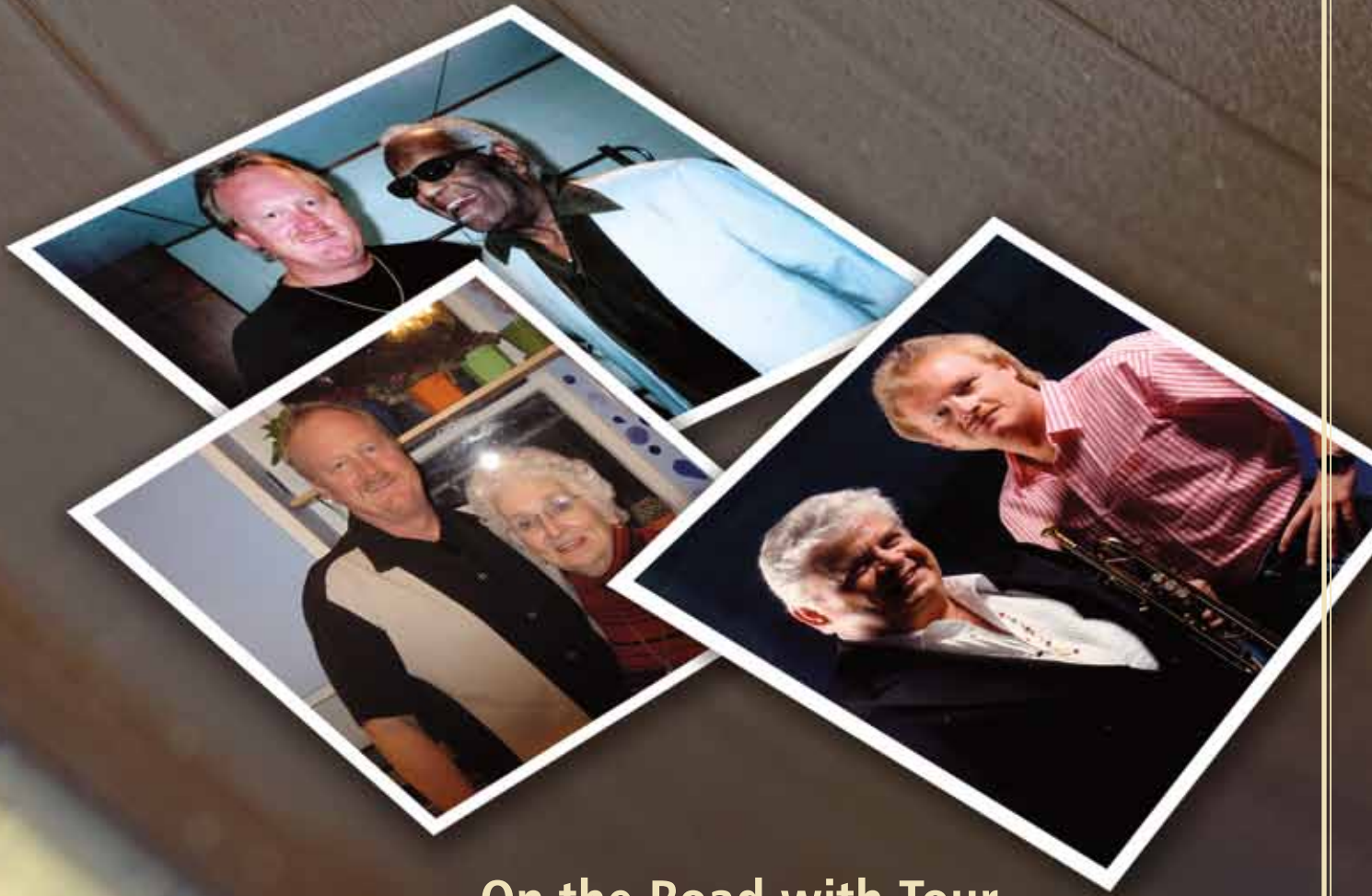


UT Martin's Campus

Volume XLVIII, Summer/Fall 2009

Scene



On the Road with Tour
Manager Ed Sargent.

Chancellor's Corner



Dr. Thomas Rakes
UT Martin Chancellor

“Overall, we are improving our capacity to operate within a balance of new growth and established programs, service, development and scholarly initiatives”

THIS FALL, UT MARTIN ANTICIPATES WELCOMING THE MOST ACADEMICALLY QUALIFIED CLASS OF NEW STUDENTS IN OUR HISTORY. Student services have been enhanced with the completion of eight new apartment-style residence halls during the past three years and should be further energized with the opening of the Student Recreation Center scheduled for January 2010. Several academic facilities have also recently benefited from construction activities which include an expansion of Brehm Hall, renovation of the Business Administration Building, the construction of the new Parsons Center, expansion of the Selmer/McNairy County Center, and the recently approved expansion project for construction of Phase One of the Fine Arts Building.

Reflecting on the 2008-09 academic year, our list of accomplishments is impressive ranging from a record student enrollment, the second highest six-year graduation rate for public universities in Tennessee, our most successful donor support, topping \$11 million, and state or regional recognitions for student groups in agriculture, business, chemistry, social work, education, journalism and broadcasting. We are honored to have received successful program reviews in Geosciences, French, Spanish and University Studies. UT Martin ranks as the largest single university provider of dual-enrollment programming to offer college-level course opportunities to students in more than 30 different high schools as well as a growing number of home-school students. We can also take pride in our athletic teams

competing in NCAA and NIT post-season action in softball and men's basketball, respectively. Our storied rodeo program fielded a team completing this season ranked ninth in the nation.

We have made organizational changes in the Divisions of Academic Affairs, Finance and Administration and Student Affairs that will structurally realign academic departments and reshape service units within the university. Recycling efforts have been greatly enhanced by a positive spirit, and I am pleased to report that we now have expanded capacity in a new recycling facility located in the former National Guard motor pool area near transportation services. These efforts are providing both economic and environmental benefit for our campus and community. Progress has also been made toward the creation of an Institute for Civic Engagement, through which we will focus on enhancing our traditionally strong roles in service learning, citizenship building, leadership development and community involvement.

We appreciate the tremendous support that UT Martin receives from the state, UT System, communities and individuals. Our active UT Martin alumni base continues to expand, and greater numbers of alumni are returning to campus or center locations to visit or participate in area meetings. Our successes are truly outstanding and a testament to the hard work of many people, both on and off campus.

Overall, we are improving our capacity to operate within a balance of new growth and established programs, service, development and scholarly initiatives. We look forward to another successful year beginning in August. I continue to be humbled by the capable, positive contributions of our faculty, staff, students and alumni. Economic times will likely remain a challenge, but we are fully capable of continuing on the path to even greater success.



Published semiannually by
**The University of Tennessee
at Martin**

Martin, Tenn. 38238

Dr. Jan Simek, Interim President
The University of Tennessee System

Dr. Thomas Rakes, Chancellor
The University of Tennessee at Martin

Len Parks Solomons
Vice Chancellor for University Advancement

Charley Deal
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations

Kara Hooper
Campus Scene Editor

Trevor Ruzzkowski
Coordinator of Photographic Services

Editorial Contributions

Keith Carver, Charley Deal, Bud Grimes, Joe Lofaro, Matt Maxey, Rita Mitchell, Tom Rakes, Jennifer Reese, Len Solomons, Jeanna Swafford, Lisha Tuck

Design and Layout
Kara Hooper

Photo Contributions
Bud Grimes, Trevor Ruzzkowski

Copy Editors
Bud Grimes, Nan Lamb, Rita Mitchell,
Nelda Rachels

Original story ideas, photo ideas and manuscripts may be used at the editor's discretion. Photos and submitted works cannot be returned. Magazine stories are reviewed before publication. Some interviews are conducted via email and other electronic means. *Campus Scene* is not a news magazine.

Comments and feedback may be directed to Kara Hooper, Campus Scene Editor, khooper@utm.edu, 304 Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238.

30,000 copies printed by Ambrose Printing,
Nashville, Tenn.

THE UNIVERSITY of
TENNESSEE **UT**
MARTIN

UT Martin's
Campus
Scene

Volume XLVIII, Summer/Fall 2009

Features

p. 4 Ed Sargent Takes His Talents on the Road

Ed Sargent stepped on a tour bus three days after finishing finals at UT Martin in 1982 and began a jazz ride that lasted 24 years.

p. 7 Teaching Careers Await Custodial Workers Who Earn Degrees

Many college graduates expect to "clean up" once they earn their degrees. Things were different for Boyd Joseph (B.J.) and Tiphonie Erwin of Dresden, who cleaned up on the way to receiving their diplomas.

p. 10 Youngest Tennessee Warden Makes a Difference

When Tony Parker ('95) leaves his office at the end of the day, he leaves some 2,400 men behind. He is sure they'll be waiting on him when he arrives the next morning. Parker is warden of the Northwest Correctional Complex near Tiptonville in Lake County and has spent almost three decades working in Tennessee corrections.



