time in three years, the Ned McWherter Agricultural Pavilion was once again at full capacity for the 54th annual UT Martin Spring College Rodeo. The Skyhawk men's team finished second in the team standings. On the women's side, UT Martin finished seventh.

PUTTIN' ON
A SHOW AT
THE
RODEO



Saturday night's rodeo performance was capped off with a tribute to head coach John Luthi, who announced in February that he is retiring at the end of the season. Luthi has spent the last 25 seasons leading the UT Martin rodeo program and has been a collegiate head coach for 41 years. He led the team to a 2014 national championship.



To see more photos from the
54th annual rodeo,
[visit utm.edu/photo](http://utm.edu/photo).



Fashion Merchandising students attend Las Vegas MagicMart Trade Show

MagicMart, located in Las Vegas, is the most comprehensive fashion trade show in the country. This year, eight fashion merchandising students from UT Martin made their first trip and met with brand representatives, attended educational sessions and got a first look at the upcoming fashion trends.

The trade show, which was held in the Las Vegas Convention Center, featured three different halls: one dedicated to the brands' booths and educational sessions, one dedicated to men's wear and streetwear and one dedicated to materials and sustainability. Students visited booths belonging to established and up-and-coming brands such as Pura Vida, Ugg, and Wasabi + Mint, networked with brand representatives and learned about topics important to their studies, such as perfecting their brand pitch and forecasting upcoming trends.

When Peyton Ross (pictured front row, middle), a senior from Caruthersville, Missouri, began studying fashion merchandising, she never expected to meet a personality from one of her favorite television shows, let alone receive professional advice from one.

"I actually got to meet one of the Real Housewives from New Jersey, Melissa Gorga, and I got to take a picture with her. I kind of fangirled over that a little bit, just because anyone who knows me, I'm always watching any of (the cast members), doesn't matter which one," Ross said. "I know she has a big platform, but she still knows how to utilize that and talk about her platform, and she knows how to pitch very well. You have to be able to pitch something, and you have to be able to perfect it, and she can do that."

Outside of the trade show, students visited various boutiques and did assignments for various courses based on their observations. For example, students in the visual merchandising course paid attention to the displays and cleanliness of the stores, and students in the ready-to-wear clothing course took note of individual garments, their production and care instructions. Students also had the opportunity to enjoy the city by shopping at local boutiques and having dinner at Gordon Ramsay Hell's Kitchen.

Although Ross had an interest

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I ♥ UTM Week
APRIL 18-22

Monday, April 18th

- DONUTS FOR DONORS**
10am - 1pm
University Center
- SGA FACULTY/STAFF VS. STUDENTS SOFTBALL GAME**
6pm
Bettye Giles Field
- FLIGHT CREW MOVIE NIGHT AT CINE**
9:45pm
Cine Theater

Tuesday, April 19th

- PROPS FOR PROFS**
10am - 1pm
University Center
- DOG DAYS!**
11am - 1:00pm
UC North Patio
- CARE TEAM UTM REMEMBERS**
7:30pm
UC North Patio

Wednesday, April 20th

- PETTING ZOO**
12pm - 3pm
Quad
- CARE TEAM OUTDOOR ADVENTURES WITH THE TWRA**
3:00pm - Pacer Pond
- SGA CHARITY GLOW CASINO**
6pm - 9pm
UC Ballroom

Thursday, April 21st

- SENIOR DRIVE-THRU**
10am - 1pm
Dunagan Alumni Center
- RESIDENCE LIFE CRAWFISH BOIL**
5pm - 8pm
University Village
- FLIGHT CREW COMEDY SHOW WITH ROB WARD**
9:00pm
Watkins Auditorium

Friday, April 22nd

- CRUMBL COOKIES AT THE UC**
11am - 1pm
UC North Patio
- CARE TEAM EARTH DAY CELEBRATION**
11am - 1pm
UC North Patio
- FLIGHT CREW CONCERT FEATURING YUNG GRAVY**
7:00pm
Skyhawk Fieldhouse

