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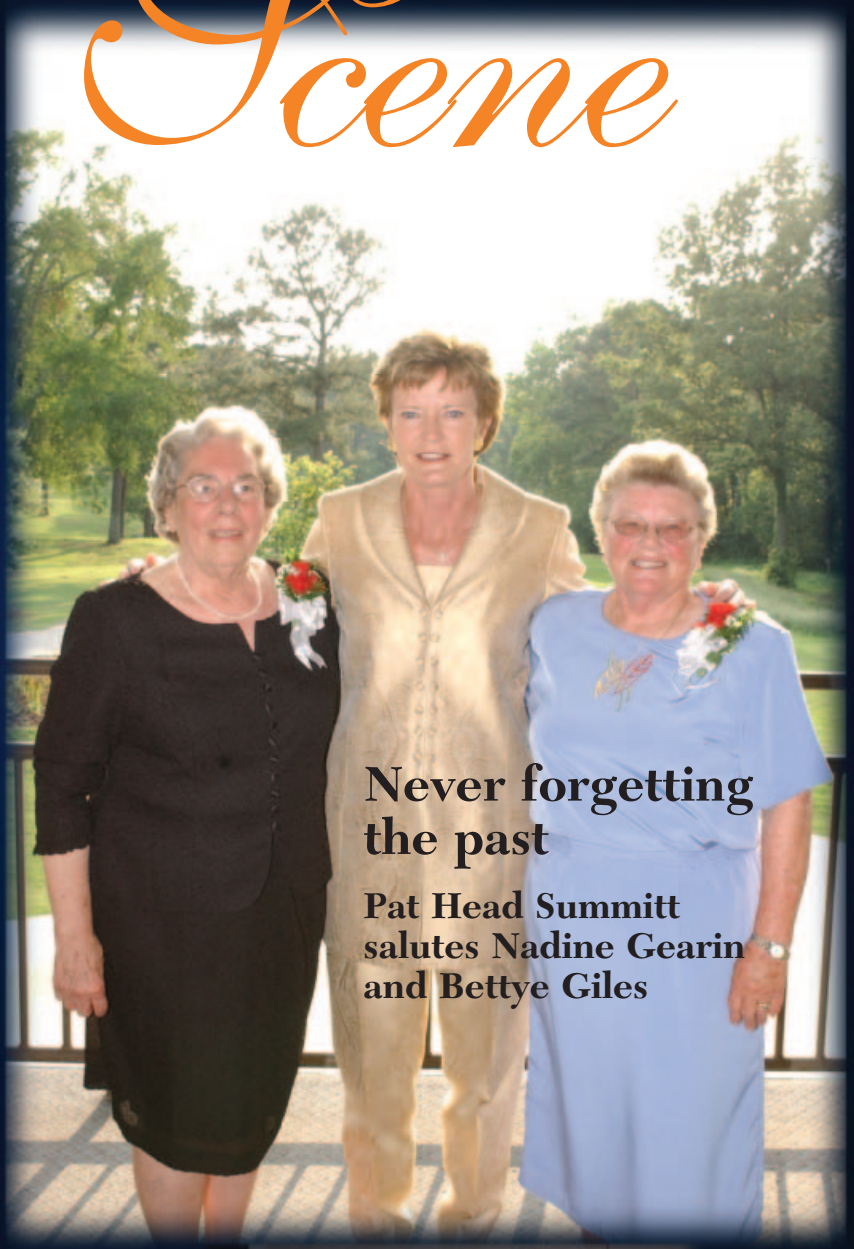
UT Martin's Campus Scene



Never forgetting the past

Pat Head Summitt salutes Nadine Gearin and Bettye Giles

from the

Chancellor

Chancellor Nick Dunagan

As I write this column, American troops have transitioned from a very successful fighting force to an even more difficult mission of nation building in Iraq. You might ask, "What does this have to do with UT Martin?" My response is that our campus contributed directly to the military solution, and we can help to influence the much greater issue of what other countries think about America.

Army Lt. Gen. Dennis Cavin, ('70); Air Force Lt. Gen. Robert Hinson, ('70); Marine Maj. Gen. Glad Castellaw, ('72); Tennessee Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Jim Welch, ('68); and U.S. Army Reserve Brig. Gen. Ron Sholar, ('71) contributed heavily to the recruiting, training and infrastructure of our armed forces. In addition to these individuals, many other UT Martin alumni are currently serving in the various branches of the military. Many of them were deployed to the Middle East. Thirteen UT Martin students and one employee were called to active duty starting fall semester 2002 and were deployed overseas or served in security forces throughout U.S. military installations.

The UT Martin Department of Military Science and Leadership and ROTC program through the years have produced top officers who serve this country well. During the last few years, I have had the opportunity to know many of our commissioned graduates. They are smart and dedicated young men and women who bring credit to the university with their UT Martin degrees. They will continue to carry the UT Martin banner in high fashion.

What about our duty to help current and future students understand that we live in a global community? This is crucial and can't be accomplished quickly. We must continue to attract knowledgeable speakers who give an international perspective to our students. Through our Honors Program, Academic Speakers Series and the Center for Global Studies, we are trying to accomplish this goal. Beyond bringing outstanding speakers to campus, our Travel Study Program gave 187 students an opportunity to have some type of international experience during 2002-03. We have publicly stated that this number needs to double by the year 2010. In fact, we strive to do much better.

We also have an excellent opportunity to show students from approximately 30 foreign countries what America has to offer to the world. There are many positive outcomes from having international students on campus. Our students become more globally aware, and we have the potential of generating good will with all of our international students. Trust is built through positive exposure. As a nation and as a peace-loving people, we can't fight every country that disagrees with us. The question is, how can we win the hearts and minds of the global community before war becomes a necessity? Obviously, UT Martin can't do this alone, but the higher-education community can be an important part of a long-term solution.

Again, we salute those men and women who serve our country in the military. We offer our special appreciation to you in the UT Martin family who, as members of the armed forces, continue to make sacrifices to defend our freedom.

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Dr. John Shumaker, President
The University of Tennessee System

Dr. Nick Dunagan, Chancellor
The University of Tennessee at Martin

Len Parks Solomons
Vice Chancellor
for University Advancement

Jacky Gullett
Director of Alumni Affairs

Kara Hooper
Campus Scene Editor

Robert Muilenburg
Coordinator of Photographic Services

Editorial Contributions
Candace Cooper, Jeanna Curtis Swafford, Nick Dunagan, Bud Grimes, Jacky Gullett, Karen Helgeson, Joe Lofaro

Design and Layout
Kara Hooper

Photo Contributions
Jim Byford, Bud Grimes, Robert Muilenburg

Copy Editors
Bud Grimes, Karen Helgeson

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photo from left: Bettye Giles, Pat Summitt and Nadine Gearin.

Give an Assist to Nadine and Bettye

The next time Pat Head Summitt ('74) sees the score keeper, she'll make sure Nadine Gearin and Bettye Giles each get credit for an assist. The legendary coach of the UT Lady Vols basketball team led a tribute and fund raiser May 16 at the Jackson (Tenn.) Country Club honoring these UT Martin women's athletics pioneers.

Summitt's achievements are well-chronicled. Sportscaster Mark Howard at News Channel 5 in Nashville once called her "the greatest living, breathing basketball coach on the planet." The statistics back up his statement: more than 800 wins, 18 trips to the Final Four of women's college basketball, six national championships, and many coaching honors.

Gearin and Giles also claim impressive resumes built during more than 40 years of UT Martin service. Gearin, a Weakley County native and a member of the UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame, led efforts to develop women's basketball at the university. She coached the Lady Pacers from 1969-74, taking her 1971 team to the first national basketball tournament of the Division of Girls and Women's Sports. One of her brightest basketball players was Pat Head, who first rose to national fame in 1973 by qualifying for the USA World University Games team.

Giles, a Clarksville, Tenn., native, was director of UT Martin women's athletics from 1969-94. She served as the university's cheerleading sponsor from 1952-73 and started the women's tennis program in 1952, a team she coached for eight years. She also is a member of the university's Athletics Hall of Fame.

Speaking before the event, Gearin and Giles reflected on the tribute led by their most famous student-athlete. "It's a great honor," Giles said. "You know, it's almost unbelievable that Pat and the university would do this to honor Nadine and (me), and we're (really) appreciative." She spoke of Summitt's importance to UT Martin women's athletics and to women athletes around the world.

"Pat was a true athlete herself," Giles said. "At UT Martin, I feel like she helped us get established with some respectability in relation to what women could do. ...

"Now, what she's meant to women in athletics throughout the country is amazing. I think most any woman that is involved with sports would say Pat has been one of the main leaders nationally and really internationally to help women's athletics grow. And she's still doing it."

Gary VanAtta, UT Martin women's co-head basketball coach, visits with Coach Summitt

Giles and Gearin both worked to secure Summitt a graduate assistant position with the UT women's basketball team after Summitt's graduation. The opportunity for a graduate assistant position became an offer to coach the team. Summitt remembered questioning whether a 22-year-old college graduate was ready to coach the UT women's basketball team. She was hesitant, but Gearin and Giles never lost faith in their prize pupil.

"... When I think about the job, I realize that the door was opened at UT Martin, and these two individuals opened that door for me," Summitt said later that evening as she recalled the story. "My parents always taught me 'give back,' and I could never return or give back to them what they've given to me."

Lin Dunn, Nadine Gearin, Pat Summitt, and Bettye Giles reunite.

Summitt did "give back" by making a personal lead gift of $25,000 from her and husband, R.B., to the Bettye Giles-Nadine Gearin Women's Athletic Endowment. Silent and live auctions during the evening of "Black Tie and Tennis Shoes" raised matching funds that will provide scholarships and other support through the endowment for UT Martin women's athletics.

As the program began, the tributes to Nadine and Bettye came quickly.

"I think many of you know how great a coach Nadine was and how great an athletic director (Bettye was)," said Chancellor Nick Dunagan ('68), setting the tone for the evening. "Well, they are just as good as retirees. They have no hesitancy to pick up the phone and call me and let me know exactly what I need to do."

Following the chancellor's introduction, Summitt then took center stage, and she wasted no time focusing on the honorees. "My parents taught me a long time ago that you win in life with people," Summitt said. "And that's important, because if you hang with winners, you stand a great chance of being a winner. You know, I didn't know what a winner Bettye Giles would be and what a winner Nadine Gearin would be for Pat Summitt. ... "

Lin Dunn ('69), a Dresden, Tenn., native, and successful college and professional women's basketball coach, said, "I'll never forget the day I graduated. I didn't want to go home. I loved every minute, every second, every hour of my experience at UT Martin." She noted that her physical education classes, led by Gearin and Giles, contributed to that positive experience.

"Success is never accidental," Dunn added. "You're only as good as the people who have touched you in your life." To the audience's delight, Dunn presented Gearin and Giles each with a Lin Dunn Bobblehead Figurine from her WNBA coaching days. "If you don't have a Bobblehead, you (haven't) arrived," Dunn told the crowd. "But here's what I've decided. No Nadine. No Bettye. No Bobblehead."

Eventually, the evening's honorees stood at the podium, and both expressed gratitude for the celebration and its impact for current and future UT Martin women athletes. "Your being here ... just means so much, and it means so much to the women's athletics program," Giles said to the audience.

"Pat, thanks a ton," Gearin said to Summitt. "(I) can't say how much I think of you."

A well-timed assist can influence the outcome of a basketball game. An assist from others can influence a life. Pat Head Summitt received an assist from Nadine Gearin and Bettye Giles. We all know the rest of that story. ■

above: Summitt signs an autograph for Martha Britt of Jackson.

The honorees together and with their most famous student-athlete.

Jimmy Harrison of Jackson used lots of duct tape to create some memorable tennis shoes for the event.

by Karen Helgeson
photos by Jim Byford

Adventure into the Amazon

The travel study group poses for a photo near their floating home.

The sounds of the city melted away as the boat slipped into the rain forest. A group of UT Martin faculty members, students, and one alumnus had entered the Brazilian Amazon jungle for their own version of "Survivor."

Unlike the reality television show, these adventurers hadn't come to compete for $1 million, but simply to experience priceless contact with an entirely different culture and climate. The Amazon trip, which took place at the end of UT Martin's fall 2002 semester, was one of many ongoing international travel-study opportunities organized by the university.

Trading Tennessee winter for the tropical heat of the equator, the group of 20 began its journey with a flight to the city of Manaus, Brazil. From there, they boarded the riverboat that would become their floating home for the next 10 days. Sleeping in hammocks and tiny cabins, dining on local fruits and fish, and learning cultural music and dances from the crew, the passengers journeyed 275 miles from Manaus into the rain forest.

Dr. Jim Byford, dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences at UT Martin, helped plan the expedition after student Rachel Bridges expressed interest. Though it was designed as a natural resources travel-study course, the trip held appeal for a group with diverse interests wanting to learn about another ecosystem and culture.

"The Amazon has a mystery about it," said Byford. "It's the largest contiguous rain forest left in the world. (The participants) wanted to have a spirit of adventure."

Days became mini-adventures, as crew members piloted small boats on field trips into flooded tributaries and onto dry land. During hikes in the jungle, the group was inundated with the sounds of the most diverse river system in the world, the air filled with the calls of birds, frogs, and monkeys; they touched plants used by indiginous peoples for medicinal purposes; and they learned about farming in the region. While visiting small villages, they observed the way the people of the Amazon built their houses and prepared their food. During down time, the travelers fished and swam.

For Byford, who was visiting the region for the second time, the best part of the trip was "seeing the students' eyes open wide to new things. The things you see on television and in movies just don't do justice to the reality of seeing the people, and seeing the sweat on their faces and seeing the real expressions, and actually feeling the humidity when you get up in the morning, and hearing the sounds all around you like you're in an acoustic room. For those things, you have to be there." ■

LEADing the Way

By Bud Grimes

Esther Plank wanted more ways to get involved as a UT Martin student. She also wanted to sharpen her leadership skills. Plank accomplished these goals and much more as one of the first 138 students to enter the university's LEAD Academy.

LEAD, which stands for Leadership Education, Application and Discovery, fosters leadership development for UT Martin undergraduates through special seminars, service opportunities and travel-study programs.

The program's LEADing lady is Dr. Katie High, vice chancellor for student affairs, who, with UT Martin Chancellor Nick Dunagan, saw the need to add leadership development as a formal component of the university's undergraduate experience.