News Briefs

Departments

Athletic Communications	p. 19
University Advancement	p. 23
The Real Deal: Alumni Relations	p. 26
Alumni Notes	p. 29
In Memory	p. 33

Ed Sargent Takes His Talents on the Road

By Rita Mitchell



Sargent, center, with Joe Perry, left, and Steven Tyler from Aerosmith in 2008.



Ferguson (left) and Sargent (right).



Bill Clinton (left), Sargent (center) and Maynard Ferguson (right).

ED SARGENT STEPPED ON A TOUR BUS THREE DAYS AFTER FINISHING FINALS AT EUT MARTIN IN 1982 AND BEGAN A JAZZ RIDE THAT LASTED 24 YEARS. Now, he has taken a walk on the wild side.

Sargent, Grammy-nominated producer and longtime tour manager for trumpeter Maynard Ferguson, became tour manager for rock guitarist Joan Jett and the Blackhearts in 2007.

While the music genre he is part of now differs distinctively from his years in jazz, the road has an attraction that drew him out again after the legendary Ferguson died in 2006.

Continued on next page.

The 1978 marching band percussion section. Sargent is the first marching tympani closest to the snare drum line.



It was Ferguson, a dear friend in addition to being a mentor and boss, who gave him his start in the business, promoting him to tour manager, later adding personal manager to his title. And, it was Ferguson's final album, completed just weeks before his death and produced by Sargent and drummer Stockton Helbing, that gained a Grammy nomination in 2008.

In addition to his current responsibilities with Joan Jett, Sargent manages Tim Ries, Rolling Stones saxophonist, and Carl Fischer, Billy Joel's trumpeter. While not touring, Sargent also conducts master classes and production-oriented workshops on college campuses mentoring young musicians.

Sargent's love of music began as a small child. He would sit on the floor of his grandmother's house with wooden spoons tapping out a tune. "She was my first big influence. She'd make over me and say, 'You're going to be a great drummer one of these days.'"

His interest took a formal turn when he joined the fifth grade band in Amory, Miss., and continued throughout high school after a move to Bolivar. His high school band director in Bolivar would get to school early and play his favorite albums before morning rehearsal. "I remember the first day he played an album from a trumpet player named Maynard Ferguson, and it just blew us all away." It began a lifelong love of that trumpet player's music and jazz in general.

Because of interest shown in him his senior year after a solo in a band workshop conducted by then UT Martin band director, Anthony D'Andrea, Sargent auditioned and joined the university's band program in the fall of 1977. He majored in percussion, but also took business courses. "I loved to play, but I started becoming more involved in the whole business aspect."

Maynard Ferguson was very popular with the UT Martin jazz and marching bands that even did a field show tribute to the jazz great. That led to Sargent attempting to get Ferguson to play a UT Martin concert. It didn't work out that year, but Ferguson's lead trumpeter, Stan Mark, did appear. "It was a really big hit. I was Stan's liaison in a tour manager capacity – a junior in college. He had a really marvelous time." Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, the professional music fraternity with Sargent spearheading the project, brought him back the next year in the fall.

In the spring of 1982, Sargent's senior year, the Maynard Ferguson band appeared at UT Martin. Because of Sargent's connection with Mark, he got to meet Ferguson. "I basically said, 'I'd love to be out on the road to work for your band in any capacity... You're my favorite band.' I just kind of put my cards on the table. I told him 'school's out in three weeks.' That's the last thing I said to him. He just laughed as I walked out the door.

"I finished finals on a Tuesday and got a call on Friday," said Sargent. "His tour manager, Bruce Galloway, asked if I could fly to Indianapolis the next day, and of course I told him I could. That was the first day of 24 years." He accepted the job of valet or personal assistant. "I was willing to do whatever it took to maintain a position on that tour bus, travel the world and get to see my favorite band play every night." Two years later, at the age of 24, Sargent was Maynard Ferguson's tour manager, touring the world performing 200 dates a year.

Sargent tells the students in his master classes that it's really OK "to fly by the seat of your pants and try to figure it out along the way ... there's no handbook for life ..." as long as you are honest to yourself and to those with whom you are dealing.



The 1978 percussion section. Sargent is on the far left in the back.

"I loved to play, but I started becoming more involved in the whole business aspect."

UT Martin percussion assistant professor, Dr. Julie Hill (below), states, "Sargent came to do a music business/industry clinic with the percussion studio. They loved him, and it was great practical/hands-on information on the ins and outs of being a tour manager for a large performing act."



Continued on next page.

Continued from page 5.



Sargent and Ray Charles.

As tour manager on the road, Sargent was responsible for literally every logistical aspect and on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. “Once they (management, buyer) sign off on terms of an agreement, then it comes to the tour manager and it’s called ‘making it happen.’

The travel, personnel, logistics, equipment—all the components that make the show—sometimes, it’s complete insanity and always a phone call away from a disaster at any given point.”



Sargent and Dizzy Gillespie.

He said the key to his success on the road has been his good communication skills and effective advance work that covers everything from the first call to the end of the show, to the doors shutting and the bus pulling out of the parking lot. “Do your advance work so you don’t have to figure out surprises on show day.”

Sargent follows the same formula with the Joan Jett tours. Noting that Jett has been in the business since she was 15, he said she has a strong work ethic. She, too, comes from that old school. “Nothing is more important to Joan on show day than preparing for the show. If a tour manager has done his job effectively, the musicians have nothing to worry about but playing.”



Sargent and Nancy Matheson, his UT Martin percussion instructor.

During his long career with Ferguson, when they were not touring or recording, that’s when he had the opportunity to work with other legendary musicians – Ray Charles, Dizzy Gillespie, Art Blakey, Al Hirt and Billy Eckstein. Charles also was and still is one of his boyhood heroes. “I still think he was probably the most soulful cat that ever lived.”

“I was very fortunate being a drummer and having ‘ears’ for music,” he said. Ferguson gave him the opportunity to be involved in all of his projects right through the final album, *The One and Only Maynard Ferguson*. The recording in Tony Bennett’s studio was completed 30 days before Ferguson died.

With the Joan Jett organization, Sargent has been on tour with Aerosmith, Alice Cooper, Motorhead, Cyndi Lauper and Def Leppard. “Tours are run like a business. There’s very little trashing of dressing rooms or hotel rooms anymore. That just doesn’t fly any more in the business we’re in.”

Meshed with Sargent’s years on the road are his memories – especially those of his days with Ferguson. “He took a 22-year-old kid from West Tennessee who was green as a gourd, who was willing to do anything—eyes and ears wide open and good enough sense to keep my mouth shut—and basically gave me the opportunity to see the world. He molded me into what he wanted in a tour manager, and we became best friends in the process.”

Ferguson took Sargent on trips during tour breaks, including India, one of the jazz legend’s favorite places to relax and recuperate. Sargent also hung out with Ferguson and his wife, Flo, at their Ojai, Calif., home. “I felt like and was treated like one of his kids.”

Ferguson also wanted his band to have fun and provided sightseeing excursions during days off. “How could you not feel like a blessed person working for your favorite band, traveling all over the world, eating at the best restaurants, hanging with fun people and your best friend. How could you not dig that?”

“This is what I do in life. I can’t ever see myself stopping.” After a brief hiatus as president of JohnyraBB drumstick company in 2000-01, Sargent realized his place was on the road. “If I’m home for two weeks, I get stir crazy. I love the excitement this business brings.

“Being nominated for a Grammy was certainly one of my highlights.” Sargent said he broke his parents’ hearts when he left UT Martin lacking just a few hours to graduate. “But it was an opportunity I couldn’t let get away. When the album received the Grammy nomination last year (for *The One and Only Maynard Ferguson*)...I think my mom finally forgave me.”

And now he is making new memories with Joan Jett and the Blackhearts. “I’ve always been a big fan of Joan’s. Touring with her is great and I must say ...is never boring.”