SKYHAWK PEOPLE ARE MY KIND OF PEOPLE

Sponsored: UTM Alumni, SAC, Flight Crew, Residence Life, SGA, and the Care Team



UT MARTIN STUDENTS ATTEND ENGINEERING CONFERENCE – Five engineering seniors from UT Martin attended the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers SoutheastCon, April 1-2, in Mobile, Alabama. SoutheastCon is the annual IEEE technical, professional and student conference that recognizes students from nine Southeastern states as well as Jamaica and areas of Indiana. Students competed in the robotics competition and presented research papers. Pictured (l-r) are Dr. Ali Behfarnia, assistant professor of engineering; Dr. Saman Sargolzaei, assistant professor of engineering; Abigale Plunk, of Martin; Dr. Jeffery McCullough, associate professor of engineering; Morgan Jackson, of White Bluff; Grant Yates, of Union City; Braden Cooper, of Dresden; and Tony Anderson, of Lexington. For more information about UT Martin's engineering program, contact Dr. Tim Nipp, associate professor of engineering and chair of the Department of Engineering at tnipp@utm.edu or 731-881-7382.



Documentary filmmaker to visit campus April 13

The Department of History and Philosophy in association with the UTM Civil Rights Conference and the Weakley County Reconciliation Project will host a presentation by noted documentarian, director and producer Tim van den Hoff Wednesday, April 13, at 4 p.m. in the Boling University Center's Watkins Auditorium.

The presentation will feature a screening of van den Hoff's documentary, *Monumental Crossroads*, which examines the controversy over Confederate monuments, symbols and memory. The screening will be followed by remarks from van den Hoff and a Q&A session. The event is free and open to the public.

MARTIN, WILLIS RECEIVE OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Ryan Martin and Dale Willis, both of Martin, received Spring 2022 Outstanding Employee Awards from UT Martin on April 6.

Martin is the assistant director for residence life and serves on various university committees to review campus policies and advocate for students and their families on campus. Martin also managed the transitions that the residence halls faced during the COVID-19 pandemic and worked to create clear lines of communication between his staff and students.

"Ryan cares about students, and he cares about UTM as a whole," coworkers wrote in Martin's nomination package. "He is an inspiring leader, even in

the most turbulent times, always true to point out that a leader is only as strong as their team. Investing time and energy in each one, he helps staff and students flourish as individuals."

Martin is the second employee to be honored twice. He last received the Outstanding Employee Award in 2011.

Willis is the head technician in the Physical Plant's HVAC refrigeration shop. He maintains some of the largest commercial refrigeration equipment in the UT System and monitors and resolves issues for faculty and students alike.

"If you ask Dale why he works so hard at his job, he'll say he 'just doesn't want the kids to get hot,'" wrote his coworkers in his



Ryan Martin (left) and Dale Willis (right) received Spring 2022 Outstanding Employee Awards. They are pictured with Chancellor Keith Carver.

nomination package. "Although his work is all behind the scenes, often at night and on weekends, and wee hours of the morning, we can all feel him at work in our comfortable working and living

environments here on campus every day."

For more information, contact **Judy Sandefer**, executive assistant to the chancellor, at jsandefer@utm.edu or 731-881-7500.

MAGICMART from PAGE 5

in fashion and a drive to keep up with trends, fashion did not come to her as an immediate major choice. It wasn't until she found out about UT Martin's fashion merchandising program that she considered a career in fashion.

"I was just struggling so hard to figure out what I wanted to do for the rest of my life that wouldn't feel like a chore, and I wouldn't get tired of going to work," Ross said. "I saw that Martin had a fashion program, and I was like, 'This is perfect. I love what I'm gonna do. I will never get tired of it.' There's

something new every single day being invented in fashion that people don't even realize with fabrics or anything like that."