"Rather than looking strictly at an academic focus, we decided that leadership development should complement the academic program, not compete with it," High said, noting that the university's divisions of academic affairs and student affairs are equal LEAD partners.

With this goal in mind, and a year's worth of planning in place, LEAD Academy began Jan. 7, 2003, by welcoming three levels of students to the program. High said Level 1 students focus on skill-building activities. Level 2 students possess basic skills and are given ample opportunities to demonstrate them through involvement in campus leadership roles. Level 3 students, she said, have the skills to pursue special projects and apply that knowledge after graduation.

LEAD Academy participant Esther Plank and Dr. Katie High, vice chancellor for student affairs.

LEAD students don't receive a grade, but they do earn credit for participation. For example, specific LEAD points are designated for different activities, such as 10 points for attending a workshop or five to 10 points for volunteering in the community.

"Our goal is to have each student earn 100 points over the course of the year so that they can advance to the next LEAD level," High said.

Faculty mentors serve important roles by making sure students are on the right track. Mentors are assigned at the ratio of one mentor to no more than three LEAD students. Students and mentors meet regularly to discuss goals. High said these meetings might identify the need for an internship; or, for those approaching graduation, she envisions LEAD students

continued on next page

continued from page 7

participating in mock interviews for jobs or graduate school.

The program started quickly, but next year, High says there will be year-long projects. Thirty academic courses have been incorporated into LEAD in which enrolled students earn academic and LEAD credit. And, as with this first LEAD group, students will continue to develop detailed portfolios.

This year, Level 3 students participated in three "culminating activities." One group engaged in a four-day travel-study trip to New York. Plank and Matt Maxey are two of the students who chose this trip.

Plank, a senior psychology major from Humboldt, Tenn., described the trip to New York as "amazing." In a summary she wrote about the trip, Plank said, "It is hard to put into words how powerful this trip was for me. I feel that my eyes have been opened to so many things in the world that I had never thought about before."

Matt Maxey, a sophomore political science major from Ashland City, Tenn., took time away from a legislative intern appointment in Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen's office to make a trip he'll never forget.

"During the trip (to New York), we had assignments to notice different forms of leadership we saw around the city," he said. "We met with police officers at a precinct while we were there, and we had a couple of meetings with different (leaders) in the city, so that just gave us a different perspective than the normal campus leadership and things we're used to seeing."

Dr. High expects many future UT Martin students like Esther and Matt to benefit from LEAD Academy, which she says will set the university apart from others in leadership development. "I want the LEAD Academy to automatically come to mind when they hear 'UT Martin,'" High said.

A LEAD Academy Gift Fund is now established to support the program. Tax deductible gifts can be made to the fund through UT Martin's Office of Development.

WestStar

Bringing people and ideas together for a better Tennessee

By Bud Grimes

Leaving Its Mark on Leadership Development

As LEAD Academy gets its legs in the program's inaugural year, the WestStar Leadership program is running full-speed ahead. Now in its 14th year, WestStar is setting the pace as Tennessee's first regional leadership program.

WestStar began in 1989 as a way for people to think regionally rather than just locally about leadership and economic development issues. Dr. Nick Dunagan ('68), UT Martin chancellor; Cathy Holland ('78), now with the Nashville Airport Authority; and Dr. Bob Smith, now interim president at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania, established the program, with Smith serving as the program's first executive director.

The 1990 class was selected, and since then, 13 competitively chosen classes have resulted in 349 WestStar alumni prepared for leadership roles in their communities and beyond. Smith left for Slippery Rock University in 1999 as the person most associated with the program. However, Dunagan assumed the program reins, and WestStar continues to thrive.

"WestStar has been a success because of his (Smith's) dedication to a project that was needed and appealed to a lot of leaders in West Tennessee," Dunagan said.

"When you combine effective leadership, interested participants and a very much-needed project, you get success."

As much as anything, WestStar creates a new level of awareness for its class members and alumni. Dunagan said many current class members and alumni often remark, "'My eyes have really been opened about what other communities are doing.'" Among those who have completed the program are State Rep. Randy Rinks of Savannah; Ruth Tackett, state director, U.S.D.A. Rural Development; and Dr. Jeff Triplett ('85), a Union City oncologist.

Tackett, who graduated in 1998 from WestStar, wanted to enhance her leadership skills and work with West Tennessee community leaders. She gained a new perspective after completing the program.

"It (WestStar) has given me a very broad picture of how we all view our different communities, and how as just one person, we can make a difference in the world," Tackett said.

Triplett, a member of the 2002 class, is not unlike many other professionals who apply to the program. "I wanted to learn more about my surrounding environment," he said, "Because when you're in medicine, you tend to ... focus just on the medical community." The WestStar experience, Triplett said, helped him to realize "that everything affects everything else" as a community seeks to grow and prosper.

Besides Ruth Tackett, Jeff Triplett, and many other alumni who are making a positive difference in their communities, WestStar also is reaching out by co-sponsoring major regional conferences. Two conferences just completing their fifth year — the "Leadership and the African American Conference" and the "Conference for Working Women" — provide networking opportunities and idea exchanges for WestStar alumni and other West Tennessee leaders.

The program's influence also reaches beyond West Tennessee as other leadership programs have modeled themselves after WestStar. Dunagan said these spinoffs are "exciting and good for the region and the state."

"Bob Smith helped create many of the local leadership programs," Dunagan said. " ... We can learn from these new programs, and we can continue to improve our product."

Considering his long association with the program, Dunagan is not ready for WestStar to rest on the program's laurels. Hot leadership topics such as homeland defense and participation in the global economy provide seminar topics for future WestStar classes.

"My vision is that we continue to expose current leaders and future leaders to an agenda that looks at the region and how we can make West Tennessee a better place in which to work and live," he said. "We have a lot of positives, and we must accentuate them and simultaneously work to correct our deficiencies."

In June 2003, 26 members of the 2003 WestStar Leadership Class joined the program's alumni roll. Just like the 349 alumni who preceded them, these class members completed the WestStar experience, but their opportunities to better serve Tennessee are just beginning.

Weststar Earns Recognition

The WestStar Leadership Program has earned major recognition from the Southern Growth Policies Board, a nonpartisan public-policy think tank based in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

Nominated by Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen, WestStar was recognized as an "exemplary leadership development and civic engagement program" June 1 in Biloxi, Miss. WestStar was honored by the conference for the program's role in regional leadership development.

The recognition came during the board's annual conference as part of the Innovators program. Each year, the Southern Growth Policies Board recognizes innovative programs in the South that are carrying out model approaches to improve the region's quality of life. Programs are recommended by the governors of the Southern Growth member states.

"This is an important recognition for WestStar and the positive impact that the program's alumni are having in West Tennessee," said Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor and WestStar executive director. "We are grateful to Gov. Bredesen for nominating the program and for his confidence in the work WestStar is doing to develop leaders."

Besides the conference recognition, WestStar was profiled in a summary of best practices that was released during the event. The report describes approximately 30 best practices in leadership development and civic engagement throughout the South.

The Southern Growth Policies Board was formed by the region's governors in 1971 to develop and advance visionary economic development policies. Supported by the governments of 13 southern states and Puerto Rico, Southern Growth provides research, discussion forums and pilot projects in technology and innovation, globalization, workforce development, community development, civic engagement and leadership.

Virginia Grimes, WestStar coordinator, and Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor and WestStar executive director, show the certificate given to recognize the program by the Southern Growth Policies Board.

Swim or Sink

Future Engineers Take Theories out of the Classroom and into the Real World

By Karen Helgeson

It seems impossible. How can concrete float? Yet engineering students at UT Martin made it happen, devoting spring semester to crafting a canoe out of poured concrete. The team of five students, led by seniors Scott Chandler, of Sharon, and Todd Lowrance, of Dyersburg, designed, built and raced the canoe in a regional competition. Kind of gives the term "sink or swim" a whole new meaning.

The finished product measured 21 feet and weighed 320 pounds, making it the heaviest, and therefore one of the slowest canoes at the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Deep South Regional Conference, held in April at Tulane University in New Orleans. But Chandler maintains it was still a valuable learning experience. "Competition went really well, considering it was our first trip to compete," he said.

Lowrance agreed. "The canoe turned out to be a bit heavy, but it was the strongest in the competition. I think that many improvements can be made in the next model."

Learning from experience is what the concrete canoe process was all about. The undertaking is just one example of the senior projects all engineering majors are required to complete before graduation. The senior project allows students to develop leadership skills, nurture creativity, work as a team, and put critical engineering theories and skills to the test before entering the workforce. And the senior projects are beneficial to future employers, as well.

"Senior projects let students get practical, hands-on experience, rather than just classroom experience," said Dr. Ray Witmer, assistant professor of engineering and senior project adviser. "When they go to work, they will have an intuitive feel for what will work and what won't work. Employers will be hiring someone who has the confidence to take a project and make it their own."

While the canoe team was racing at the ASCE competition, a second UT Martin student team was spanning the waters with their student-designed and -built steel bridge. Like the canoe team, the nine-member bridge team orchestrated the entire process, from brainstorming design ideas and ordering materials, to constructing the bridge according to ASCE guidelines, and finally entering the April ASCE competition.

The finished product, measuring nearly 24 feet long and 19 inches tall, finished fourth overall out of seven schools, judged on stiffness, weight, construction speed and aesthetics. The fourth-place finish was an impressive win for the first-time competitors.

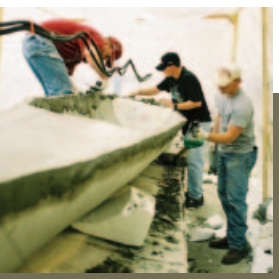
"[Competing] gets our name out there and shows schools in the region the quality of students we can produce," Witmer said. "Plus, like any other team activity, it teaches the students sportsmanship. You can go out and have a poor attitude, or have good attitude and win and make your win that much sweeter."

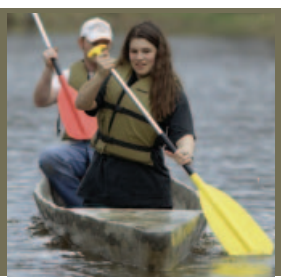
For some students, the projects confirmed a calling. "I have always had an interest in bridges and other 'super structures' because of the art and imagination that goes into them," said Nick Powell, of Erin, who built and studied bridge models for an eighth grade science project. "I guess you could say that I've had it in my blood for a long time."

For senior Bob Safin, one of three bridge construction leaders, the project helped redefine his career path. "It helped me decide what part of the civil engineering field I wanted to work in," said the Paris resident. "Also it taught me a lot about the design process and also about working as a team."

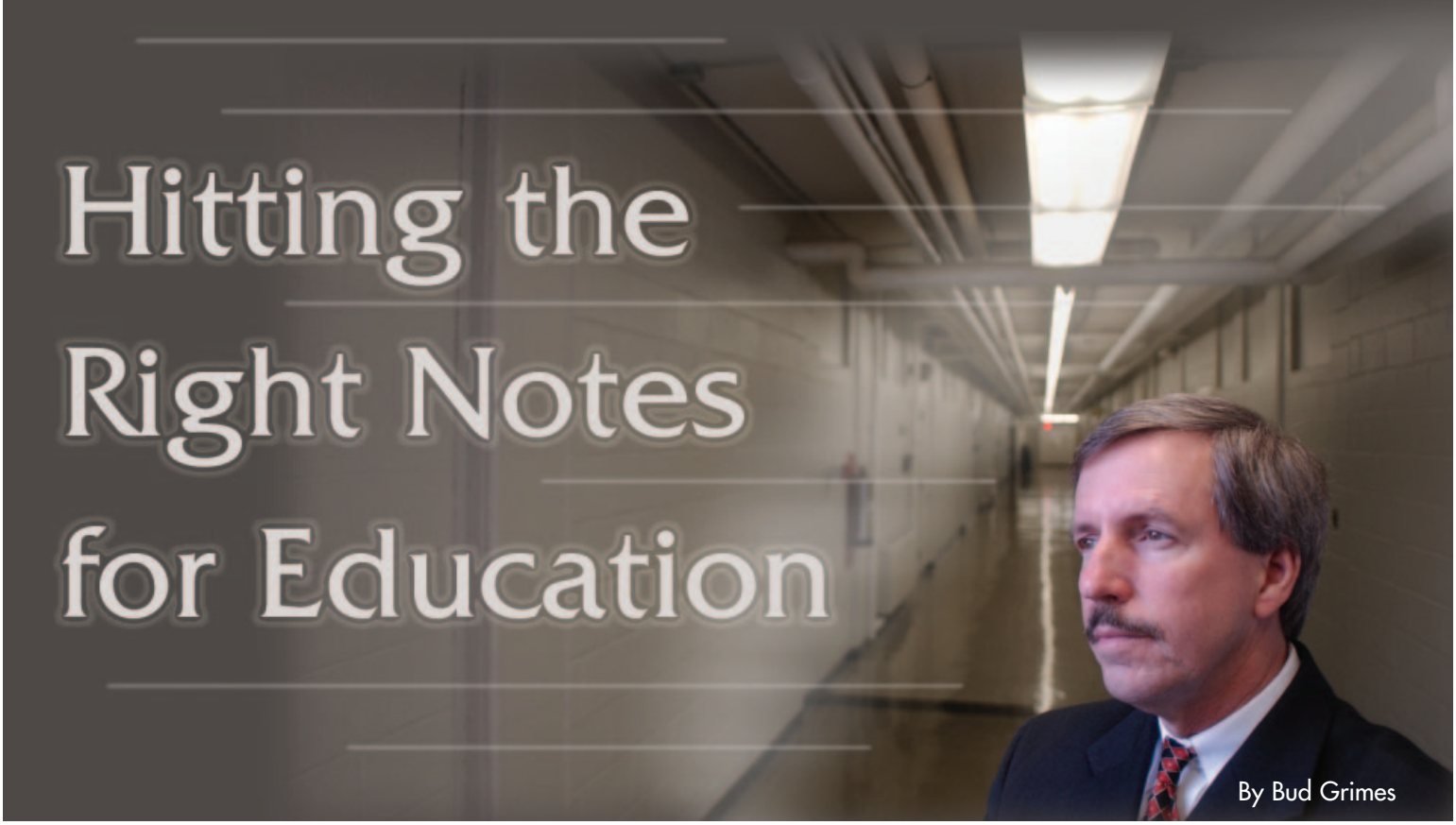
But Witmer has seen senior projects change students in ways that transcend career choices.