Sargent is happy to have the opportunity to do university master classes like the one he offered earlier this year at UT Martin. It is a way to give back in honor of a mentor, Nancy Matheson, his UT Martin percussion instructor. “She was not cautious about speaking her mind or her choice of words that motivated me in a way, at the time, I really needed. She never sugar-coated the truth.” Once she told him he was an OK drummer, but that he was great with people and had keen sense for musical production. “She wasn’t happy I left (early), but she saw the opportunity for me to go out and utilize my strengths in a business I loved. She motivated me to do my best and pursue the dream, which, let’s face it, is the best gift a teacher can give a student.”

Sargent took his talents on the road—and what a ride. **UTM**

“If a tour manager has done his job effectively, the musicians have nothing to worry about but playing.”



Teaching Careers Await Custodial Workers Who Earn Degrees

By Bud Grimes

“I had to grow up and decided ... that I wanted to do something else with my life.”

B.J. Erwin

MANY COLLEGE GRADUATES EXPECT TO “CLEAN UP” ONCE THEY EARN THEIR DEGREES. Things were different for Boyd Joseph (B.J.) and Tiphonie Erwin of Dresden, who cleaned up on the way to receiving their diplomas. Both worked as student custodians at UT Martin while completing degree requirements. B.J. received his degree in secondary history, May 9, one year after his wife, Tiphonie, earned a degree in human learning pre K-3. Both are trading in their custodial positions to become schoolteachers.

B.J. and Tiphonie are Weakley County residents and Dresden High School graduates. The couple met at church and married in 2004, the same year Tiphonie graduated from high school. Tiphonie started working for the university’s physical plant the day after her classes ended. As a part-time employee, she knew that she could schedule work around her classes.

B.J. began working at the E.W. James & Sons grocery store in Dresden in 1991 as a high school sophomore, where he remains a part-time employee. He came to UT Martin in fall 1993 but ended up on academic probation “because I really didn’t want to be in college.” He dropped out shortly after the 1994 spring semester began. Time passed, “And I guess I had to grow up and decided ... that I wanted to do something else with my life ...,” he said. B.J. had long dreamed of becoming a teacher, so he joined Tiphonie in spring 2005 as a UT Martin student.

Continued on next page.

Family finances required that he work, and noticing how the physical plant scheduled Tiphania's hours around her class schedule, B.J. applied for a student worker's position on the custodial staff. He was hired and worked up to 20 hours weekly for the university (a policy for student workers) while also keeping his part-time job at the grocery store. His work usually totaled 30 hours in addition to his classes and homework, so time was precious.

Tiphania began working at the Paul Meek Library and then transferred about a year later to Gooch Hall. Her days usually started at 5 or 6 a.m., and she worked until her first class began. Depending on her accumulated hours, she sometimes returned

saw the experience as preparation for the teaching world. "Teachers don't have 8 to 3 jobs really," B.J. said, well aware that teachers work much more beyond the regular school day with class preparation, grading papers and evening activities.

As part-time workers, B.J. and Tiphania weren't issued the standard work clothes worn by physical plant employees, so they dressed appropriately for the work they performed. Both would often wear their work clothes to class, and they sometimes were treated differently. "I mean, that happens everywhere you go," he said. "But by and large, most of the people ... were really supportive. They were really good." And, when people learned that Tiphania and he were students, they became even more supportive of what the couple was trying to accomplish.

On a personal level, the jobs eliminated their biases about people who do similar work. "It's legitimate work. It's necessary work ...," he said. "They teach you in the education classes over here to make friends out of the school secretary and the janitor, because they're two of the most important people in the school. And after you've walked in the janitor's shoes and [have] seen what the janitor does, you realize that they're right. You realize that they are very important to the school—anywhere really."

Both like to meet new people, and their custodial work offered the side benefit of working with international students employed by the physical plant. "That was a new experience for me," Tiphania said. Besides exposure to the different cultures, she said the couple provided assistance to international students by checking their class assignments and even explaining how to order food at the local McDonald's.

And, the custodial work did have its memorable moments. They recalled arriving early one morning and were waiting in the Gooch Hall lobby to clock in when they saw something run across the hall floor. A skunk had entered an open door and proceeded to find a hiding place. "We searched for that thing for most of the day, and we could not find it," B.J. said. Fortunately, nobody was sprayed, and a staff member eventually saw it and, from a safe distance, ran the intruding skunk out a door.

Remarkably, B.J. earned his degree in four-and-a-half years, while Tiphania graduated in only four. Education classes, in particular, require a significant time commitment outside of class; so to complete degrees amid busy work schedules is a significant accomplishment. Each has also excelled with the tests required for teacher licensing. Tiphania is fully licensed, and B.J. was recognized for a high score

“We both want to be teachers, and we’re doing custodian work in a classroom and in a school building. You see what the janitor does. If it wasn’t for the custodian crew, the buildings wouldn’t be in any shape.”

B.J. Erwin

to work after class. During the summers, she worked from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. cleaning restrooms, dusting, sweeping and mopping floors, changing light bulbs and washing windows – whatever was needed. "I also worked weekend crew," she said. "The semester I student-taught ... I worked the weekends."

B.J. also worked mostly in Gooch Hall, which involved cleaning restrooms, floors and desks, emptying garbage and other duties. "Basically, you have to make sure the building is ready for classes," he said, adding, "One thing it did do, and I think it was good working custodian work, is we both want to be teachers, and we're doing custodian work in a classroom and in a school building. You see what the janitor does. If it wasn't for the custodian crew, the buildings wouldn't be in any shape," he said.

Meshing work and academics was challenging. "You'd go to your classes and go to work, and you'd go home, and you'd have all that homework to do," Tiphania said. Then she was up at 4 a.m. to start the next day. Once her work was done, she would sometimes sit in the janitor's closet to study. "I hated night classes," B.J. remembered as Tiphania laughed in agreement, "Because you'd go home at 9 o'clock at night." He added, though, "Anything worthwhile is not going to be easy. You're going to have to work."

Despite the long hours, they were never discouraged to the point of quitting their jobs or school. While 15- to 17-hour days weren't unusual, they

Continued on next page.

on the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) test. He's also passed the history certification test and is waiting on scores from the geography and government tests. Teachers must be "highly qualified" through passing these tests to become licensed to teach.

The Erwins continue to live in Dresden and would like to stay in the region, so they're busy applying for teaching positions. Tiphonie has substituted in Carroll and Weakley County schools and now plans to seek certification to teach more grades as she applies for positions. "The problem education, I think, is facing that everybody else has seen is that a lot of the older teachers aren't retiring," B.J. said, who has landed a geography teaching position for the 2009-10 academic year at Henry County High School. Both he and Tiphonie have continued to be employed by the university. Dennis Kosta, the university's custodial manager, is pleased to have both, and he offers high praise for the Erwins and their work in the physical plant.

"Both B.J. and Tiphonie have worked for me for several years and have done an outstanding job," Kosta said. "We have been blessed to have student workers like them over the years, and I do rely on them to keep our campus as good as it can be."

Beyond achieving their personal goals to land teaching positions, regular employment is a financial necessity. As part-time workers, neither qualified for employee educational benefits. Tiphonie earned the Hope Lottery Scholarship, but they both had to take out loans along the way. "But that makes you work harder," B.J. said. "You know when it's your own dime instead of your parents' money or the government's money you work harder."

The Erwins' experiences have left them in a good position to offer others advice on achieving success. "Keep your eye on the goal," Tiphonie said, while B.J. carried that thought a step further. "... Sometimes people have to grow up," he said, noting that he speaks from experience. "I've seen people that get out of school, do like I did and work in the workforce, and then come back to college later on and do well. I've seen other people leave school and go in the military and learn discipline and then come back to college later on and do really well." Other students he sees "just need to get their priorities straight."

Keeping priorities straight isn't a problem for B.J. and Tiphonie Erwin. No job was ever too big, too dirty or started too early in the morning as they worked in and out of the classroom to earn degrees. And, nobody appreciates clean classrooms more than the Erwins who are about to realize their dream of becoming teachers. **UTM**

"Anything worthwhile is not going to be easy. You're going to have to work."

B.J. Erwin





By Bud Grimes

Youngest Tennessee Warden Makes A Difference

WHEN TONY PARKER ('95) LEAVES HIS OFFICE AT THE END OF THE DAY, HE LEAVES SOME 2,400 MEN BEHIND. He is sure they'll be waiting on him when he arrives the next morning. Parker is warden of the Northwest Correctional Complex near Tiptonville in Lake County and has spent almost three decades working in Tennessee corrections. Faces of some prisoners that he sees today are the same faces he saw when his corrections career began. The 45-year-old Parker holds the distinction of being the youngest warden in the state's correctional system.