The trip was an opportunity for Ross to learn more about the industry she is passionate about and prepare for her future career in fashion forecasting. Fashion forecasters analyze popular forms of media, interior design and architecture to try to forecast what colors and styles will be on trend for the next year.

"Seeing (industry professionals) and the fashion forecasters and the other speakers talk, it just made me love fashion even more, and

it makes me so excited about graduating college and getting started into the industry," Ross said.

Because of the outcome of this year's trip, other yearly trips will be planned for students to travel regionally, nationally, and even internationally.

"I am a strong proponent of experiential learning, and travel aids the learning process," **Dr. Mercan Derafshi**, assistant professor of fashion merchandising and organizer of the trip, said.

For more information about UT Martin's fashion merchandising program, contact Derafshi at mderafsh@utm.edu.

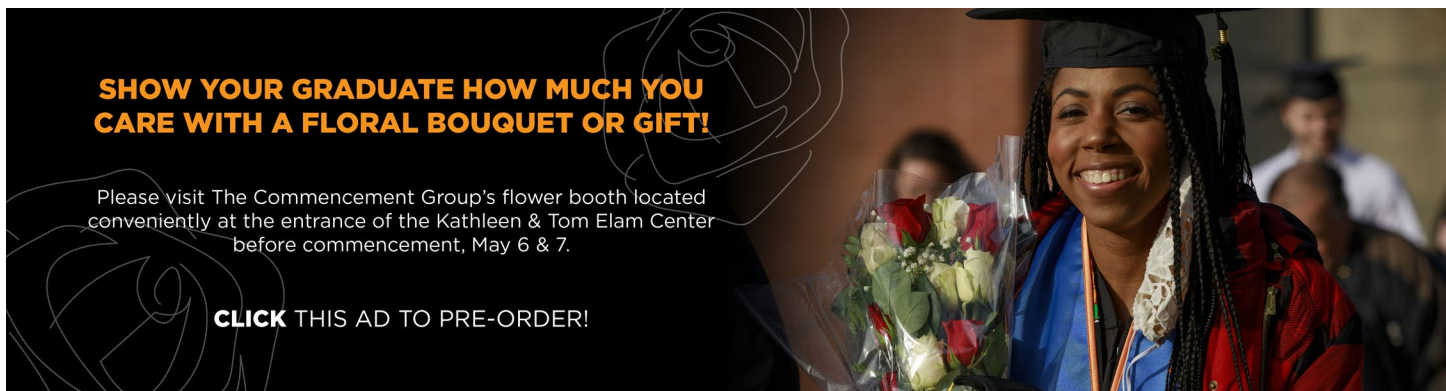
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UT Martin
community
know about
your most
recent
accolades by
submitting a
YoUTM.

Email us at
addenda@utm.edu.

SHOW YOUR GRADUATE HOW MUCH YOU CARE WITH A FLORAL BOUQUET OR GIFT!

Please visit The Commencement Group's flower booth located conveniently at the entrance of the Kathleen & Tom Elam Center before commencement, May 6 & 7.

CLICK THIS AD TO PRE-ORDER!



You Tell Me

- **Question** – Is trash and recycling collected from UT Martin offices sorted and recycled based on the Recycling Facility's list of taken items? I've often wondered based on trash collection if trash and recycle items were disposed and separated accordingly.
- **Answer** – Custodial Services currently does not enter offices, so building occupants are required to place their trash/recycle cans in the hallway. Custodial Services picks up all the small office trash cans and dumps them into one large mobile trash can that moves from floor to floor; the small recycle bins are emptied into a separate large container. The trash goes to a dumpster, and the recycle material goes to the Recycling Facility. It's possible that the bags are sometimes mixed up because the recycle material and trash are in the same-color bags and loaded into the same truck. Custodial Services' daily goal is to dump the trash and take recycle material to the Recycling Facility. The hope is to return to pre-COVID trash and recycling procedures.

Submit your questions anonymously to the Suggestion Box link at www.utm.edu/suggestionbox.