"I love watching a student change from someone who's not quite sure to one who's confident in their abilities," he said. "I had one student who told me, 'I feel like I could design a skyscraper right now.' That makes me feel really good. I really love that."





Hitting the Right Notes for Education



By Bud Grimes

Don't be surprised if Dr. Bobby Webb toots his own horn. The successful former high school band director still plays his tenor saxophone, but now he strives to hit all of the right notes as superintendent for Shelby County Schools. Now in his second year leading the 48-school system, the 55-year-old Webb uses a collaborative leadership style and 30 years of teaching and administrative experience to make sure Shelby County schools are the best they can be.

The last day of February 2003 is misty, dreary and cold as Webb arrives at Millington South Elementary School near Memphis. Inside, the neighborhood school is warm and bright as students participate in "Read Across America," the annual birthday celebration for children's author Dr. Seuss.

This is the last of five school stops that day for Webb. Between class readings, a cell phone is pressed to one ear as the work of running Shelby County Schools continues. He arrives at his final class, a room of 12 first graders who are eager to hear Webb read "The Cat in the Hat Comes Back." The children respond as he reads and turns pages, which pleases Webb and probably reminds him why he's an educator.

Webb brings his passion for learning straight from the band room. Raised near Ripley, Tenn., Webb graduated from Ripley High School in 1965 and entered UT Martin that year as a music education major. Graduating in 1970, Webb didn't immediately pursue an education career, opting instead to open a music store in Dyersburg where he sold band instruments and other music equipment.

He sold the business after five years and accepted the assistant band director's position at Humboldt High School, then becoming head band director in his second year. His education career moved quickly when, a year later, the assistant band director's position at Ripley High School came open, so he returned home. Only six months into the job, he was asked to start a new band program at Halls High School. The new program enjoyed almost immediate success, earning a state marching band title after only three years.

Webb clearly believes public education can make a difference.

Webb's career made a significant change in 1988 when he was urged to run for superintendent of Lauderdale County schools, his first attempt at elected public office. He laughs as he remembers winning a "landslide victory," defeating the incumbent superintendent by a 21-vote margin out of some 7,000 votes cast. With the victory, his abilty to shape public education moved beyond the classroom.

Opportunity called again in 2002 when he was encouraged to apply for superintendent of Shelby County Schools. He was selected for the position and accepted his appointment in February 2002. Those familiar with the demands of the superintendent's position know Webb is the right person for the Shelby County job. Barbara Moody-Hamilton ('73), principal of Millington South Elementary, said that Webb clearly believes public education can make a difference.

"The Shelby County Board of Education has always had the foresight to select (politically astute superintendents) who truly care about the educational well-being and futures of the students of Shelby County," she said. "Dr. Webb cares about the children and employees

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of Shelby County. He believes that miracles can be performed when we properly use public education."

David Pickler, chairman of the Shelby County Board of Education, was involved in the search process that resulted in Webb's hiring. In Pickler's opinion, Webb has already performed miracles under difficult circumstances.

"This is a man that when he was in Lauderdale County as superintendent, he took a student population that has some of the most impoverished students, had some of the most difficult socio-economic conditions to work with," Pickler said, "yet not one of the schools in the system was on the state's nonperforming list."

Webb describes Shelby County as an "excellent school system." He was friends with the last two superintendents and knew other people in the system, so he was familiar with the schools before he arrived.

"The big thing down here that makes the difference is the parental and community support," Webb said, whose own doctoral dissertation focused on parent involvement in Tennessee schools. Involved parents, he believes, are a prerequisite to successful schools.

His point is proven in Shelby County, which he believes is the only Tennessee school system requiring that every school have an active Parent Teacher Association. Last year, out of 46,000 children, Shelby County schools had 42,000 PTA members, he said, adding that the goal this year is to have 46,000 members.

While strong school support is an upside to his position, Webb sees some major issues and challenges looming. One issue making big news is the idea to combine Memphis city and Shelby County schools, a current proposal by Memphis Mayor Dr. Willie Herenton.

Webb said this proposal surfaces every five to seven years, "But right now, it seems like there's a good bit of momentum, mainly because there's a lot of disenchantment with the Memphis city school board," he said. Herenton, the former Memphis city schools superintendent, has support for his proposal, but Webb said the basic idea that the county operate all schools is not as simple as it sounds.

"The big thing ... that makes the difference is the parental and community support."

For example, Webb points to other consolidations in Tennessee school systems, and he says those have not been successful. Consolidation would make the Shelby County school system one of the largest in the nation, and Webb does not associate larger public school systems with higher-quality education.

And then there are increased taxes and student performance to consider. "Point me in the direction where there have been two large school systems that have consolidated, and the property tax and the taxes have not increased, (yet) student performance has increased," Webb said, "and I'll be on the plane tomorrow with my notebook, and I'll go take notes and come back, and I'll be in favor of it."

Consolidation is in the proposal stage, but funding issues are very real, and Webb doesn't have answers. "It's the public outcry, 'We want less and less government,' but yet they want more and more services," he said. For example, Webb says that paying teachers comparably to other professions would help address the shortage and quality of teachers, but he admits that such a change is not likely. "There's just much less benevolence on the part of the American public to want to educate other people's children," he said, referring to the funding dilemma.

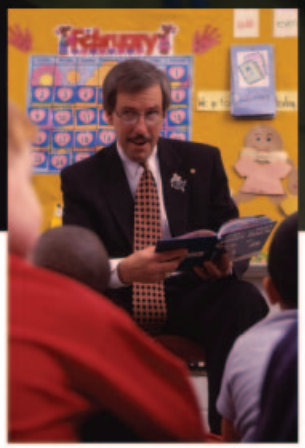
Salary issues aside, finding quality teachers in certain disciplines is tough, and getting tougher. "You can't find people to teach special education at all, and we have trouble finding people to teach foreign language and science and math," he said. He also is concerned that pending retirements of the baby boomer generation will create further teacher shortages.

He applauds UT Martin's new Teacher Warranty Program, of which Shelby County schools is a partner. The program guarantees the skill level of UT Martin teacher-education graduates. "I think (the program) sends a really good message on behalf of the university that we certainly want to guarantee our product," he said.

Outside the classroom, Webb said attracting qualified administrators is another challenge. "The responsibility on principals, especially at the high school (level) now, is just unbelievable," he said. So, to assure a supply of qualified principals, Webb created a program that allows aspiring principals, who are now teachers or curriculum coordinators, to learn about their potential roles from those currently holding the positions. It's a program, Webb believes, that will provide a pipeline of new people to replace retiring administrators.

As budgets tighten, school extracurricular programs are potential targets for cuts, but Webb defends these activities. For example, he restored 15 elementary music positions that were cut before his arrival. Webb is for music, athletics, anything to keep kids involved to build character and teamwork skills. "All those things that are outside the classroom I think are probably just as important as the things that go on inside the classroom," he said.

Webb says the superintendent's role has changed through the years, but his own leadership style has remained the same. He believes in collaboration, and he involves other people in decision making. He draws on his experience at Halls High School, where about 115 of the school's 300 students were involved in the band. Even if



"...paying teachers comparably to other professions would help address the shortage and quality of teachers...."

students weren't good musicians, he found a role for them.

Webb likes most aspects of his job, but dealing with the political aspects of being superintendent can add special challenges. "You can't just say, 'Well, this is the best thing to do,'" he said. "You have to say, 'OK, this is the best thing to do and now politically how do I get it done?'" He still remembers his band director days when he interacted with students daily, and he still draws satisfaction from visiting schools, seeing improvement in student achievement, and seeing children smiling. That's why his visit to Millington South Elementary school to read to children is something he relishes.

How does Webb want people to remember him? "Well, in this particular school system, I would hope they would see me as someone who not only carried on the tradition of excellence and working well with people, but promoted that even to a higher level."

He maintains an open-door policy and promotes the concept of everyone being an important team member.

To that end, he's big on building morale, and this is where his musical ability comes in handy. Last fall, several thousand Shelby County Schools employees attended a picnic at Cordova High School. Webb raised private funds to finance the event, organized a stage band in which members wore Hawaiian shirts, he played tenor sax, and everyone had a good time.

Just as Webb's spirit made this a memorable event, Barbara Hamilton said that same spirit is "helping us keep the pace" in a demanding, fast-changing educational environment. Much as he urged his top-notch marching bands to keep up the pace, Bobby Webb is using that same leadership philosophy to take Shelby County Schools to the next level. ■

UT Martin Budget Reduced

No academic programs were eliminated, but almost $2.1 million in UT Martin budget reductions were announced in March by university Chancellor Nick Dunagan.

The 2003-04 cuts are in line with 9 percent reductions required of all Tennessee state government agencies. Dunagan stressed that the reductions are "not across the board" and are based on strategic decisions to preserve the university's academic programs.

Specific cuts include 13 faculty and staff members in current positions that will not be rehired in the coming year. Also, 10 positions will not be filled, and the university's Center of Excellence for Science and Mathematics Education will be eliminated. The position cuts come at a savings of approximately $900,000, while the center's closing saves more than $323,000. The center, located in Gooch Hall, opened in 1984 to promote excellence in science and mathematics education in grades K-12.

The university's division of academic affairs, UT Martin's largest budget unit, made cuts totaling more than $1 million, including personnel reductions. Dunagan said the cuts will be noticeable but that every effort will be made to minimize the impact for students.

Other reductions involved intercollegiate athletics, including elimination of the women's indoor and outdoor track program. Nine student-athletes will retain their scholarships until their eligibility is complete. The university also will work with team members to find other schools if they wish to transfer. Athletics program cuts, including elimination of the track program, totaled more than $170,000, Dunagan said.

Other university cost-saving measures will involve adjustments for heating and cooling in campus buildings, increasing fees for the public use of university facilities, reducing funds for campus improvements, and greater use of the Web to save in publication and mailing costs.

"The university will survive this difficult time," said Dunagan. "We will continue to serve students by offering the best academic programs possible. Better days are ahead." ■

UT Martin Offices and Classes in Jackson Relocate

For UT Martin students, attending Jackson classes just got easier. Thanks to an official agreement between the Tennessee Technology Center at Jackson (TTCJ) and UT Martin, all Jackson-based UT Martin courses and offices will be located on the TTCJ campus, located adjacent to McKellar-Sipes Regional Airport, beginning in fall 2003.

UT Martin classes in Jackson are currently held at a variety of locations including Lambuth University, the West Tennessee Experiment Station, Jackson State Community College, the UT Family Practice Center and area hospitals.

Under the agreement, UT Martin degree programs currently offered in Jackson will be offered on the TTCJ campus for a variety of degree programs and courses, including the master of science in education, master of business administration, master of accountancy, registered nurse to bachelor of science in nursing, and additional courses as needed.

Dr. Bruce Blanding, TTCJ director, and Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, signed the agreement in January at a ceremony attended by area community leaders.

"We are truly delighted to enter into this partnership with UT Martin," Blanding said. "We can work together in these times of economic stress and tribulation for the betterment of Jackson, for the betterment of Tennessee, and for the betterment of higher education in our state."

Dunagan described the agreement as a UT Martin commitment to the Jackson community. "It's good for our students... All our Jackson programs will be offered in one site," he said.

"It's good for Jackson and Madison County. Our fully accredited programs will be more accessible to the hub of West Tennessee and the vibrant and growing area around Jackson."

Dunagan and Blanding said the arrangement marks the first time UT programs will be offered on a Tennessee Board of Regents campus, maximizing the use of existing state resources.

Dr. Bruce Blanding, director of TTCJ (left) and Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, make the agreement official at a Jan. 28 signing ceremony at TTCJ.

UT Martin Celebrates Reaccreditation

UT Martin recently celebrated the university's accreditation reaffirmation with a campus-wide reception. The event followed the earlier formal notification from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), Commission on Colleges, that accreditation for UT Martin was reaffirmed.

SACS examines each member school every 10 years to ensure the public that the school meets the standards set by the SACS Commission on Colleges. During the team's visit to UT Martin, members met with administrators, faculty, staff and students. Team members asked questions about such areas as the university's mission, effectiveness in teaching, and the overall quality of education.

The site visit, reaccreditation and reaffirmation came at the end of a two-year campus self-study process, the result of extended efforts by more than 150 different on-campus committee chairs and team members who participated in one or more portions of the self-study, site visit, and response reporting process. The self-study process was completed by the UT Martin SACS Steering Committee under the leadership of Dr. Sue Byrd, professor of family and consumer sciences.

The SACS Commission on Colleges is the recognized regional accrediting body for schools in 11 U.S. Southern states and Latin America that offer associate, baccalaureate, master's or doctoral degrees.

Hailey Brown Crowned

Hailey Brown has a tough act to follow. But if she has her way, she'll be the next Miss Tennessee. Brown, a 20-year-old South Fulton, Tenn., native, took her first step toward Atlantic City when she claimed her crown during the 2003 Miss UT Martin Scholarship Pageant.

"I was completely surprised," Brown said of winning the crown. "I'm just really looking forward to the Miss Tennessee Pageant."

Brown hopes to follow in the steps of Valli Kugler, last year's Miss UT Martin winner who later claimed the 2002 Miss Tennessee crown. Brown credited Kugler for supporting her participation in the combined pageant.

"Valli was the encouragement behind me doing all of this, and she has really inspired me to do well in the Miss Tennessee Pageant," Brown said.

UT Martin Recognized as a Top Employer in Tennessee

UT Martin recently received one of three 2002 Employer of the Year Awards from Education Edge during the 11th annual conference of the Tennessee Association of Partners in Education Inc., held in Nashville.

UT Martin, which is the first public institution to ever receive the award, was recognized for providing work-based activities for students and teachers, and for its contributions to the Weakley County School System. The award was presented by Bob Henningsen, deputy commissioner, Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

"The Weakley County Education Edge program is one of the best in the state, and UT Martin is proud to be associated with this very progressive group," said UT Martin Chancellor Nick Dunagan.

"Our faculty and staff have many interactions with the Weakley County School System, and we view this as an opportunity to give back to our community. There are many businesses and industries that support K-12 education, and we appreciate being recognized as one of this year's most outstanding. Thanks to Richard Barber, Marvin Flatt and Debbie Hooten for the good work they do for all Weakley County students."

Work-based activities in which UT Martin participates include access to workplace technologies for students and teachers; job shadowing; mentoring; and tours and field trips for teachers and students.

In addition, university personnel actively participate on advisory committees for programs in the Weakley County Schools and make recommendations to school curricula to ensure the program adequately prepares students for real-world jobs, industry standards and future training.