The Lake County Regional Correctional Facility opened in 1981 to house up to 500 inmates. In 1992, Northwest Corrections Center was opened, and is now called Site 1. The entire facility, now the second largest prison in Tennessee with an annual operating budget of about \$50 million, houses inmates who range in classification from close-custody to medium security. The American Correctional Association, which conducts an intensive accreditation/inspection process every three years, has accredited the complex since it opened.

Not surprising is that this facility and 11 others under the Tennessee Department of Correction have plenty of demand for their services. As of March 2009, the TDOC Web site reported that 19,519 inmates were incarcerated in Tennessee's adult institutions. The largest percentage of inmates, slightly more than 24 percent, is serving time for homicide-related crimes. Almost 1,800 inmates are serving life sentences, while 270 are serving life sentences without parole. In the 2007-08 fiscal year, the Web site reported, "The average cost-per-day to house a TDOC inmate was \$63.90."

The prison complex is located just north of Tiptonville off Highway 78 and is situated amid

acres of West Tennessee farmland just east of the Mississippi River. Surrounded by two sets of fences topped by razor-edged barbed wire, the complex's institutional appearance serves as a stark reminder of its purpose. The warden's office is located in the administration building, which is separated from the prison complex by a single heavily secured gate and walkway. Dressed in business attire and displaying a calm, friendly demeanor, Parker could be the CEO of any company. He speaks precisely but firmly, a necessary attribute in his business.

For Parker, the presence of a prison in his native Lake County offered a career opportunity. A member of the 1981 state champion Lake County High School football team, Parker graduated in 1982 and, at the age of 19, started working as a correctional officer at the facility. It was a time when jobs were hard to find in Lake County. He soon realized that more education was necessary to move ahead in corrections work, so he began attending Dyersburg State Community College. He worked the 2 to 10 p.m. shift and studied criminal justice, earning an associate degree before enrolling at UT Martin to pursue his bachelor's degree. Parker earned an academic scholarship for transfer students, and, as with Dyersburg State, the small university campus turned out to be a good choice. "The instructors took the time to work with you, and they helped me," he said. "They worked around my schedule a lot of times with my job and all." He attended classes full time and during the summers and completed his bachelor's degree summa cum laude in criminal justice in four years.

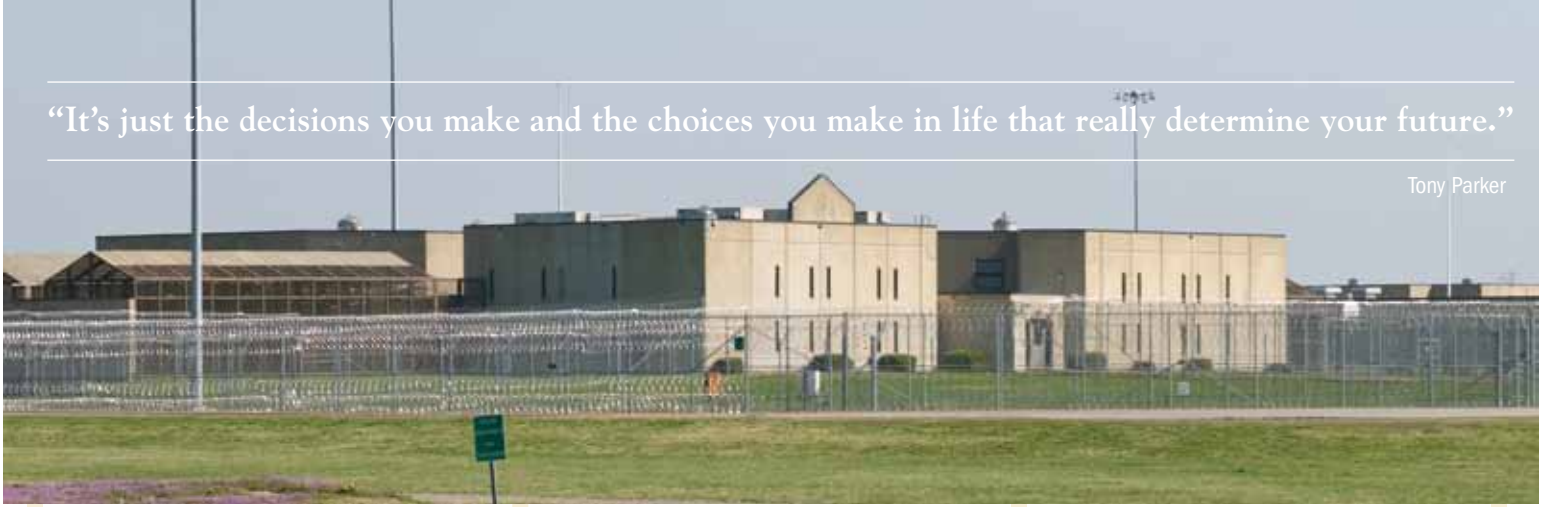
A sergeant when he graduated from UT Martin, Parker was promoted to lieutenant and then to captain about a year later. He was interested in going to work for the Tennessee Highway Patrol and was hired, but bursitis in both knees prevented him from continuing. A few months later, he was promoted to associate warden at the West Tennessee State Penitentiary in Henning. He worked there about three years and transferred back to Northwest as deputy warden until he was named warden in 2003.

Continued on next page.

Dressed in business attire and displaying a calm, friendly demeanor, Parker could be the CEO of any company.

“It’s just the decisions you make and the choices you make in life that really determine your future.”

Tony Parker



Continued from page 11.

At the time he graduated from high school, corrections work offered stability and benefits, but Parker had entered a challenging field at a very young age. Today, he sees young men and women entering the profession, and he advises them, “You’re going to be exposed to a lot of unusual situations that you haven’t seen before.” On this March day, he had spoken to a leadership class of Lake County High School students, and he told them, “What you see here [are] people who’ve made bad decisions and bad mistakes.” New corrections officers, high school students and visitors receive a snapshot of corrections and the people in the system. But, “growing up” in corrections has given Parker greater perspective. “I’ve got inmates here that basically I’ve grown up with... they’re still incarcerated here, and I’ve known them for a long time,” he said. “It’s just the decisions you make and the choices you make in life that really determine your future.”

To say that Parker has a people-intensive job is an understatement. Besides the inmates for whom he is responsible, Northwest has 691 employees, not including contract employees for such critical areas as medical and psychiatric services. He estimates that up to 70 percent of Northwest inmates are there because of drug activity, but even with violent-crime offenders in the prison’s population, this isn’t a maximum-custody facility. “Maximum custody is for inmates who, because of their behavior, present a significant security risk to the facility or others,” Parker said. “We do have 30 inmates here now who are on maximum custody that were placed here at this facility for assault-type behavior, escape attempts, things like that.”

Parker explained that maximum-custody supervision requires inmates to be in a cell 23 hours a day. They have one hour of recreation, time to shower, and they remain on maximum custody until he makes a decision to release them back to a close-custody unit. Interestingly enough, Parker said that an inmate’s custody level has very little to do with his criminal offense. “Their charge when they come to prison does not mandate their custody level like most people believe,” he said. “You can have someone doing a life sentence that can qualify for minimum custody, provided their behavior remains acceptable and appropriate.

“Now, that does not mean that they would be housed outside the grounds of the facility. We do have minimum-custody inmates housed outside, but they’re what we call minimum-direct and trustee inmates. Those inmates are within a certain time limit of their release date, and they meet our criteria by policy to be placed outside.”

If there is a typical day inside a prison, it usually begins early for Parker as he arrives before 7 a.m. to check incident reports from the previous night. He then visits different areas in the complex, including the housing units and the food-service areas. His goal is to make daily contact with the staff and inmates. “My job is to see that the policies of the Department of Corrections are followed, that we run a facility here that is in line with the mission of the department and our mission as a facility,” he said.

Specifically, Northwest’s focus is on public safety/security, education and community service, and Parker is proud the prison has “a lot of educational opportunities for

inmates.” Basic education, vocational and even academic classes offered by UT Martin are available. “We have a couple of vocational classes that are skilled community-service groups,” he said. “They go out and build libraries, churches [and] for non-profit governmental organizations. We do a lot of work in our surrounding communities.”

As for the academic classes, UT Martin partnered with the Department of Correction to bring college courses to Northwest starting in early 2008. Dr. Leslie LaChance, associate professor of English, became involved when her department was asked to provide someone to teach an English course at the prison. She had previous experience teaching at the former Tennessee State Penitentiary in Nashville when she first came to Tennessee in the early 1990s and earlier at Fishkill Correctional Facility in upstate New York.