"UT Martin is an integral part of Weakley County," said Marvin Flatt, director of career and technical education for Weakley County Schools and Weakley County Education Edge grant administrator.

"UT Martin probably has more types of jobs than any other employer in the immediate area, from agriculture to zoology. UTM is a gold mine of opportunities for students to shadow occupations as well as the support the university provides for things like career days and opportunities for students to come and visit the campus. ...We are very fortunate to have a university of its caliber in West Tennessee. We certainly couldn't ask for a better neighbor than the university."

One UT Martin activity highlighted by Education Edge was CENSational Days (Careers in Engineering and Natural Sciences), which was hosted by the UT Martin College of Engineering and Natural Sciences in September 2002. All eighth grade students in Weakley County were invited to the event, which was designed to teach students about careers in science, mathematics and engineering. The program was planned with UT Martin and Weakley County Education Edge partnership over a one-year period.

"The Weakley County School District appreciates the continuous partnership with our schools, the university and the community," said Richard Barber, director of Weakley County Schools.

Also receiving Education Edge Employer of the Year Awards for 2002 were Eastman Chemical Co. in Kingsport and State Farm Insurance in Nashville.

Pictured are: Debbie Hooten, Weakley County Education Edge coordinator; Suzie German, executive director of Weakley County Chamber of Commerce and co-chair for the Weakley County Education Edge Partnership; Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor and Weakley County Education Edge Partnership board member; Cathy Dunagan, Weakley County Education Edge Partnership board member and former Education Edge coordinator; Regina Sipes, administrative assistant for Weakley County Education Edge; and Marvin Flatt, grant administrator for Weakley County Education Edge.

This year's Miss UT Martin Scholarship, held in combination with the Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant, recently captured honors of its own when it was named the top pageant in the state. The production received the award for "First Place — Outstanding Production" out of 36 pageants during a spring Miss Tennessee Workshop held in Nashville.

Runners-up for the Miss UT Martin crown were: Tabatha Thurman of Rutherford, Tenn., first runner-up; and Jennifer Ogg of Martin, second runner-up.

Miss Tennessee Valli Kugler crowns Hailey Brown Miss UT Martin 2003. The UT Martin pageant has been named the top pageant in the state.

Six Faculty Members Receive Honors

Six UT Martin faculty members were honored during the recent Honors Day program for their outstanding achievements in scholarship, citizenship, teaching and advising.

The honors are some of the university's most coveted faculty awards, including the Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award, the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award, the Outstanding Adviser Award and the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association (UTNAA) Outstanding Teacher Award. The recipients are:

• **Dr. Jerry Gresham**, professor of agriculture and natural sciences; and **Dr. Richard Helgeson**, associate professor and chair of engineering: Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award.
The Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award of $5,000 was established in 1993 by James R. Cunningham, who attended UT Junior College in the 1930s. It is awarded annually to a faculty member who has demonstrated strength in teaching and made a contribution to the teaching profession through scholarly activities, extracurricular achievements and leadership responsibilities.

• **Anna Clark**, instructor of English and co-coordinator of the Hortense Parrish Writing Center; and **Brenda M. Lackey**, instructor of mathematics: UTNAA Outstanding Teacher Award.
Each year the UTNAA presents awards of $2,000 to faculty members on each of the UT campuses who have been selected as outstanding teachers. In the initial phase, students, alumni and faculty are asked to nominate outstanding teachers. Teachers who receive at least one nomination from each category then advance to the evaluation phase, which involves ratings of classroom performance, scholarship and service.

• **Dr. Eric Pelren**, assistant professor of agriculture and natural resources: Outstanding Adviser Award.
The Outstanding Adviser Award of $500 and a plaque is presented to the faculty member selected for demonstrating a caring attitude toward advisees, the ability to engage in developmental advising, and other distinctive characteristics. Nominations are received from UT Martin presidents of student organizations, department chairs and academic deans. The recipient also is eligible for the national award competition sponsored by the American College Testing Program and the National Academic Advising Association.

• **Dr. Lisa LeBleu**, associate professor and chair of family and consumer sciences: Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award.
The Coffey Outstanding Teaching award of $5,000 was established in 1998 by Mai and Charlie Coffey. It is awarded annually to a faculty member who demonstrates strength in teaching and contributes to the teaching profession through extracurricular achievements, leadership qualities and scholarly activities. Charlie Coffey is currently serving as a trustee for the University of Tennessee. ■

Livestock Team Makes Good Showing

Traveling through 18 states in a van might not bring out the best in people, but don't tell that to the UT Martin livestock judging team. The team completed its four-month spring schedule and grueling travel itinerary to emerge as one of the best collegiate livestock judging teams in the eastern United States.

The team completed the spring portion of its 2003 schedule April 3-5 by finishing second to Ohio State University at the All-Eastern Livestock Contest in Baton Rouge, La. Five other judging events, beginning at the Arizona National Stock Show in Phoenix on Jan.1, have the team ready for the fall 2003 contest circuit that ends at the North American International in Louisville, Ky.

Kyle Rozeboom, who is fielding his second team as coach of the university's livestock judging program, said the team started slowly in early contests. With the spring judging season now completed, he is pleased with how his team progressed against major competition.

"My previous group here at UTM had a little bit more background in livestock judging, more experience from a youth level," he said. "This group did not have that experience coming in, and so they've had to work a little harder to play catch-up to some of the other teams and universities.

Rozeboom led his first UT Martin livestock judging team in 2001 when the program competed for the first time since 1985. That team finished eighth in Louisville, which is considered the top collegiate livestock judging event in the nation.

Team members agree that many miles of travel and competition with top teams have prepared the group for the fall judging circuit. Although individual awards are points of pride, team success is the ultimate goal.

The UT Martin livestock judging team cearned reserve-champion honors at the All-Eastern Livestock Contest in Baton Rouge, La. Pictured with the team's individual and team ribbons and trophies from spring competition are (l to r): Dr. Jim Byford, dean, UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Dr. Nick Dunagan, university chancellor; Terry Oliver, deputy Tennessee commissioner of agriculture; team member Emalee Bumpus from New Johnsonville, Tenn.; team member Jason Doggett from Lynnville, Tenn.; team member Scott Payne from Lynnville, Tenn.; team member Brad Buttrey from McEwen, Tenn.; team member Shelby Arnett from Collinwood, Tenn.; team member Kim Newsom from Dyersburg, Tenn.; Kyle Rozeboom, judging team coach; and Ken Givens, Tennessee commissioner of agriculture.

"First and foremost, we want the team to succeed," said Emalee Bumpus of New Johnsonville, Tenn." And any individual awards after that (are) wonderful, but we want the team to succeed." Bumpus, who is delaying graduation to compete this fall, earned a first-place tie for livestock evaluation at the All-Eastern contest.

UT Martin student Grace Moss led a group of students to raise funds for the family of Alyssa Ray, a child diagnosed with autism.

Mike Munkel, the university's manager of dining services, has led efforts to fill Christmas stockings and Easter baskets and provide food for Camp Celebration.

UT Martin Individuals Claim Love Community Service Awards

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission has honored a UT Martin staff member and a student for outstanding community service work.

Mike Munkel, of Martin, the university's manager of dining services, and UT Martin student Grace Moss, of Athens, Ala., received Harold Love Community Service awards after being selected from a group of Tennessee college and university nominees. Ten individuals, including five faculty and staff members and five students, received the awards during an April banquet and program in Nashville.

Awards go to individuals who excel in volunteer work and community service activities. The recognition programs for faculty, staff and students at public and private two- and four-year postsecondary institutions were created in 1991 by the Tennessee General Assembly. In 1993, the General Assembly funded the program by presenting $1,000 cash awards to future recipients. In 1996, THEC adopted a recommendation by its awards task force to rename the awards for the late Tennessee Representative Harold Love, who sponsored legislation to create the program.

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor, said the award recipients are examples of how individuals can make a difference by giving of their time and talents to help others. "UT Martin students, faculty and staff have the reputation for being involved in community service," Dunagan said. "Mike and Grace represent the spirit of community service by receiving this special honor."

Munkel, the Sodexho Dining Services general manager who oversees UT Martin's food services area, led efforts during the past three years to fill Christmas stockings and Easter baskets with gifts for underprivileged children. Last year marked the most successful to date as more than 100 baskets were delivered to children at Easter, and more than 300 stockings were distributed to children during Christmas.

Also, for 10 years, Munkel has been in charge of providing food for Camp Celebration, a recreational camp for the mentally retarded. The camp is held at Shelby Forest State Park near Memphis and is staffed by volunteers. Helping others, he said, "is good for your soul, your heart and your general health."

"I know I am blessed with my circumstances in life," Munkel said. "Anything I can do to make another person's life easier just makes me feel a little more fulfilled."

Moss, a first-year pre-pharmacy major who attended South Fulton High School in South Fulton, Tenn., led a group of students to raise funds for the family of Alyssa Ray, a child diagnosed with autism. The initial fund-raising success inspired other students to join in the effort, and a total of $6,800 was raised. These funds are being used by Alyssa's family to offset the high cost of treating the condition. Moss described helping others as something "God calls me to do as one of His children."

"I am a firm believer that when you help others, you receive more of a blessing out of it than you would ever dream," Moss said. " I don't really look at it as public service but just treating others like I would want to be treated in their situation."

Munkel and Moss bring the total to 18 faculty members, staff members and students from UT Martin recognized by the THEC community service awards programs.

A Collector's WHIMSY

by Karen Helgeson

He doesn't need a cane to get around, but that hasn't stopped R. C. Nunley from collecting more than 630 canes and walking sticks.

Over the past 40 years, the Martin, Tenn., native has amassed quite a collection. Several of his pieces were recently on display for the UT Martin University Museum exhibit "A Collector's Whimsy: The Canes and Walking Sticks of R. C. Nunley."

Nunley's extensive collection wasn't prompted by a past injury either, but by an impulse to help others. He purchased his first three canes nearly 40 years ago at an estate sale.

"While the auctioneer was selling the merchandise, I was wandering around on the premises, and I saw three canes in a barrel," Nunley recalled. "Something came to me and said, 'If you can buy them, buy them. ... Because somebody in the church or someone in the community might need a cane, and you can loan them a cane.'" After that, canes and walking sticks became more and more intriguing to Nunley, and he began picking them up wherever he could. Today his collection is vast and eclectic, including souvenir sticks, folk art, and advertising pieces dating from the Civil War era to the present. No two of his walking sticks or canes are the same, and eight foreign countries are represented.

Walking sticks and canes have a history as diverse as Nunley's collection. Egyptian pharaohs carried walking sticks as a symbol of power. By the 16th Century, the cane had evolved into a fashion accessory for wealthy Europeans, and a man might own three or four, to match his ensemble. Walking canes made their way to the New World with the early colonists, who used them as a fashion statement and a symbol of wealth.

But canes haven't always been just for show; they have also served as everyday necessities for ordinary folks. Shepherds use them to herd their flocks, the blind to feel where they're going. Most importantly, men and women have always used canes to help support them while walking. And though Nunley owns his fair share of frivolous canes and walking sticks, including nine glass pieces, he keeps that most basic use in mind.

"Everywhere I go I try to find a cane," he said. "None of us are exempt from getting crippled, getting old or getting weak. So we need canes."

Alyssa's Ray of Hope

By Candace Cooper, Student Writer

Alyssa Ray enjoys things every 3-year-old does: she loves to play games, color, read books and watch television. Unlike other 3-year-olds, it has taken Alyssa months to learn to perform these simple acts due to one simple fact: Alyssa has autism.

Autism, a complex disability that impacts the development of social interaction and communication skills, has not only been a part of Alyssa's life, but also of mom Penny Ray's, a Mayfield, Ky., native.

"As soon as I read the diagnostic criteria for autism, I knew my toddler was autistic," said Ray, a UT Martin alumna. "I was reading three books chronicling the recoveries of four children from autism using Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA). I wanted the same recovery from autism for my child that the children in the books experienced."

ABA is therapy in which three components (people, programming and practice) work together for at least two years to enable autistic children to learn. It has been successful in 90 percent of cases. In ABA, data is painstakingly recorded and tracked, for the data demonstrates progress (or lack of progress) and ultimately drives the child's curriculum. ABA therapy, while very successful, is also very expensive.

"If you are not able to give your child 40 hours a week of one-on-one time," said Ray, "you must hire tutors to work with your child."

These tutors can be difficult to obtain with limited cash resources. A Michigan newspaper featured an article last summer detailing the plight of the Ray family. Penny e-mailed it to everyone she knew, including David Belote, vice chancellor for student affairs at UT Martin. She never expected that Belote had his Leaders-in-Residence (LIR) students would adopt her family as a community service project.

LIR, a UT Martin leadership development and scholarship program, consists of freshmen who have been past presidents of student councils, Honor Society, Beta Club or state officers in any student organization. In exchange for their scholarships, students take up a community service project.

"Penny sent us a very moving article from *The Oakland Press*, in Oakland, Mich., which told of the challenges associated with autism and the challenges Penny has faced and is facing raising a child with autism," said Belote. "I copied the article and shared it with my class. They were so moved that they wanted to help Alyssa and the family."

Ray was amazed to hear of the support that was going to be given to her and her family.

"I was absolutely speechless. I have to say, I'd pretty much given up hope on society in general," said Ray. "Individuals have been beams of shining light, in the darkness of society's lack of interest."

The LIR class got to work, led by student leaders Grace Moss of Athens, Ala., and Eric Rivera of Columbia, Tenn. Several fundraisers were held, and students went to area businesses asking for donations.

Student groups at the UT Martin rallied behind Alyssa Ray, the autistic daughter of alumna Penny Ray. Above, LIR student Grace Moss (second from right), of Athens, Ala. , presents a check for $1,800 to Penny and Alyssa Ray (left). Also pictured is Chancellor Nick Dunagan.

"Money shouldn't hold Alyssa back from being the person she can be," said Rivera.

The group raised more than $1,800 fall semester 2002 and presented the Rays with a check during Thanksgiving break.

The UT Martin Greek community also did its part to contribute to the Ray family. All proceeds from the February 2003 UT Martin Greekfest benefited Alyssa's Ray of Hope. The Greekfest proceeds totaled $5,000, for a grand total of $6,800 raised by UT Martin students for the Ray family.

"Every dime raised for Alyssa will go directly to her home programming. We need the funding," said Ray. "But the bigger picture is about reaching out and helping others."

Ray also had a parting word for the LIR students after meeting them Thanksgiving break.

"Next time you see her [Alyssa], you'll be able to have a conversation with her," said Ray. "Thank you."

"Individuals have been beams of shining light in the darkness of society's lack of interest."

along the

Alumni Trail

Director of Alumni Affairs
Jacky Gullett

One of my favorite Yogi Berra-isms is "it's getting late early!" Yogi was referring to the late innings of a baseball game, of course, but the phrase rings true around here about this time of year. Summer is fast upon us, and that means Homecoming 2003 will be here soon.

We have a good one lined up for you this year, and it all happens the week of Sept. 29-Oct. 4. The students have selected "Rock and Roll Homecoming" as their theme and, as always, student events dominate the first part of the week, with alumni involvement following on the weekend. It all leads up to the football game at 2 p.m. on Saturday, when first-year head coach Matt Griffin leads the Skyhawks against OVC opponent Tennessee Tech.

Special guests for Homecoming 2003 will be alumni from the UT Martin Branch era (1951-1968). They will be invited back for Friday night's alumni awards banquet, as well as all of the festivities during the day on Saturday. Their reunion will conclude with dinner and a party at the American Legion in Martin on Saturday night. If you are an alumnus or alumna from this era, look for a special reunion mailing in August.

All alumni and friends are encouraged to review the full Homecoming weekend schedule on the next page. For your convenience, a reservation form has been included, and I encourage you to make your plans early and return the form to us at your earliest convenience, or call or email if you have questions.

Another important event on the UT Martin calendar, which actually precedes our homecoming festivities, is the first Golden Grad Reunion for our campus. The first four-year graduating class at our institution received diplomas in 1953, so we are inviting them back for the 50th anniversary of that occasion. These distinguished alumni will return to campus Aug. 2 and 3 for reunion activities that will conclude with recognition at commencement on Sunday, Aug. 3. F. G. "Moe" Cavin, Cavit Cheshier, and Curtis Shearon serve as co-chairs of the reunion committee, and are eager to see many of their former classmates return to campus for this inaugural event.

A common thread and campus landmark for both the UTMB alumni and the Golden Grads is Alumni Gym. It's the new name for the UT Junior College Gymnasium, built in 1930 and in service to this day. It was one of the original five buildings on campus and hosted Carnicus, dances, basketball games, and commencements in its heyday. State-funded basic renovations are almost complete, and the facility will be used primarily for student functions and homecoming activites. Many other necessary improvements, such as a new floor, sound system and palladium windows

must be funded through private gifts. A campaign is under way to accomplish this, and I encourage all UTMB and Golden Grad alumni to strongly consider a gift to help keep this campus treasure a vital part of student life for our present and future students, just as it was a vital part of their time on campus.

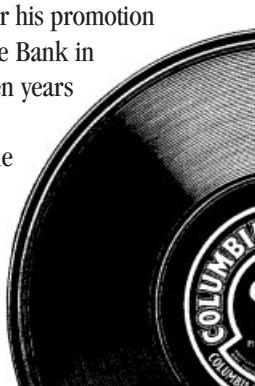
If you're not in the habit of it already, check out our alumni Web pages at www.utm.edu. There's lots of good information for you, including a continuously updated calendar of events which, hopefully, will allow you to plan well in advance for a return trip to campus or attendance at an alumni-related function in your area. I hope to see many of you at Homecoming '03!

Kudos To:

Dr. Michael Fenwick ('75) of Old Hickory, Tenn., for receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award for private practice from the UT College of Veterinary Medicine. Fenwick also received his doctorate of veterinary medicine from UT College of Veterinary Medicine in 1982, and is a partner in the Hermitage Animal Clinic. (See additional story in Alumni Notes.)

Mr. Anthony Haynes ('88) for outstanding service to UT Martin as the 2002-03 Alumni Council president. Haynes serves as director of Tennessee Emergency Communications and resides in Nashville with wife, Katherine, and son, Alexander.

Mr. Andy Culbreath ('81) for his promotion to president of First Tennessee Bank in Jackson, Tenn. He spent seven years as senior vice president of commercial lending before the promotion. Culbreath, wife, Dee Ann, and children, Nicholas and Madison Drew, reside in Jackson.



2003 Homecoming Schedule

Friday, October 3

Rope Pull Championship 3:30 p.m.
Pacer Pond area
Final & Consolation Pulls for men, women, & open divisions.

UT Martin Alumni Council Business Meeting 4:30 p.m.
Room 111 (Legislative Chamber), Boling University Center

Minority Affairs Picnic 5:00 p.m.
Skyhawk Fieldhouse area; north side under tent

UT Martin Alumni Awards Banquet 6:30p.m.
Duncan Ballroom, Boling University Center, featuring presentation of Outstanding Alumni, Outstanding Young Alumni, and Chancellor's Service Award recipients.

Skyhawk Volleyball 7:00 p.m.
Kathleen and Tom Elam Center
UT Martin vs. Jacksonville State

Pep Rally/Pyramid Contest 8:30 p.m.
Kathleen and Tom Elam Center, featuring Skyhawk football players & coaches; cheerleaders; pyramid building competitors in men's, women's, and open divisions.

* Special guests for Homecoming 2003 will be alumni from the UT Martin Branch era. All UTMB alumni are encouraged to make plans early to return to campus for a great weekend.

* Rock & Roll Homecoming! Come see how our student organizations bring this theme to life in the parade, banner competition, pyramid building contest, and other venues.

Saturday, October 4

Athletic Letter Winners Breakfast & Hall of Fame Induction 7:30 a.m.
Alumni Gym (former football gym)

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

Homecoming Parade 10:00 a.m.
University St. route; from fieldhouse to downtown

Joint Colleges Reception 11:30 a.m.– 1:30 p.m.
Alumni Gym (former football gym)
Colleges of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Business and Public Affairs, Education and Behavioral Sciences, Engineering and Natural Sciences, and Humanities and Fine Arts.

Skyhawk Volleyball 12:00 p.m.
Kathleen and Tom Elam Center
UT Martin vs. Samford

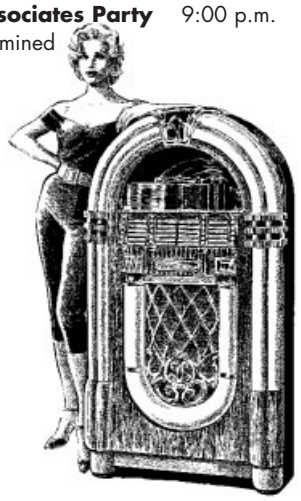
Football Game 2:00 p.m.
Hardy M. Graham Stadium
UT Martin vs. Tennessee Tech

Black Alumni Associates Banquet 5:30 p.m.
Alumni Gym (former football gym)

UTMB Reunion Dinner and Social 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
American Legion; 221 Central, Martin, Tenn.

Step Show (sponsored by NPHC) 8:00 p.m.
Skyhawk Fieldhouse
(For ticket info, contact Studen Life office.)

Black Alumni Associates Party 9:00 p.m.
Location to be determined



Rock and Roll Homecoming 2003

UT Martin Homecoming Event Registration

Event	Price	x No. Attending	Total
Friday			
Alumni Awards Banquet	$15.00	x_____	$_____
Saturday			
Letterwinners/Hall of Fame Breakfast	$ 7.00	x_____	$_____
Chancellor's Breakfast	No charge	_____	No charge
Joint Colleges Open House (lunch-style refreshments)	No charge	_____	No charge
Football Tickets	$ 8.00	x_____	$_____
Football Tickets for Reunion Attendees	No charge	x_____	No charge
UTMB Reunion Dinner and Social	$15.00	x_____	$_____

Black Alumni Associates Banquet and Party
*for reservations contact Debbie Williams-Boyd; 731-587-4885; dboyd@utm.edu

Total $_____

Name(s) _____

_____

Address _____

_____

_____

Telephone _____(H)

_____(O)

_____(Cell)

Email _____

Graduation Year _____

Please complete,
attach payment and return to
Jacky Gullett
Director of Alumni Affairs
314 Administration Building
Martin, TN 38238
Tel. 731-587-7611; fax 7622
email: jgullett@utm.edu

Make checks payable to UT Martin

from the division of

University Advancement

Director of Development
Jeanna Curtis Swafford

Weathering the Storm

In May, much of West Tennessee was damaged by thunderstorms and tornados. Jackson was hit particularly hard, with more than 10 deaths and 100 damaged buildings. During storms, particularly the threat of tornados, many of us feel the uncertainty of the situation and wonder what will happen in the next few minutes or hours.

It is a time of uncertainty in many other ways. The threat of terrorism is something we, as a country, have learned to face every day. Families with members in the armed forces overseas know that even in victory, they will not sleep quite as soundly until loved ones are back home in the states. The U.S. economy continues to be volatile and many people are faced with layoffs or the closure of their companies.

Tennessee is no different. Locally, manufacturing plants are reducing the number of jobs or closing entirely. The state budget has required the University of Tennessee, including UT Martin, to cut nine percent of its total budget. The UT Martin administration has done its best to cut as few positions or programs as possible, but the cuts are still felt.

We're counting on UT Martin's alumni and friends to help our campus weather the current economic storm in Tennessee. The good news is that UT Martin has increased its private giving from this time last year. The bad news is that we have a lower percentage of alumni giving than in the past – and lower than the national average. Although this decrease is a national trend, it is important that we increase our percentage of alumni giving.

Some of you may think, "What I can send won't make a difference." That is simply not true. These gifts add up to help your department, college, favorite sport or the library. Additionally, the percentage of alumni who make gifts to UT Martin is one factor in how this (and every other) campus is ranked in *U.S. News and World Report*.

Major gifts continue to be important to UT Martin and its programs. However, annual giving is a large portion of the campus' total private gifts each year, as well as a great show of support for this campus. The administration, faculty and staff of this campus will continue to serve our students, alumni and region and make gifts themselves. You, too, can give back to your university and make a difference; there is no such thing as a small gift.

Five-Year Celebration

The UT Martin McNairy County Center/ Selmer celebrated five years of higher education on April 26. The center, which opened in 1998, was built in a joint venture by McNairy County and the city of Selmer. UT Martin agreed to occupy the center and serve the region with classes.

Center Coordinator Lynn Gibson and UTJC alumna Katherine Scott release balloons to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the McNairy County Center. Approximately 150 people attended the ceremony and picnic that followed.

The center has grown from offering seven classes with three faculty members for 38 students in 1998 to offering 37 classes with 27 faculty members to more than 270 students. Lynn Gibson, coordinator since the center's inception, said that growth is because of service. "We try our best to serve each and every student and meet their particular needs," Gibson said. "Although we've had tremendous growth, we're still small enough to give that personal attention."

Support from the community has also been a major factor in the growth. Generous alumni and friends have given more than $750,000 for student scholarship endowments. This year, every student at the center who applied for a scholarship received one as a result of this generosity.

The center now offers a degree program, the Bachelor of University Studies (B.U.S.) and had its first graduates in 2001. Gibson hopes to add graduate classes and graduate degrees in the future and become even more of a regional learning center. Bill Duffy, director of UT Martin's Extended Campus and Continuing Education, credited many with the success of the center during the celebration ceremony, but states one group is vital. "Students are what make this center happen," he said.

Athletics Feels Pinch of State Budget Reduction

UT Martin will eliminate women's indoor and outdoor track beginning fall semester 2003 as part of university-wide budget cuts.

"In the spirit of trying to maintain a competitive program this is in the best interest of UT Martin," said Phil Dane, director of intercollegiate athletics.

"We are choosing to eliminate the women's track program just as we did in 2000 when we eliminated the men's track program," Dane said. "This will avoid across-the-board reductions in other sports and preserve their ability to compete."

Dane said the elimination of the program is two-fold. "We lack a quality facility for the team, and we lack scholarships to make the team competitive."

An indoor track facility does not exist at UT Martin, and the current outdoor track will require resurfacing in the next year or two.

The elimination of the program directly affects nine student athletes who are receiving scholarships. The nine athletes receive scholarships equaled to $48,000. At this time, UT Martin is sharing six scholarships with the nine athletes. Dane explained that the NCAA allows 18 scholarships for track in Division 1.

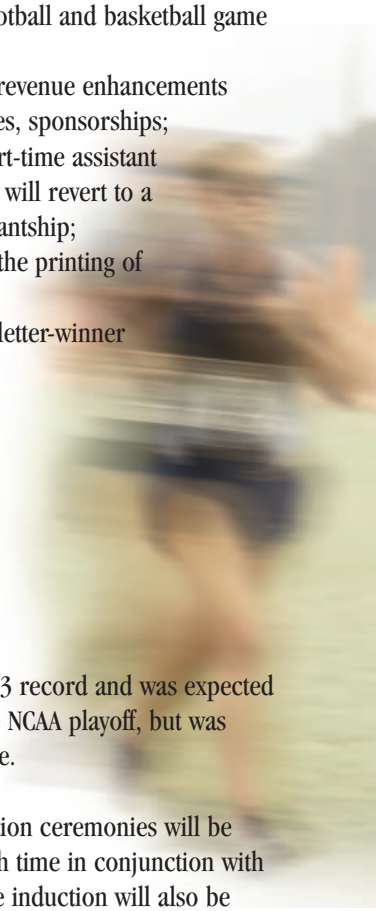
"The nine student-athletes have been assured they will retain their scholarships until their eligibility is complete," Dane said. "If they decide to transfer, we will work with them to find another school."

Dane said an additional $10,000 in operating expenses for the track program also will be saved.

In addition to the elimination of women's track, Dane said there will be other revenue enhancements and budget reductions totaling $170,000 to offset the loss of general fund support.

Among the other revenue enhancements and budget reductions are:

- Increases in football and basketball game guarantees;
- An addition in revenue enhancements from ticket sales, sponsorships;
- The current part-time assistant baseball coach will revert to a graduate assistantship;
- A reduction in the printing of media guides;
- A reduction in letter-winner awards. ■



Athletics Hall of Fame Inductions Set

Three former UT Martin athletes who have made outstanding contributions to the UT Martin athletics program will be honored with induction into the university's Hall of Fame at the annual banquet set during the 2003 Homecoming activities.

The inductees into the Hall of Fame include Jessica Crosser, the school's first softball inductee; football player Clay Blalack; and baseball player Jimmy Welch.

Crosser, from Waverly, Tenn., played softball at UT Martin from 1996-98. She was named to the 1996 OVC All-Tournament Team, the 1997 All-OVC first team as a utility player and received Honorable Mention as a pitcher. She was named to the 1997 All-OVC Tournament team as a pitcher, named to the 1998 All-OVC first team as a utility player and to the All-0VC second team as a pitcher. She sports a .341 career batting average and is fourth for career base hits with 110.