LaChance taught courses in the first-year composition sequence at Northwest in spring and fall 2008, and her experience was positive. “I thought that the inmate students were very highly engaged and highly motivated,” she said. “They understood that they were being given a privilege, and so they treated the course and my presence there as a privilege....”

Through her short time at Northwest, LaChance is satisfied that she has made a difference. “I think that for some of the students in those classes, they had not ever considered the possibility that they could pursue a college education.... The difference that it made is it opened a door for many of them that maybe they hadn’t thought could ever be open.” And, while at Northwest, LaChance has not felt

Continued on next page.

threatened, which is in line with what Parker says about prison security.

"I tell people, inside the correctional facility, you know what you're dealing with, and when you go out sometimes in some of our areas, and the public, you don't know what you're dealing with..." he said. "In here, you know what you're dealing with, and I feel just as safe inside this facility as I do visiting some of our larger cities in Tennessee—probably [safer]."

This isn't to say that Parker hasn't faced threatening situations. "It is rare, but it does happen," he said. "Any time you put 2,400 people who don't want to be here, ...you're going to have problems." He is confident in the prison staff's training and ability to deal with potentially violent situations. "Any of them (violent situations) have the potential to be critical, but very seldom does a situation increase to a level where you have a real critical incident," he added.

Parker never forgets that inmates are people, and an important part of his job is being fair when difficult situations arise. "Inmates are sent to prison as part of their punishment," he said. "They're not sent here to be punished, and that's an important thing that anybody who works in a correctional facility must understand." However, his dealings with inmates often result in contact with their families, which adds another level of complexity to tense situations.

"They have things that happen in their families, and the inmate's incarcerated," Parker said. "The inmate can't be there [with his family], but that's the consequences of the decision that the inmate had made at one point in his life that caused him to be incarcerated. It's unfortunate for the inmate, but the family, it's not their fault. We try to go out of our way to accommodate the family members if it's any way at all possible, considering the security issues that relate to the [situation]."

Deaths of inmates' family members are especially difficult. "We really go to the extreme to try to provide an escorted visit to the funeral home for an immediate family member, unless there is a security issue that is paramount," he said. Recently, a victim called the prison from a small town about an inmate whose father had died. The person expressed concern about the inmate returning to this particular part of town. "We took that into consideration, and based on the length of time the inmate still had on his sentence, we made the decision not to transport that inmate."

Northwest does have inmates serving life sentences, but he views their circumstances no differently. "I don't make it my business to know what every inmate's charge is or how much time they are serving, unless I'm looking at an issue of transporting that inmate outside the facility or looking at a reduction in his custody level, which reduces the amount of supervision the inmate requires," he said.

As for preparing for life beyond prison walls, the facility offers a pre-release program for inmates. Those with special needs receive additional support where possible. Twelve to 15 inmates are released every week, and Parker does know inmates who have straightened up their lives. He credits Northwest for playing an important role in this transformation.

"We offer drug and alcohol treatment programs inside the facility, and I think those cognitive-based programs are some of the best programs we have," he said. "There are inmates who make a change, who make a decision to really think about their actions. They get away from drugs and alcohol, and they can return to society and be a good father, and get a stable job, and go to work every day, and become a productive citizen. That is possible, and we do see that happening more and more."

Much like Leslie LaChance teaching inside the prison's walls, Parker also believes that he is making a positive difference. Still, success in corrections work takes a toll. "It's a very disciplined field of work. It's not for everyone. It's a lot of stress," he said, adding, "Each day, I depend on the grace of God and the support of my family. I am proud to say that neither has ever let me down."

In this era of reality television, one way to better understand the pressures of corrections work is through the popular prison version of these shows, such as the *Lockup* series on MSNBC. "I think, depending on the content, they [the reality shows] can be a good information source," he said. "They can give the public an insight on what it's really like inside our prisons." Parker was even the subject of a truTV documentary when he was at the West Tennessee State Penitentiary. "That's one of the things I made sure of is that the story they told was accurate. It wasn't something blown up or glamorous. It was just the facts."

The reality for Tony Parker is that the prison door swings both ways as he enters and leaves his important work at Northwest Correctional Complex. His hope is that the door closes behind inmates one last time as they leave for productive lives in society. **UTM**

"It opened a door for many of them that maybe they hadn't thought could ever be open."

Dr. Leslie LaChance

"In here, you know what you're dealing with, and I feel just as safe inside this facility as I do visiting some of our larger cities in Tennessee—probably (safer)."

Tony Parker

NASA Internship for UT Martin Student



UT Martin engineering student, Bradley Gregg, of Union City, participated in a NASA Undergraduate Research Project, a 15-week internship at one of the 10 NASA centers.

The NASA Undergraduate Student Research Project, or USRP, offers internship opportunities for undergraduate science and engineering students at all 10 NASA centers and additional partner facilities. These mentor-guided internships provide hands-on, real-life, career-related experiences that challenge, inspire and provide practical application that complements and expands upon students' academic education.

Gregg, a junior, completed a spring internship at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. He is a 4.0 grade-point-average engineering major with a concentration in mechanical engineering. Gregg plans to attend graduate school to pursue a doctorate in aerospace engineering following graduation in May 2010.

"It's been a dream of mine to work for NASA for quite some time now. Hopefully, this will help me get into a good graduate program and eventually lead me back to work for NASA." **UTM**

UT Martin Parsons Center is Education, Economic Development Resource

On April 22, community residents and elected officials joined University of Tennessee leadership and others to officially celebrate the new UT Martin Parsons Center. The ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house drew a large crowd to the 19,000-square-foot technologically advanced facility that culminated several years of work.

"It is a locally based initiative through which UT Martin partners with area businesses and community leaders, but it's all part of a much greater university picture," said UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes at the open house. "Your children, neighbors, friends and maybe even some of you may want to take part in the collegiate experience through UT Martin. You're joining a top-tier master's southern institution, one of the best in the Southeast, right here at home.

"The primary service area is right around us," he added. "It includes not only Decatur, but also surrounding counties. There will be some students from other areas, as well, so this really is a regional effort."

Rakes thanked local officials who initiated the meetings that came to fruition with classes beginning early 2007 at Decatur County Riverside High School and the Parsons Municipal Building to establish the student base. He also commended Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor emeritus, for his work toward developing the project that gained approval of the UT Board of Trustees and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Rakes pointed to community businesses, donors and partners he said were critical to the center's foundation and continued success.

"Congratulations for having the foresight and vision to invest in educating your citizenry," said Dr. Katie High, University of Tennessee chief of staff. "It will produce a return in human capital that will be incalculable." High commended Jim Ayers for his "remarkable scholarship program designed to increase the level of educational attainment of local citizens and passion to provide opportunities for those in and around Decatur County."

The Ayers Foundation Scholars Program began in 2000 by providing financial assistance for students to attend any college, university or technical school in Tennessee. Since summer 2007, the Ayers Foundation has provided more than \$367,500 in scholarship assistance to students attending the UT Martin Parsons Center.

"The completion of this center is the fulfillment of many people's dreams. When you look at how the community has worked together, it should make us all proud to be citizens of Parsons and Decatur County," said Ayers.

"For the past five years that we have been working on this education initiative, I have been amazed at the way our community has pulled together to support this new facility," said Parsons Mayor Tim David Boaz. "With the outpouring of financial support, as well as moral support from the community, it makes me proud to be a part of it. This facility will have a very positive effect on our community to help keep our best and brightest at home. This facility will better prepare our workforce for the jobs for the 21st century."

Continued on next page.



Dr. Paul Crapo, left, professor of French and director of the Center for Global Studies and International Education, retired June 30, after 14 years of service to the university and the community. Dr. Craig Darroch, professor of animal science, and many other faculty, students, staff and administrators offered Crapo their best wishes at a retirement reception hosted May 5 by the center.



Dr. Andy Sliger, professor emeritus of biology, retired July 31 with 43 years of service to the university. Faculty and staff congratulated Sliger, pictured with his wife, Melba, at a retirement reception, hosted April 18 by the Tri-Beta Biological Honors Society.



Pictured at the ribbon-cutting and open house, from left, are Dennis Henderson, president, TLM and Associates, Inc., Jackson; Parsons Mayor Tim David Boaz; Dr. Katie High, University of Tennessee chief of staff; UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes; Jason Rushing, center director; and building committee members, Jon Ayers, representing the Ayers Foundation; Tom Leitch, representing the City of Parsons; and Melvin Taylor, representing Decatur County.