Blalack, from Covington, Tenn., played football at UT Martin from 1975-77. He was named to the 1976 All-Gulf South Conference Team. He set a GSC conference standard as he returned eight interceptions for 269 yards; four went for touchdowns and established a new NCAA record for all divisions. He averaged 0.7 interceptions per game and was among the top six returning defensive backs in the nation. He is a 1974 graduate of Covington High School.

Welch, from Dyersburg, Tenn., played second base for the UT Martin Vols for four years (1965-68). As a senior, he hit .345 and helped the team win the VASC championship and set a new school record for best winning percentage. The team finished the season with a 19-3 record and was expected to get a bid to the NCAA playoff, but was declared ineligible.

This year's induction ceremonies will be held for the fourth time in conjunction with homecoming. The induction will also be held as a part of the fourth Letter Winner's Breakfast set for Saturday, Oct. 4, in the Alumni Gym. All former UT Martin letter winners are invited to attend this breakfast.

Tickets for the banquet are $7 each, available to all persons, and can be purchased through the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics, Room 1022, Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. For more information about tickets and the banquet call 731-587-7660. ■

Skyhawks Name New Head Football Coach and Staff

Matt Griffin
Head Coach

Mickey Fein
Offensive Coordinator

DeLane Fitzgerald
Running Backs

Johnny Jernigan
Defensive Line

Andy Rondeau
Defensive Coordinator

Brian Scott
Wide Receivers

Jason Seapker
Defensive Backs

Dwayne Wilmot
Defensive Alley

Mike Zapolnik
Offensive Line

Matt Griffin, a fourth-year assistant coach at the University of Maine, has been named UT Martin's new head football coach.

"This is a tremendous professional opportunity for me and my family," Griffin said. "It is clearly evident that this administration wants to win. The new football building and all of my discussions with administrators are examples that they are committed to winning."

Griffin said he was excited about his new opportunity, and that to achieve success, things had to be done the right way. "To get the job done, things have to be done the right way, and they (UT Martin) have done things right so far. We will get the thing turned around and we will win."

Griffin completed his fourth year at the University of Maine this past season and helped guide the Black Bears to the Division I-AA playoffs where they lost in the second round to Georgia Southern. He completed his third season overseeing the offensive line. He also recruited areas in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, central and western Massachusetts and central New Jersey.

"Matt Griffin brings a wide range of experiences and a strong work ethic to UT Martin," said Phil Dane, director of intercollegiate athletics at UT Martin.

"Matt's positive reputation from his previous experience at UT Martin was a big factor in his selection. He recruits quality athletes, and he is very committed to our athletic and academic mission," Dane said.

Before going to work at the University of Maine, Griffin served as offensive coordinator at UT Martin. He also coached the Skyhawks' receivers and quarterbacks.

The move to Maine allowed Griffin to return to his New England roots. He graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1992. He served as team captain and led the league in passing efficiency as a senior. He held several passing records at UNH when he left the university.

His coaching and playing career has taken him to four Atlantic 10 schools. His first college coaching duties came in 1992-94 at Plymouth State College in New Hampshire. From there he joined the University of Richmond program in 1994, and then was at Northeastern from 1995-97.

Griffin is married to his high school sweetheart, the former Lisa Morin. They are parents of daughter Molly, 9; and sons Cullen, 7; and Garrett, 2.

Griffin wasted no time in hiring his staff. He retained interim head coach Johnny Jernigan as his defensive line coach and named North Dakota State defensive back coach Andy Rondeau as the Skyhawks' new defensive coordinator.

Rondeau served as an assistant coach at North Dakota State for the past six years. Like others on his staff, Griffin has known Rondeau since he was at Northeastern.

Mickey Fein will serve as the quarterbacks coach and offensive coordinator. This past season, Fein coached wide receivers at the University of Maine, his alma mater.

DeLane Fitzgerald will serve as the Skyhawks' running backs coach. He served as the defensive line assistant coach at James Madison University in Virginia this past season.

Jason M. Seapker, a 1995 New York Jets free agent, will coach the Skyhawks' defensive secondary next season.

Michael J. Zapolnik, a former assistant offensive line coach at Brown University, will coach the offensive linemen. He served as a graduate assistant during the fall of 1998 and the spring of 1999 at UT Martin.

Brian Scott will coach wide receivers. He comes to UT Martin from the University of Massachusetts, Lowell, where he served the Riverhawks for one season as the quarterbacks coach.

Dwayne Wilmot will coach defensive alley players. Wilmot signed as a free agent with the Detroit Lions in 2001 and made it to the final cut.

Sports Schedules Fall 2003

Golf

Date	Tournament	Site
Sept. 8-9	Dr. Morton B. Harris Intercollegiate Host: Southeast Missouri State University	Cape Girardeau, Mo.
Sept. 15-16	Gulf Coast Collegiate Classic Host: Nichols State University	Bay St. Louis, Miss.
Sept. 22-23	Buffalo Rock Southern Showdown Host: Birmingham Southern	Birmingham, Ala.
Oct. 13-14	EIU/Ironhorse Intercollegiate Host: Eastern Illinois University	Charleston, Ill.
Oct. 20-21	SMS Fall Invitational Host: Southwest Missouri State	Springfield, Mo.
Oct. 27-28	Temple Hills NCAA Collegiate Invitl Host: Lipscomb University	Nashville, Tenn.

Football

Day	Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Thur.	Aug. 28	Austin Peay*	Martin	7 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 6	Arkansas State	Jonesboro, Ark.	TBA
Thur.	Sept. 11	East Tennessee State	Martin	6 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 20	Western Illinois	Macomb, Ill.	TBA
Sat.	Sept. 27	Tennessee State*	Nashville	TBA
Sat.	Oct. 4	Tennessee Tech*	Martin (Homecoming)	2 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 11	Jacksonville State*	Jacksonville, Ala.	TBA
Sat.	Oct. 18	Samford*	Martin	4 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 25	Eastern Illinois*	Charleston, Ill.	TBA
Sat.	Nov. 1	Southeast Missouri St.*	Martin	2 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 8	Eastern Kentucky*	Richmond, Ky.	12 p.m.
Thur.	Nov. 13	Murray State*	Martin	7 p.m.

*Ohio Valley Conference Match

Women's Basketball

Day	Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Sat.	Nov. 15	NWBL Elite Travel Team	Martin	4 p.m.
Tue.	Nov. 18	Lambuth	Martin	7 p.m.
Fri.	Nov. 21	Arkansas-Little Rock	Little Rock, Ark.	TBA
Thur.	Dec. 4	North Carolina	Chapel Hill, N.C.	TBA
Sun.	Dec. 14	Evansville	Martin	5 p.m.
Tue	Dec. 16	Mississippi State	Starkeville, Miss.	7 p.m.
Thur.	Dec. 18	Arkansas-Little Rock	Martin	7 p.m.
Sun.	Dec. 29	UAB Christmas Tournament	Birmingham, Ala.	TBA
Mon.	Dec. 30	UAB Christmas Tournament	Birmingham, Ala.	TBA

*Ohio Valley Conference Game

Soccer

Day	Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Fri.	Aug. 29	Cumberland University	Martin	4 p.m.
Sun.	Aug. 31	Southwest Missouri State	Martin	1 p.m.
Fri.	Sept. 5	Stephen F. Austin	Nacogdoches, Tx.	1 p.m.
Sun.	Sept. 7	Arkansas State	Jonesboro, Ark.	1 p.m.
Fri.	Sept. 12	Southeastern Louisiana#	Martin	5 p.m.
Sun.	Sept. 14	UALR#	Martin	2 p.m.
Wed.	Sept. 17	Belmont University	Martin	4 p.m.
Sun.	Sept. 21	Indiana Purdue, Fort Wayne	Martin	1 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 3	Jacksonville State*	Jacksonville, Ala.	7 p.m.
Sun.	Oct. 5	Samford*	Birmingham, Ala.	1 p.m.
Wed.	Oct. 8	Memphis	Memphis	7 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 11	Murray*	Martin	2 p.m.
Tues.	Oct. 14	Lipscomb University	Nashville	5 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 17	Southeast Missouri State*	Martin	3 p.m.
Sun.	Oct. 19	Eastern Illinois*	Martin	1 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 24	Austin Peay*	Clarksville	3 p.m.
Sun.	Oct. 26	Tennessee Tech*	Cookeville	1 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 31	Morehead State*	Martin	2:30 p.m.
Sun.	Nov. 2	UT Chattanooga	Martin	1 p.m.
	Nov. 5-9	Ohio Valley Conference Championships		TBA

#Skyhawk Invitational *Ohio Valley Conference Match

Volleyball

Day	Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Fri.	Aug. 29	Jackson State#	Jonesboro, Ark.	3 p.m.
		Arkansas State#	Jonesboro, Ark.	7 p.m.
Sat.	Aug. 30	Northwestern State#	Jonesboro, Ark.	11 a.m.
		Memphis#	Jonesboro, Ark.	5 p.m.
Fri.	Sept. 5	Mississippi State%	Starkville, Miss.	7 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 6	So. Mississippi%	Starkville, Miss.	12:30 p.m.
		Austin Peay%	Starkville, Miss.	3 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 9	Memphis	Martin	7 p.m.
Fri.	Sept. 12	James Madison$	Bowling Green, Ky.	5 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 13	Toledo$	Bowling Green, Ky.	2 p.m.
		Western Kentucky$	Bowling Green, Ky.	7 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 16	Murray State*	Murray, Ky.	7 p.m.
Thur.	Sept. 18	Arkansas State	Martin	7 p.m.
Fri.	Sept. 23	Evansville	Martin	7 p.m.
Fri.	Sept. 26	Eastern Kentucky*	Richmond, Ky.	7 p.m.
Sat.	Sept. 27	Morehead*	Morehead, Ky.	1 p.m.
Tue.	Sept. 30	St. Louis	St. Louis, Mo.	7 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 3	Jacksonville State*	Martin	7 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 4	Samford*	Martin	12 p.m.
Tue.	Oct. 7	Southern Illinois	Carbondale, Ill.	7 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 10	Tennessee State*	Nashville	7 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 17	Morehead*	Martin	7 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 18	Eastern Kentucky*	Martin	12 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 24	Southeast Missouri*	Cape Girardeau, Mo.	7 p.m.
Sat.	Oct. 25	Eastern Illinois*	Charleston, Ill.	7 p.m.
Tue.	Oct. 28	Belmont	Nashville	6:30 p.m.
Fri.	Oct. 31	Austin Peay*	Clarksville	7 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 1	Tennessee Tech*	Cookeville	2 p.m.
Tue.	Nov. 4	Murray*	Martin	7 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 8	Tennessee State*	Martin	7 p.m.
Fri.	Nov. 14	Eastern Illinois*	Martin	7 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 15	Southeast Missouri*	Martin	2 p.m.
	Nov. 20-23	OVC Tournament		
	Dec. 4-7	NCAA Tournament		

#Arkansas State Tournament *Ohio Valley Conference Match
%Mississippi State Tournament $Western Kentucky Tournament

Men's Basketball

Day	Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Sat.	Nov. 15	Sports Reach	Martin	6 p.m.
Tue.	Nov. 18	Western Illinois$	Springfield, Mo.	TBA
Wed.	Nov. 19	SW Missouri or Miss Valley	Springfield, Mo.	TBA
Sat.	Nov. 22	Mississippi State	Starkville, Miss.	TBA
Mon.	Nov. 24	Central Baptist	Martin	7 p.m.
Sat.	Nov. 29	Vanderbilt	Nashville	TBA
Sat.	Dec 6	Mississippi Valley	Jackson, Miss.	7 p.m.
Sat.	Dec. 13	Rochester College	Martin	6 p.m.
Sat.	Dec. 20	Mississippi Valley	Martin	6 p.m.
Mon.	Dec. 22	Indiana State	Terre Haute, Ind.	7:05 p.m.
Mon.	Dec. 30	Central Florida	Orlando, Fla.	TBA

*Ohio Valley Conference Game $Guardians Classic

Cross Country

Day	Date	Meet	Site
Sat.	Sept. 6	Memphis Invitational	Memphis
Sat.	Sept. 27	NCAA CC Only Championships	SIU-Edwardsville, Ill
Sat.	Oct. 11	UT Martin Invitational	Martin
Sat.	Oct. 18	Evansville Invitational	Evansville, Ind.
Sat.	Oct. 25	Arkansas State Invitational	Jonesboro, Ark.
Sat.	Nov. 1	OVC Championships	Murray, Ky.
Sat.	Nov. 15	NCAA Regionals	Auburn, Ga.

Rifle

Day	Date	Match	Site
Sat.	Sept. 27	Murray State	Murray, Ky.
Sat.	Oct. 4	Austin Peay	Clarksville
Sun.	Oct. 5	Memphis	Memphis
Sat.	Oct. 11	Ole Miss	Oxford, Miss.
Sat.	Nov. 1	Walsh Invitational (Xavier)	Cincinnati, Ohio
Sun.	Nov. 2	Morehead State	Morehead, Ky.

1960

Patsy Carmack and her husband, **William** ('60), currently reside in Spokane, Wash., where they have three children: Carla Wigen, and Jon and Edwin Carmack. Email: pcarmack@cet.com.

1963

James Patrick is an after sales business manager for Case Corp. His wife, Betty, is a medical transcriptionist. They currently reside in Somerville, Tenn., and have three children: Jim, Bryan and Brad. Email: jameslpatrick@hotmail.com.

1970

David Tuttle and his wife, Jan Angene, are Reiki practitioners. They reside in Westerville, Ohio. Email: IMMUNEWISE@aol.com.

1971

Robert Bowls works for Pinnacle Airlines. He resides in Memphis, Tenn., and has one daughter: Andrea Shay, 28. Email: BowlsRE@Bigfoot.com.

Gary Householder retired from the U.S. Army as a lieutenant colonel in 1993. He graduated last year with two master's degrees in teaching from Spalding University and received the Jerome Fargen Award for Leadership upon graduation. He is currently a teacher at Presentation Academy. His wife, Janet, is a registered nurse at Kentuckiznz Allergy. They reside in Louisville, Ky., with two children: Cindy, 23; and Brian, 19. Email: ghouse49@excite.com.

Dr. Michael Fenwick ('75, UT '82), a partner in the Hermitage Animal Clinic, received the Distinguished Alumni Award for private practice from the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. Fenwick accepted the award January 31 at the college's annual conference in Knoxville.

Dr. David T. Wilder, founder of the Hermitage Animal Clinic, nominated Fenwick for the award, describing him as an excellent veterinarian and a "tireless worker" for state and local associations.

A recipient of the Tennessee Veterinary Medicine Association (TVMA) Distinguished Service Award, Fenwick has served for nine years on the TVMA Board of Directors. He is a past president and treasurer of the organization. He is president of the Davidson County Veterinary Medical Association, and he represents Tennessee at the American Veterinary Medical Association House of Delegates. He also serves on the board of directors for the Nashville Pet Emergency Clinic.

The award was presented by Dr. Michael Blackwell, UTCVM dean, and Dr. John Henton, continuing education director and coordinator of alumni activities.

Fenwick is the son of Bill and Jean Fenwick of Fulton, Ky.

William Matthews recently retired after 30 years as a high school math teacher and now serves as an assistant professor of education/math at Lindenwood University. His wife, Barbara, is a nurse at St. Luke's Hospital. They reside in St. Charles, Mo., and have three children: Ryan, 27; Tagg, 25; and Justin, 19. Email: LBMATTHEWS@earthlink.net.

1972

Ann McCay Anderson and her husband, **John** ('72), currently reside in Lexington, Tenn. Ann was recently promoted to supervisor of instruction and curriculum for the Lexington City School System. John is self-employed at Anderson Bait District Inc. Ann has served on the UT Martin Alumni Council and is currently an officer in the Henderson County UT Alumni Chapter. Both Ann and John are past members of the UT Alumni Board of Governors. They have two children: Andy, 25; and Jim "Jimbo," 24. Email: andersona@caywood.org.

Connie Gullett Cantrell is an administrative aide for the University of Tennessee. She resides in Madison, Tenn. Email: conniec@tennessee.edu

Dennis Shearon and his wife, Diana, reside in North Little Rock, Ark. He is a commodities broker for J.W. Nutt Company, and she is a graphic designer.

1973

Karen Russell is a high school guidance counselor at Adamsville High School. Her husband, Bobby, is an adjunctive therapy supervisor at Western Mental Health Institute. They reside in Adamsville, Tenn., and have two children: Sally, 23; and Ryan, 20. Email: karenrussell70@hotmail.com.

1974

G. Robert "Hoss" Smith Jr., currently resides in Murfreesboro, Tenn., with his wife, Elizabeth. He was recently tenured and promoted to associate professor at Middle Tennessee State University, while she is an associate professor at Auburn University. Email: smitty@mtsu.edu.

1975

Marcia Gorman Coleman is a teacher at West Carroll Special School District. Marcia, who resides in Huntingdon, Tenn., was recently inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and plans to complete her master's degree in educational leadership in May 2003. She has one child: Christi, 21. Email: colemanm@charter.net.

Lynn Cotten Mobley and her husband, **Michael** ('73), reside in Tennessee Ridge, Tenn. She is a fifth grade teacher for Houston County, and he is a shipping lead at Gypsum L.L.C. They have two children, both of whom are UT Martin graduates: Andy, 24; and Laurie, 22. Email: lynn_windyridgefarm@yahoo.com.

1976

Mary McDougal O'Rourke is a registered nurse at Piedmont Medical Center where she is working in the Cardio Vascular Telemetry Unit. Her husband, Jeffrey, is a pastor at Bible Covenant Community Church, and they currently reside in York, S.C. They have four children: Anne Meester, 24; Sarah, 21; Mary K., 17; and Erica, 15.

Barbara McBride-Payne and her husband, Willie Payne Sr., currently reside in St. Louis, Mo. She is a teacher at St. Louis Public Schools. They are both real estate investors and business owners of Payne Real Estate Investment Co. and Happy Go Lucky. They have two children: Willie Payne II, 23; and Delea, 20.

1978

Barry Akins resides in Lawrenceburg, Ky., with his wife, Lynn. He is a staff engineer at Hitachi Automotive Products, and she is a teacher for Anderson County School System. They have a small farm and enjoy horses and outdoor activities. They have two children: Alison, 19; and Brandon, 16. Email: Barry.Akins@HAP.com.

Lillie Roberson Hackney and her husband, Robert, reside in Cordova, Tenn. She is a national learning consultant for Cox Communications, and he is an engineer for BellSouth Telecommunications. Lillie serves as organizer and director of Imani Federal Credit Union and is also the owner/president of Hackney Consulting Group. Email: hackneygrp@aol.com.

1979

Paul Alexander resides in Montgomery, Ala., with his wife, Leanne Byrd Alexander. He is executive director of advancement at Auburn University, where he earned his master's in business administration in 1991 and serves as adjunct instructor in public administration at the School of Sciences. Leanne is a music teacher. They have two children: Laura, 14; and Jacob, 10. Email: palexand@mail.aum.edu.

Bradley T. Rankin, M.D, is a University of Tennessee-trained allergist in Paducah, Ky., who was recently promoted to fellowship by the American Academy of Allery, Asthma, and Immunology. He is married to Norma Thomas Rankin, M.D., a retired OB/GYN. They have two children: Brad Jr., 18; and Chad, 16. Email: btrankin2000@yahoo.com.

1980

Maurice Bass and his wife, Nancy, reside in Anna, Ill. He is the co-owner of the radio station WIBH Inc., while Nancy is a teacher of the deaf. They have three children: Kyle, 18; Kent, 17; and Keith, 15. Email: wibh@ajinternet.net.

Michael Guess is a financial analyst with A.G. Edwards and Sons in Nashville, Tenn. He recently reunited Alice Perley with her brother, Fred, of Charlotte, N.C.

Tracey Williams was CEO of Southern Illinois Regional Social Services before taking over as contract manager for the State of Illinois Office of Mental Health. Tracey resides in Anna, Ill. Email: tragor58@midwest. net.

1981

Dr. Jacqueline Rosenjack Burchum and her husband, C. Tony, reside in Camden, Tenn. She is an assistant professor at the University of Memphis, and he is a registered nurse. Jacqueline received her doctoral degree from UT Health Science Center in Memphis in December 2002 and was awarded the UT College of Nursing Alumni Award for enthusiasm for learning and nursing, superior skill in providing patient care, and outstanding ability to interact with peers, patients and staff. They have one child: Charles, 23. Email: jburchum@memphis.edu.

Micheal Ellis is a teacher and coach at Tate High School. He received his bachelor's degree in divinity in 1986 and his master's degree in sports medicine in 1992. He and his wife, Brenda, reside in Cantonment, Fla., where they have four children: Jessica, 18; Erika, 17; Justin, 14; and Lucretia, 10.

William Green and his wife, **Patricia Robertson** ('79), reside in Knoxville, Tenn., where he serves as deputy chief of police of the Knoxville Police Department, and she is a systems analyst. William is a graduate of the 204th session of the FBI National Academy and the FBI Leadership Fellows Program. He is also an adjunct staff member with the Southeastern Community Oriented Policing Education program at Fox Valley Technical College and with *Law & Order Magazine*. The Greens have two children: Erin, 19; and Emily, 16. Email: dgreen@ci.knoxville.tn.us.

Rochell Stewart is self-employed at R. Stewart Inventory Services. He resides in Nashville, Tenn., and has two children: Jeremy, 20; and Rapheal, 14. Email: rockyrocky50.hotmail.com.

1983

Elizabeth Jones Lott and her husband, **David Lott**, D.V.M. ('84), reside in McKenzie, Tenn. She is the librarian at Huntingdon High School, and he is owner of Tri-County Animal Clinic. They have two children: Holly, 14; and Ben, 11.

Jeff Parham resides in Martin, Tenn., with his wife, Tina Terry. He is an attorney. They have three children: Alex, 12; Blake, 9; and Ethan, 2.

Catherine Reddich Henris has been named business woman of the year in the services industry category by the National Association of Women Business Owners. She owns and operates Active Learning Center preschools in Franklin and Bellevue, Tenn. She and her husband, Bill, live in Franklin with their two children: Nathan, 14; and Maggie, 11.

1984

Carey Lorenzo Bond serves as a major in the National Guard and is the director of claims for Nationwide Insurance. He and his wife, Angela Fouse Bond, reside in Midlothian, Va., where they have two children: Allen, 16; and Ashley, 8.

Paul Lewis and his wife, Melisa, reside in San Fidel, N.M. Paul is a health physicist/industrial hygienist for U.S. Public Health Service. They have one child: Shawn, 16. Email: mmslewis1@msn.com.

James Nelson is a revenue officer for the United States Treasury – Internal Revenue Service. He resides in South Plainfield, N.J. He has four children: Tyfannie, 20; Jamil, 17; Terrance, 11; and Damani, 3.

Mark Newby and his wife, **Carla Rice** ('84), reside in Knoxville, Tenn. He is a State Farm Insurance agent, and she is a pharmacist. They have two

Dr. Michael Bobo ('90), **Dr. Spencer Haley** ('91), and **Dr. Russell Kirk** ('90) attended classes together at UT Martin. They are now three of approximately 130 oral and malliofacial surgeons in Tennessee.

children: Alex, 11; and Jordan, 9. Email: mnewby60@aol.com.

1985

Timothy Rogers is a K-4 principal and assistant supervisor of instruction at Lexington City School System. He was elected in August to the Henderson County Commission serving District 6 and serves this year as chairman of the county finance committee. He is also a member of Rotary, is executive director of the Lexington/ Henderson County Youth Football League, and is a 2003 Leadership Henderson County member. Tim also co-hosts "The Sports Blitz" on 96.5 WBFG. Tim and his wife, **Stephanie Baker** ('92), have two children: Timothy II, 10; and Juliana, 4. Email: voldar@bellsouth.net.

1987

Mary-Ellen Harwood earned her master's of social work degree from Tulane University in 1995. She currently resides in Jefferson, La., where she works as a licensed clinical social worker for the New Orleans AIDS Task Force. Email: MELLEN1126@aol.com.

Mike Hayes is a biology teacher and head baseball coach at Beech High School. His wife, **Kimberly May** ('88), is a controller at AMI Metals. They reside in White House, Tenn., and have two children: Madelyn, 9; and Michael, 5. Email: mikekimhayes@msn.com.

Deborah Adams Mabry and her husband, Eddie, reside in Forth Worth, Texas. She is a teacher for Fort Worth Independent School District, and he is a career counselor. Deborah served in the United States Civil Service for seven years in Europe and is a member of Troops To Teachers. She won the Outstanding Teacher Award KISD in 1994 and 1997; the Teacher of Excellence AISD in 1997 and 2000; has been teacher mentor and program coordinator since 2001; has been endorsed by the state of Texas since 2001; and was a Teacher of the Year nominee in 2002. The Mabrys have one child: Ambria, 9. Email: ivv1965@aol.com.

1988

Wilber D. Guess resides in Fishers, Ind. He is a marketing associate in the cattle business unit for Elanco, a division of Eli Lilly and Co. Email: guess_wil@lilly.com.

Susan James Hall and her husband, Jonathan, reside in Hendersonville, Tenn. She is a Court Appointed Special Advisor (CASA) for Sumner County, and he is an operations systems manager. They have two children: Judson, 12; and Samantha, 4. Email: shallmls@yahoo.com.

Ty LoVette is a member of the Kentucky Baptist Men's Chorale, which just finished its European Tour. He and his wife, **Marjorie** ('82), reside in Ashland, Ky. He is a music minister at Unity Baptist Church, and she is a teacher. They have two children: Josiah, 13; and Caleb Thomas-Hunley, 9. Email: tlovette@hotmail.com.

1990

Victor Castro and his wife, **Laura Jackson** ('90), reside in Union City, Tenn. He is a controller at First State Bank and she is a Spanish/English translator. They are both active in their church's mission program, and Laura is vice-president of the local Junior Auxiliary. They have three children: Paulina, 7; Isabella, 5; and Francesca, 3. Email: ljackson_castro@hotmail.com.

Dena Church Wheatley and her husband, Stan, reside in Hillsborough, N.C. She is a registered nurse at Alamnace Regional Medical Center, and he is employed at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. They have one child: Hailey, 6. Email: wheatley@visionet.org.

1991

Myra Gammon is in pharmaceutical sales for the neuroscience specialty division at Eli Lilly and Co. She currently resides in Arlington, Va. Email: Email: mgammon273@aol.com.

John Ted Lawson and his wife, **Stacie Smith** ('93), reside in Saltillo, Miss. He was recently promoted to district manager for Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, and she is assistant regional market director for GlaxoSmithkline. Email: lawsonj@wyeth.com.

Janice Townsend resides in Hermosa Beach, Calif. She was chief resident of anesthesiology for the University of California at San Francisco from 1999 to 2001. She received the Pediatric Anesthesia Fellowship for 2001-2002 at the Los Angeles Children's Hospital. She was also awarded the American Medical Association Recognition Award in 2001. She has one child: Ryan Jones, 20.

1992

Paul "Lee" Carr resides in Memphis, Tenn., with his wife, **Tonya Maiorino** ('90). He is an information/media specialist for Kirby Woods Baptist Church, and she is a dental hygienist. They have two children: Christian, 6; and Jesse, 14 months. Email: LeeCarr@KWBC.org.

Deepa and Kamal **Patel** reside in Round Rock, Texas. Deepa is an optometrist, and Kamal is in sales. Email: drdeepa@hotmail.com

1993

Robert Jetton graduated from Memphis Theological Seminary in 1998 and was ordained deacon. He was ordained elder in 2000. He serves as a United Methodist clergy. He and his wife, Beverlyann, a registered nurse, reside in Michie, Tenn. They have four children: Duane, 30; Diana, 27; David, 25; and Michael, 14.

Stacy Celeste (Tutor) Liner and her husband, J. Dale Liner II, reside in Cleveland, Tenn. She is a fifth grade teacher at Cleveland City Schools, where she was recently named 2002-03 Teacher of the Year. Her husband is a police officer. They have two children: Suzanna, 4; and Jenna, 1. Email: sliner@clevelandschools.org.

Dr. Carol Ratliff Minton and her husband, Adam, recently became the proud parents of a son, Nathan. He was born on Dec. 22, 2002. Carol is an optometrist at Summit Eye Associates, PC, and Adam is a courier for Federal Express.

Chris Crider ('97) was elected fall 2002 to serve his first term in the Tennessee House of Representatives. A Milan, Tenn., native and a business owner, Crider is a member of the house agriculture committee, the house health and human resources committee, and the house public health and family assistance subcommittee. He represents District 79, which includes Gibson County and part of Carroll County.