Decatur County Mayor Jason Scott added, “We are excited about the opening of the college and very grateful for all the hard work that has gone into making this a reality. UT Martin’s presence will greatly benefit Decatur County for many years to come.”

UT Martin has helped raise more than \$1.3 million for the Parsons Center from community stakeholders in the area. In addition to Jim Ayers’ support and leadership, there were also major investments from the city of Parsons and Decatur County.

“We’re not only proud of the wonderful grassroots support for this center, but also

delighted to have a UT Martin alumnus and hometown talent, Jason Rushing, as the director. He has helped to raise private support, recruited and advised students and hired a tremendously talented group of faculty to teach at the center,” said Len Solomons, UT Martin vice chancellor for university advancement.

Those attending were invited to tour the facility, which includes general classroom space, nursing lab, conference room, computer lab, student lounge, bookstore, science lab, administrative offices, library and distance-learning classroom.

“We’re excited and honored to welcome our faculty, staff and students as well as

members of the community to the new UT Martin Parsons Center,” said Rushing. “This project would not have been possible without the vision and support of both local and university leaders as well as many donors who have given generously to fund the structure, as well as the Ayers Foundation which has provided scholarships for our students.” He added, “We’re grateful to everyone who has been involved and supportive and look forward to serving our area for many years to come.”

For more information about the Parsons Center and the courses offered, contact Rushing at jrushing@utm.edu or call 731-847-3880. **UTM**

UT Martin Math Professor Receives Community Service Award

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission honored a UT Martin faculty member for outstanding community service work, April 23, in Nashville. Dr. John Schommer, a mathematics professor, received a Love Community Service Award after being selected from a group of Tennessee college and university nominees.

Schommer, who has taught at UT Martin since 1994, was honored for his work with Habitat for Humanity and the Catholic Diocese of Memphis' Jackson Deanery Development Committee for Social Ministries. Ten individuals, including five faculty/staff members and five students, received the awards during a reception at the Tennessee Higher Education Commission offices.

"Concern for others clearly defines John Schommer's ongoing volunteer efforts to make our community and our region better places in which to live and work," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. "His unselfish volunteer work is appropriately recognized by this prestigious award."

Schommer began his work with Habitat for Humanity in spring 1999. Since then, his service to the organization includes assisting with home construction, forming and advising a UT Martin student Habitat chapter and serving as board treasurer for the Weakley County Habitat for Humanity affiliate. Possibly his most noteworthy Habitat for Humanity achievement is securing and administering a \$25,000 grant for the construction of the local affiliate's first ADA-compliant house.

His service with the Jackson Deanery Development Committee for Social Ministries involves the committee's mission to award grants to charitable organizations throughout West Tennessee. Many ecumenical organizations have benefited from the committee's work, and in 2005, Schommer was elected committee chair. Ongoing work with the committee includes trying to solve a common problem experienced by many charitable ministries – assisting needy clients with utility bills.

Schommer expressed "surprise all the way around" at both being nominated and then receiving the award. Reflecting on his own experiences, he urges others to become

involved in community service, even if for no better reason than "because it makes you feel good."

"The hard truth, though, is that the deeper you wade into community service, the more challenging, exasperating and frustrating you'll find it," he said. "At the same time, it's also remarkably rewarding to be part of a team solving problems.

"You'll never be busier, and you'll never be happier. You sleep hard, you wake up, and the community is already a better place in which to live, just because you've been working at it."

Schommer's recognition brings the total to 25 students, faculty and staff members from UT Martin recognized by the THEC Love Community Service Awards programs. **UTM**



Dr. John Schommer



UT Martin engineering students have made current local (Martin) weather conditions data available for safety, research, planning and forecasting—all at the click of a mouse. Previously, online weather conditions information via the media was derived from weather stations in Jackson, Dyersburg or Paducah.

Kramer Nance, of Martin, *left*, pictured with Lee Bennett, *right*, Department of Engineering technician; Brian Mink, of Memphis; and Luis Herrera, Hendersonville; designed and constructed a wireless weather data collection station and placed it atop the Johnson EPS Building on campus as their capstone design project. The group was mentored by Dr. Somsak Sukittanon, assistant professor of engineering, and Bennett.

The trio's project received William and Roberta Blankenship College of Engineering and Natural Sciences Research Endowment funding.

Legacy of WestStar: 20 Years of Developing the Region's Leaders

In a 20-year history, the WestStar Leadership Program at UT Martin has spurred many of its 500-plus graduates to take responsibility for the growth and development of their state, communities and counties.

Graduates have gained elected office, been driving forces in countless local and regional initiatives and have taken volunteerism to new heights. Still others have made it a priority to see that the networks and collaborations formed by class members during the program thrive and that WestStar continues to prepare participants to assume future leadership roles.

WestStar, serving 21 counties of West Tennessee, is the state's oldest and largest regional leadership program.

"WestStar was a dream that a regional approach to leadership development would help identify and inspire civic-minded people to become more involved in the economic and social growth of the entire region," said Dr. Bob Smith, WestStar co-founder, who also helped create numerous individual community leadership programs. The vision was that "a new generation of leaders would see a compelling agenda for positive change through collaboration and regional thinking."

Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor emeritus, also a co-founder, served as executive director for six years; David Belote served as executive director for three years; and Charley Deal assumed the post in June. Virginia Grimes has served as WestStar coordinator for 19 years, organizing seminars, conferences and other WestStar projects and programs.

"WestStar is an important part of UT Martin's economic development and outreach missions," said Dunagan. "What could be more valuable than helping sharpen the leadership skills of the region's business and governmental leaders?"

"I've seen the WestStar experience inspire individuals to take on significant leadership roles," said Grimes. "They see the importance of being involved and making a difference in local communities and in the region."

WestStar was created in 1989 at UT Martin to serve the multi-county area by providing leadership development and training for selected participants. Class members typically have a diverse range of professions and volunteer leadership experiences.

"TACL (Tennessee Association of Community Leadership), a volunteer-driven association created to assist and foster the development of leadership programs across the state, turns to WestStar frequently in the sharing of ideas, programs and insights, as the premier regional leadership program," said Judy Renshaw, TACL historian and director of Leadership Jackson. "WestStar is an integral part of the development of leadership not only in West Tennessee, but across the state."

"What could be more valuable than helping sharpen the leadership skills of the region's business and governmental leaders?"

Nick Dunagan

Recognizing the benefits of WestStar, sponsors assist with the development program each year. Sponsors include First Bank, First State Bank, Haywood County/City of Brownsville, Gibson County Utility District, Tennessee Valley Authority, The TENNERGY Corp., TLM Associates, Inc., USDA Rural Development, West Tennessee Healthcare and West Tennessee Industrial Association.

"For me, WestStar was the North Star, a guiding light for my future. WestStar brought to light the possibility of my serving the people of Tennessee in public office," said Dolores Gresham, 2000 class member, former three-term 94th district state representative, who now fills the District 24 state senate seat.



Dr. David Gordon, Covington mayor, had a similar experience as a member of the 2002 class. "WestStar showed me many available opportunities through which a positive impact could be made on West Tennessee and my home community. It also gave me a push toward public service," said Gordon.

WestStar not only develops class members each year, but also has offered a number of leadership opportunities to the public.

Another aspect of WestStar is an alumni base whose goal it is to maintain and expand the network and collaboration of leaders after each class graduates.

"The WestStar program has created a great networking opportunity over the past 20 years and has made West Tennessee a better place to live, work, play and raise a family," said Dennis Henderson, president of TLM Associates, Inc., in Jackson, a member of the 2001 class, Board of Trustees member and current WestStar Alumni Council president. "The old saying 'two heads are better than one' can be rewritten to say 'over 550 WestStar alumni are better than one,' meaning those alumni are a 'community' of individuals making a difference." **UTM**



WestStar

Bringing people and ideas together for a better Tennessee

For more information, go to: www.utm.edu/weststar.

Dreams Are Made at Kid College. What Could Be Better?

Zac Wright

For 25 years, Kid College at UT Martin has “inspired the desire to inquire” by providing children with an opportunity to have a fun, learning experience each summer. Nearly 9,000 children from across Tennessee and 10 other states have taken advantage of the special summer program since its inception. Often, children visiting grandparents and other relatives in the summer have made Kid College an annual activity.

Through the years, the program spread and was offered in other locations—Waverly, Camden, Paris, Lexington, Dickson, Ripley, Parsons and Selmer.

New classes are added each year to the perennial favorites. *Space Camp*, *How to Be a Pet Pro*, *Grossology!*, *Creepy Crawlies*, *Painting on Glass* and *Beginning Guitar* have helped keep the nine-day program fresh for children kindergarten through fifth grade.

Marking the anniversary at the June 18 open house, a time capsule was buried. All past Kid College children, teachers, volunteers and others were invited to attend. Also, previous participants were asked to submit their favorite Kid College story about a special experience they had at Kid College.

“That course set in motion the career I have today in economics and is the prime reason I continue my work in economic education.”

Dr. Lane Boyte

“I was trying to remember how old I was when I enrolled in Dr. Gary Young’s Kid College course in entrepreneurship,” said Dr. Lane Boyte, Troy University-Dothan assistant professor in the Sorrell College of Business and a former Kid College student. “I think it was about 20 years ago.... However, that course set in motion the career I have today in economics and is the prime reason I continue my work in economic education. I am very thankful for programs such as this offering such a wide variety of exposure to young children instilling in them the faith and knowledge they can do whatever they desire.”

“I know I would not be the person I am today were it not for the Kid College experience, and I am just one of thousands that feel that way.”

Isaac (Zac) Wright, former Kid College student and director of external affairs, Office of Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe, agreed with the impact of the program. “I know I would not be the person I am today were it not for the Kid College experience, and I am just one of thousands that feel that way. The program inspires a spark for learning and a passion for activity in young people that lasts a lifetime.”

In 1984, Diane Gower was UT Martin director of public service. The late Dr. John Eisterhold, dean, recommended she talk to Hilary B. Marabeti from Volunteer State Community College to discuss non-degree courses and programs. One of the programs they discussed was Volunteer State’s Kiddy College. UT Martin conducted its first Kid College in 1984. It was designed as a remedial program for students with a few fun classes included. After that, the courses were designed to provide a fun, learning experience for children.

From 1987-2001, Ruth Coleman Weldon served as director. “When I first began working with Kid College in 1986, I thought what a great opportunity for kids in a rural area to have a chance to experience such a unique learning environment,” said Weldon. “Little did I know that soon kids would be coming from all across the United States to visit grandma, grandpa, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends just so they could also attend Kid College.”

Weldon said the children get to be on a college campus for two weeks, attend classes in the same classrooms as the real college students, use the same science labs and computer labs as the college students, and even some of their classes are taught by college professors. She noted that many have had the opportunity to attend Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala., thanks to Diane Bell, instructor. Bell has taught space classes for many years and found sponsors over these years to support a scholarship for one student each year to attend Space Camp.

UT MARTIN
KID COLLEGE 25
THE NEXT GENERATION
2009

Classes based on science, math, art, sports, history, music and other subjects with kid-catching names—*Explorers of Egypt*, *Knights, Princesses and Castles*, *Lights, Camera, Action!*, *Abacadabra*, *Science Central*, and *Sun-Catchers and Stained Glass Painting*—keep children busy up to five hours a day.

“Kid College continues to be a wonderful experience for the student as well as the teacher. Each year I look forward to my Kid College classes and the electricity and enthusiasm in Gooch Hall during the first two weeks of June,” said Sheila Wilson, Kid College instructor. “While I may have assisted children in discovery, their love of learning continues to inspire me. Students never forget the fun they had at Kid College. My high school juniors and seniors reminisce about the classes they had and the friends they made during their years at UT Martin’s Kid College—always with a smile!”

“Kid College provided me not only a fun experience as a child but also provided me valuable experience in working toward my career goals in working with children,” said Misti Mount Coleman, former Kid College student, volunteer and Kid College onsite coordinator (Martin and Paris). “Plus I met a famous country singer—Hank Williams Jr.—whose children attended the Paris Kid College.”

“Kid College is great! Where else can a child be an astronaut, princess, artist, athlete, or a chef for two weeks,” said Bell. “Kid College allows children to see that they can be whatever they want to be and can accomplish anything through hard work and dedication. Dreams are made at Kid College. What could be better?” **UTM**

Two New Head Basketball Coaches



Jason James

UT Martin has hired two new head basketball coaches after recent resignations. **Jason James** will lead the men's team while **Kevin McMillan** will take over the women's team from former player and coach Tara Tansil.

Ever since the St. Louis native was 10, James wanted to be a head basketball coach. Now, 21 years later he gets his chance as he leads the defending Ohio Valley Conference champions at UT Martin. He was named the university's eighth head coach since 1951 in June when Bret Campbell announced his resignation after 10 seasons. James, who had been an assistant to Campbell for the past seven years, is the nation's second youngest NCAA Division I head coach at the age of 31.

James came to UT Martin in 2002 from Forest Park Community College in St. Louis where he was an assistant men's basketball coach for two years.

James earned his bachelor's degree in physical education and health with a coaching endorsement from Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa, in 2000. For two seasons, he served as captain of the Graceland University basketball team. He was voted Graceland Freshman

Basketball Player of the Year for the 1996-97 season and was named the Most Valuable Team Player during the 1999-2000 season.

McMillan, who has an impressive resume at both the collegiate and high school levels, also was introduced to Skyhawks fans in June.

The 42-year-old McMillan becomes the eighth head coach in UT Martin women's basketball history. He spent two seasons as an assistant at Middle Tennessee State under head coach Rick Insell and has 17 years as a high school head coach. He sports an overall record of 484-135 and most recently led Gibson County High School to an undefeated 35-0 season and a Tennessee state championship.

At Middle Tennessee, McMillan was the head assistant in charge of recruiting and on-floor coaching.

As a floor coach, he was responsible for the offensive and defensive game plans and implementation. With McMillan on the sidelines at Middle Tennessee, the Blue Raiders achieved a record of 50-15 overall.

In his 17 years as a high school head coach, he amassed a record of 434-120, while winning one state title and making six trips to the state tournament. McMillan's teams have also captured 17 district, region and sub-state championships, earning him numerous coaching accolades.

Under his coaching leadership, 31 players have gone on to play basketball in college. Two of McMillan's former players, Randi Morgan and Megan Fuqua, played at UT Martin. Morgan was a four-year member from 1999-03 and Fuqua played two seasons from 2003-05 before transferring to Lambuth University.

McMillan played basketball at Wake Forest for one season, 1985, before transferring to Rhodes College to finish out his career from 1986-89. At Rhodes he was a three-time all-conference selection and in 1988 was named the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Year. In only three seasons, McMillan scored 1,372 career points and still ranks ninth all-time at Rhodes for career-points scored. **UTM**



Kevin McMillan

Hall of Fame Inductions

Four former UT Martin athletes and the late philanthropist **Kathleen Elam** will be inducted into the university's Athletics Hall of Fame, Oct. 10, at the annual Letter Winners Breakfast and Hall of Fame Breakfast set for 7:30 a.m. at the Student Life Center.

Among the athletes to be inducted are **Dick Algire** (baseball), **Ki Tok Chu** (football), **Helen Joyce King** (volleyball) and **Kendra Kosco** (softball).

Ms. Elam and her husband, the late Tom Elam, were longtime supporters of UT Martin. She continued her support by giving the university nearly \$1.9 million since Col. Elam's death. (See page 35.)

Algire played baseball from 1970-71. The infielder sported a .337 career batting average. He hit 20 home runs and had 136 RBIs during the 1970-71 seasons and was a two-time All-Volunteer State Athletic Conference (VSAC) selection. He helped lead UT Martin to a VSAC championship and the NCAA Mideast Regional Tournament.

Chu was an integral part of the 1988 Tri-Gulf South Conference Championship team, which led to an appearance in the NCAA Division II playoffs. Chu still holds eight school records, including most points in a season (97 in 1988). He set the all-time school record for career field goals with 43 over four seasons.

King played volleyball for head coach Millie McDonald from 1990-93. She was one of the top setters in the Ohio Valley Conference her junior season, averaging more than 10 assists a game. She was a four-year letter winner and is No. 2 on the school's career list for assists per game (9.16). She earned the OVC Medal of Honor in 1993.

Kosco played softball for head coach Donley Canary from 2002-03. She is a two-time All-Ohio Valley Conference selection and a two-time member of the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll. Kosco holds the school record for most career strikeouts (304 in two seasons), best win-loss percentage (.596) and lowest earned run average (1.77).

* The Bass Anglers Team is a club sport, not an intercollegiate athletics sport.



UT Martin Bass Anglers Team Places 4th in Tournament

The UT Martin bass anglers team* of Jordan Birch and Kevin Shorey finished in fourth place among 40 teams at the National Guard FLW College Fishing Tournament, May 2, at Santee Cooper's John C. Land III Landing in Manning, S.C. Birch is a sophomore business management major from Drummonds, and Shorey is a junior agriculture major from Thompsons Station.