They currently reside in Franklin, Tenn.

Amanda McLean Yarberry is a part-time pharmacist with Meijer, Inc., and her husband, Brian, is a pediatric clinical coordinator/pharmacist with Kosair Children's Hospital. They are the parents of Abby, who was born in October 2002. They currently reside in Louisville, Ky.

1994

John Crabtree is a senior director of information services for Captain D's LLC. He and his wife, April, reside in Antioch, Tenn. They have one child: Logan, 5.

Nickie Greer is a clinical pharmacist at Baylor University Medical Center and resides in Dallas, Texas. Nickie received a doctor of pharmacy at the UT College of Pharmacy in 1998 and completed pharmacy practice residency at Huntsville Hospital in 1999. Email: nikpharmd@hotmail.com.

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. **William Parson** was recently called to active duty in support of the war on terrorism while assigned to Company "K," 3rd Battalion, 23rd Marines, 4th Marine Division, based in Memphis, Tenn.

Jason Tubbs is director of sports medicine at Milan Physical Therapy. His wife, Tricia, is a medical lab technician. They reside in Humboldt, Tenn. They have one child: Anna, 2. Email: jtubbs@fortunehitech.net.

Jack Long Jr. was promoted to senior programmer/analyst for Dollar General Corp. in August 2002 and was ordained as elder in his church in February 2003. He and his wife, **Martha** ('97), reside in Portland, Tenn. They have two children: Jackson Long III, 4; and John, 6 months old. Email: JACKANDSUELONG@yahoo.com.

1996

Jennifer Coulston Ballard and her husband, David, reside in Brighton, Tenn. She is a physical therapist assistant, and he is in sales. They have two children: Will, 4; and Drew, 2.

Margaret Payne Harms is an editorial assistant at Ducks Unlimited and teaches an English as a second language class on Tuesday nights. Her husband, Travis, is a financial analyst. They reside in Memphis, Tenn. Email: maggielynn2@excite.com.

Jason Jones, former media relations manager for the Memphis Redbirds, has been hired as public relations director at Sossaman and Associates in Memphis, Tenn. Sossamon and Associates is a full-service ad agency. Jones is a native Memphian.

Chadwick Stanfill is an attorney and resides in Nashville, Tenn.

Barry Wright is the news director for Real Country AM 920, WMOK, in Metropolis, Ill. He resides in Paducah, Ky. Email: wrightbg@hotmail.com

1997

Christine Carter Booz and her husband, **James** ('96), reside in Franklin, Tenn. James is director of compliance at Vanderbilt University. They have two children: Claire, 4; and Maggie, 1. Email: mrsbooz@netscape.net.

Raye Littlejohn Glass recently received Sales Representative of the Year for Women's Healthcare Franchise in Tennessee. She is in sales for Federal Express and resides with her husband, **Patrick** ('96), in Oakland, Tenn.

Webster Eugene Hutchings is a teacher with the Rutherford County Board of Education and recently received his master's degree in administration/supervision from Middle Tennessee State University. He resides in Murfreesboro, Tenn. Email: hutchingsw@rcas.k12.tn.us.

Tracy Luna and his wife, **Laura Polk** ('94), reside in Hohenwald, Tenn. Tracy is head band director at Lewis County Schools and Laura is a high school math teacher. They have one child: Ben, 3; and are expecting their second in June 2003.

Tracy Morris Rutledge is a first-year doctoral student at the University of Memphis pursuing a doctorate in communications. She was recently recognized for her work in marketing and public relations after receiving several 2002 West Tennessee Advertising Federation awards for copywriting and advertising campaigns. Her husband, **Burton**, ('97), is a high school math teacher and assistant football coach at Crockett County. They reside in Alamo, Tenn. Email: btrut@charter.net.

1998

Janet Pilcher Cagely recently graduated from National University with a master of education in cross-cultural teaching and is working on her Tier One Administrative Credential. She was married to David Cagely last year in Las Vegas. Email: janetplchr@earthlink.net.

Rodgers Harris is head baseball coach at McEvoy Middle School and defensive coordinator for the football team, which he helped win its first championship in 10 years. He also guided the basketball team to another championship this year. He is now teaching geography and reading. His wife, **Angela** ('00), is in her second year of nursing. She completed her first year in Memphis at the Children's Hospital and is now working for the Medical Center of Central Georgia and the Medical Staffing Network. She has been keeping busy with Girl Scout activities with daughter Arreial. They currently reside in Macon, Ga.

Eric Hoy resides in Kentwood, Mich. He is a customer service

representative manager for American Color.

Jared McCoy resides in Jackson, Tenn., where he is a horticulturist for the Tennessee Department of Transportation. Email: Jared.McCoy@state.tn.us.

Rysania Eskew Ofner and **Christian Ofner** ('98) reside in Franklin, Tenn. Rysania is an education consultant for the State Department of Education, and Christian is a financial adviser.

William Rasbach III is in financial sales for Liberty National. He resides in Jackson, Tenn. Email: willrasbach@charter.net.

James Reed II and his wife, **Mary Simmons** ('97), reside in White House, Tenn. He is a music teacher/band director at Goodpasture Christian School, and she is assistant director of a day care center. They have one child: Wyatt, 18 months. Email: reed52398@aol.com.

William Watson recently became a licensed minister in the Assemblies of God. He is a K-5 general music teacher, a 9-12 advanced choir teacher, and is also an adjunct faculty member for the University of Memphis, teaching comparative arts to general education majors. His wife, **Elizabeth Podesta** ('01), is an advanced choir accompanist and private piano teacher. They reside in Dyersburg, Tenn., and are expecting their first child in summer 2003. Email: dwatson@dyercs.net.

Karan Cottrell Welch and her husband, **James** ('98), reside in Clarksville, Tenn. She is a first grade teacher at Dover Elementary, and he is a teacher at Northeast High School. Email: mkrorie@aol.com.

1999

Stacey Lessenberry Barnett is a customer service representative, and her husband, **Brian** ('99), is an operations manager. They currently reside in Jackson, Tenn. They have one child: Hayden, 18 months.

Amelia Johnson Buckley recently married Zachary Buckley, and they reside in Olive Branch, Miss. She is a program director at FedEx Wellness Centers, and he is a senior program analyst at FedEx.

Andrea Brewer Carmichael and her husband, **Larry** ('99), reside in Collierville, Tenn. He graduated last year from the UT College of Pharmacy with a doctor of pharmacy and is a pharmacist at Kroger. They have one child: Knox, 9 months. Email: acarmic1@midsouth.rr.com and scarmich@midsouth.rr.com.

Elizabeth Arwood Cromwell is an accounting manager for Jordan Company, and her husband, **Jeremy** ('98), is an operations manager for Alside Supply. They reside in Collierville, Tenn.

Leonard Douglas Jr., and his wife, Wendy, reside in Pinson, Tenn. He was promoted from park ranger to park manager at Pinson Mounds State Park. They have two children: Tyler, 6; and Jordan, 4. E-mail: lwdouglasjr @aol.com.

Adam Hassett is a teacher at Palm Beach County School Corporation. His wife, Susan, is an accountant. They reside in West Palm Beach, Fla. They have two children: Bryce, 6; and Evan, 14 months; and have a third child due in May 2003. Email: ASHASSETT@aol.com.

Brent and **Amanda** ('00) **Hinson** were married in June 2003. They currently reside in Paducah, Ky., where he is a commercial producer and she is a news producer for NewsChannel 6, WPSD-TV. E-mail: bhinson@wpsdtv.com.

Ashley Moore and **Kami Crossnoe** ('98) reside in McEwen, Tenn. Ashley attended the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for 14 weeks in 2002 and graduated with honors. Ashley also received an award for academics and an "expert" award for firearms. Ashley is working with the Tennessee Valley Authority police in Kentucky, and Kami is a first grade teacher. Email: ashleywmoore@hotmail.com.

Mandy Moore is a Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance Orientation Specialist for Dyersburg State Community College. She resides in Halls, Tenn. Email: missmandy94@ hotmail.com.

Mandi Hart Osbron and her husband, Jason, reside in Paris, Tenn. Mandi is a second grade teacher at Henry Elementary School and is currently attending UT Martin to receive her master's degree in guidance counseling. Jason is a fire ighter for the city of Paris. Email: mosbron@yahoo.com.

Steven Stroud is a process engineer and environmental coordinator for KT Clay Co. His wife, Michelle, is a nurse. They reside in Dresden, Tenn., and have three children: Stephanie, 12; Nick, 7; and Zane, 3.

2000

Erin Ellis Avery and her husband, Chris, reside in Memphis, Tenn. She is a sales associate for FTN Financial, and he is a national account manager for Maybelline Cosmetics.

Lisa Shaver Finn and her husband, **Kevin** ('99), reside in Erwin, Tenn. She is a medical student, and he is a sales/service consultant for Reynolds & Reynolds.

Erik Gyllenhammar and his wife, **April McMahan** ('00), reside in Cordova, Tenn. He is a pharmaceutical sales representative, and she is a teacher. Email: erik-gyllenhammar @yahoo.com.

Terrill Mayberry is a regional wildlife biologist for USDA-NRCS. She resides in Knoxville, Tenn. E-mail: Robin.Mayberry @tnknoxville.fsc.usda.gov.

Preston Ozment and his wife, **Julie Lowery** ('00), reside in Dyersburg, Tenn. He is a teacher and head baseball coach at Dyer County High School, and she is a surgery nurse. Email: pozment@dyercs.net.

Becky Johnson Richardson is a probation/parole officer for the state of Tennessee. Her

husband, Gregory, is in corporate training for O'Charley's. They reside in Jackson, Tenn. Email: Becky.Johnson@state.tn.us.

2001

LaTonya Greer Dowell is a nursing student. Her husband, **Carlos** ('01), is an athletic trainer who received his master's degree in exercise science from Austin Peay State University in 2002. They have one child: Tamia, 1. Email: dowellcarlos@hotmail.com and krispykreme97@yahoo.com.

Dara Arant Dublin is social service director for Van Ayer Manor Nursing and Rehab in Martin, Tenn. Her husband, Jason, is a process technician for SR Products. They have two children: Jacob, 4; and John, 6 months.

Scott Hall played four seasons of professional baseball and spent two years in Europe as a player/manager of a pro team. He "retired" to San Diego, Calif., and is now involved in medical sales and loving every minute of California.

Jill Heinecke was promoted to human resource manager for Embassy Suites NW Arkansas. She resides in Fayetteville, Ark. Email: heinecken78@hotmail.com.

Dustin Seratt and his wife, **Shelley Smith** ('99), reside in Newbern, Tenn. He is a financial analyst for Centex Engineering and Construction, and she is an occupational therapist for Sports Plus Rehab Center of Dyersburg. Email: s_seratt@netzero.com.

Correction: The names of **John Stevenson** and **Ruth Nutter Stevenson** were misspelled in the last issue of this magazine. They currently reside in Barnesville, Ga. He is an executive for the non-profit Flint River Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and she is a seventh grade language arts teacher. Email: jms595@yahoo.com.

Patricia Wilsdorf is attending law school at the University of Tennessee Law School in Knoxville. She resides in Linden, Tenn.

2002

Benjamin Gallian married his wife, **Tonya Griggs** ('01), in January 2003. They reside in Waynesboro, Tenn. He is a construction manager, and she works at the People's Bank.

Jamie Kight is an executive assistant for AXA Liberty Bowl Football Classic and resides in Drummonds, Tenn. Email: jamie980@hotmail.com.

Veronica Moore is a merchandise analyst for Sears, Roebuck and Co., and resides in Schaumburg, Ill. Email: veramoor1913@sbcgolbal.net.

Tiffaney Vincent is a research assistant at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She resides in Antioch, Tenn. Email: tiflvinc@yahoo.com.

In Memory

David H. Cooper, former professor of psychology at UT Martin, died Aug. 31 in Paris, Tenn., after a lengthy illness. The Paris resident served as a member of the UT Martin faculty for 33 years, from 1969 to 2002, and received the UT Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher Award in 1987. He was 68. The professor will be remembered with the establishment of the David Cooper Memorial Scholarship Fund. The scholarship fund, announced by the UT Martin department of psychology and the university's chapter of Psi Chi, the national honor society in psychology, will be for a non-traditional student majoring in psychology. Contributions to the scholarship fund may be sent to: David Cooper Memorial Scholarship Fund; Office of University Advancement; 318 Administration Building; The University of Tennessee at Martin; Martin, TN 38238. For more information on the scholarship fund, call 731-587-7620.

Ken Lang ('89) of Memphis died of acute pneumonia on the day he planned to wed Laura Griffith of Cordova, Tenn., May 17, 2003. He was 38 years old and an accounting analyst with Concord EFS. He is also survived by his brother, Michael S. Lang of Memphis.

Patty Walker ('55) died January 5, 2002, in Athens, Ga. She graduated from UT Martin with a major in early childhood development. She taught in Florida; Ft. Campbell, Ky.; Clarksville, Tenn.; and Athens. Even after back problems forced her to retire from Athens Academy, she continued by volunteering at St. Mary's Hospital. Patty is survived by her husband, Neil; a daughter, Deede Bell; and grandchildren Davis and Katie Bell. She was preceded in death by a son, Patrick.

James Willing ('86) of Gloucester, Tenn., formerly of Winchester, died suddenly on July 26, 2002, in a scuba diving accident. Jim attended UT Martin on a full tennis scholarship and graduated with a degree in business administration. He completed his college career as the Pacers' all-time singles winner and also posted an impressive doubles record. He was the first Gulf South Conference athlete to win singles titles for four consecutive years. In addition to his wife of six years, Kelly, he is survived by his father and mother, Bob and Sally Willing of Winchester, Tenn.; and two sisters.

Dr. James Deck, retired biology professor, died April 26, 2003, at his Martin home. He retired June 30, 2001, after a 31-year teaching career at UT Martin. He was 64. Born in Newark, Ohio, he earned his bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees from Ohio State University. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Reed Deck, two daughters, a stepson and three stepdaughters. A memorial service was held May 3 at the Deck home.

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Occupation: _____Business Name of Employer: _____

Business Address: _____City/State/Zip _____

Full Name of Spouse: _____ Did your spouse attend UT Martin? Yes ❑ No ❑

Years Attended: _____through _____School /College of: _____

Degree (s): _____ Major: _____

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Summer/Fall 2003