A second UT Martin team of Jonathan Garrison and Jordan Mercer finished in 27th place. Garrison and Mercer are both natural resources management majors. Garrison is from Henning, and Mercer is from Hohenwald.

The top-five finish for Birch and Shorey qualifies UT Martin to compete in the Southeastern Region Championship in November at Monroe Harbour in Sanford, Fla. Winners of the five regional championships will earn the right to compete for the college fishing national championship, April 10-12, 2010, at Ft. Loudoun-Tellico lakes east of Lenoir City near Knoxville.

Birch and Shorey weighed in with a four-fish total of 8 lbs., 10 oz. The fourth-place finish earned the team a \$1,500 college scholarship and a \$1,500 club scholarship. "The lake we were on this time of year should have taken 20 pounds to win," said Shorey. "Our day didn't turn around until about two hours to go (in the tournament)."

UT Martin's team is in its third year of competition. More information about National Guard College Fishing is available at www.collegefishing.com. **UTM**



UT Martin Teams Enjoy Postseason Play

UT Martin Department of Intercollegiate Athletics will always remember 2009 as the year of championships. Two teams, men's basketball and softball, made noise in the Ohio Valley Conference en route to postseason tournaments, while equestrian and rodeo continue to shine in the national arena.

Men's Basketball



The Skyhawk men's basketball team claimed its first OVC regular season championship with a 14-4 worksheet. The team earned the top seed in the conference tournament, but suffered a semifinal loss to eventual champion Morehead State. Despite the loss, the Skyhawks were invited to participate in the National Invitation Tournament (NIT). The Skyhawks suffered an 87-82 loss to Southeastern Conference host Auburn.

Senior Lester Hudson was named the OVC's Player of the Year and the league's Male Athlete of the Year for the second consecutive season. He averaged 27.5 points per game and was the nation's second-leading scorer.

Softball



On the softball diamond, head coach Donley Canary's team made the best of a fourth-place regular-season finish. The Skyhawks advanced to the OVC tournament at Jacksonville, Ala., and battled back to win five consecutive games and the tournament title. The team dropped its opening game in the tournament and played its way to the title via the loser's bracket.

By winning the OVC Tournament, the Skyhawks claimed their first berth ever in the NCAA Tournament. The Skyhawks

earned a trip to Louisville, Ky., where they played perennial power Arizona and Purdue in the regional tournament.

Jenny Bain was named the OVC's Freshman of the Year, while Megan Williams and Laura Roberts earned all-conference honors. Senior pitcher Kara Harper was named the OVC Tournament MVP, while Savannah Roberts, Laurie Lindow and Megan Van Arsdale picked up OVC All-Tournament accolades. En route to the tournament title, Canary earned his 250th career win.

Equestrian

For the third consecutive year, UT Martin women's equestrian team qualified for the Varsity Equestrian National Championship, and for the third consecutive season the team proved it deserved to be among the nation's top-ranked teams.

The UT Martin Hunter Seat team, seeded ninth, defeated No. 8 Kansas State 3-1 in Equitation over Fences. Kansas State won the Equitation on the Flat 3-1. The competition was tied 4-4, but Kansas State won the event by virtue of the raw score tiebreaker, 890-845.

UT Martin's Western team, No. 12, suffered an 8-0 loss to No. 5 Kansas State. UT Martin was shut out in both the Horsemanship and Reining events.

Caroline Cramer and Lauren Eichstadt competed as individuals in the VENC.

Rodeo

The UT Martin rodeo team finished ninth in the 2009 College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyo. UT Martin finished with 375 points, while Western Texas College claimed the title with 820 points.

UT Martin entered the championship short round with 315 points and two bull riders, Jeff Askey and Brent Menz, among the top 12. Askey, from Beech Creek, Pa., finished fifth in the nation. He won the first round with an 83-point ride and was second in the second round with an 82-point ride. Menz, from Delta, Mo., split third and fourth in the second round when he recorded an 80.5 ride. He finished tied for 10th in the nation.

UT Martin has advanced to the CNFR for the past 12 years under the direction of head coach John Luthi. The team enjoyed its best finish at the CNFR last year when it claimed third in the nation. The team has also finished among the top 10 teams in the nation three out of the past four years.

Remarkable Brothers

By Lou Pavlovich, Jr.

Dynamic duo will take out \$500,000 in student loans to navigate difficult academic schedules ahead in medical school at Lincoln Memorial University.

One of the most incredible stories in college baseball history unfolded this season at UT Martin.

Identical twins Mark and Miles Hartsfield are not only gifted baseball players for the Skyhawks. They also have both been accepted into medical school at Lincoln Memorial University — an incredibly rare achievement.

If that wasn't enough, they have a thriving rap music business during their spare time and are well respected in the business after turning out a number of CDs in their \$10,000 music studio.

While this dynamic duo has had a tremendous passion for medicine and music, they made national news during a baseball game against Evansville University.

They combined for 10 RBIs with 6 hits, 5 runs, and 4 home runs in a 13-2 win by the Skyhawks.

As a team, UT Martin hit five home runs in the contest which tied a school single-game record for most homers.

The two seniors received their bachelor's degrees last year in biology at UT Martin and currently are working hard on their master of business administration degrees.

They are both expected to earn their MBA degrees in the summer of 2010.

Entering Medical School

Since they both were accepted to DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine at Lincoln Memorial University, they will begin medical school July 28 and are expected to finish in 2013.

If everything goes as planned, they will then serve in residency for another four years.



Mark (left) and Miles (right) Hartsfield

"When we were both at Dickson High School, we enjoyed taking classes in biology, math and science," said Miles.

"We both worked in hospitals and enjoyed it very much. While we don't have any family members who are physicians, it became clear that both of us wanted to be doctors while going to high school. And that is the path both of us have taken.

"It may seem a little unusual that we are trying to both earn MBA degrees.

"But we are thinking about opening up our own clinic. Having an MBA degree will help in that regard.

"One of us may be a pediatrician while the other will probably specialize in family care.

"Then both of us can work under one roof and cover the entire spectrum of family medicine.

"At least that is the plan right now."

Mark said the next few years of their lives will be an intense journey into medicine.

"We have heard that once you get into medical school, you become robots for the first two years.

"What I mean by that is you study hour after hour, day after day. The medical school building is open 24 hours a day.

"The only time it closes is from Friday at midnight until 6 a.m. so medical students will be forced to go home and get some sleep. It will be very intense.

"Then the next two years, you serve in clinical rotations. For instance, you study surgery for eight weeks.

"Then you are involved for eight weeks with OB/GYN (obstetrics/gynecology), and another eight weeks with pediatrics and so on.

"As these four years go by, it is absolutely essential that your grades remain high so that you will be accepted into a residency program at a hospital which could run another three to six years.

"If you go into pediatrics, it usually is four more years. But for a surgeon, it will be another six years."

Mark said that to run this gauntlet of study in medicine, he will need to take out a student of loan for \$250,000. Another \$250,000 loan will be taken out by his brother Miles.

"We figure this is what it will cost us when you consider school, the cost of living, rent, utilities...everything."

Mark said that after school ends, residency begins with long, long shifts of work.

Continued on next page.

Continued from page 21.

“We are thinking about opening up our own clinic. Having an MBA degree will help in that regard.”

Miles Hartsfield

“They both play hard, smart and rub off on their teammates. It has been a real joy to watch them grow as players.”

Bubba Cates

“That is when we start to get paid some money. It is enough to live on, but nothing special. I have been told that residents pull 12-hour shifts and can work 80 hours a week.

“In the past, some residents had to work 16 consecutive hours and worked more than 100 hours a week. But states are passing laws to prevent this from happening now. Some residents were so tired that they fell asleep on the job. And when you are dealing with health care, you must be alert at all times.”

Rap Music Business

Miles explained how he and his brother got into the rap music business.

“As sophomores in high school, we messed around with computers and recorded music from different instruments. Over time, we recorded a couple of songs and had a blast doing it.

“We eventually built a 16 x 16 foot recording studio behind our parent’s house so we wouldn’t bother them. We probably have spent \$10,000 to make the studio first class with good audio production equipment.”

Miles said that the duo has probably brought in \$3,000 in sales from their CDs which are sold on consignment online and in stores.

“We work behind the scenes as we engineer, record and mix the music from artists that come in.

“Over the years, we have released four albums.”

Miles said they have worked with several rappers from Nashville who have sold many CDs. Two of their clients include Stix and Mario Moore.

They have worked with producer Fate Eastwood and a person from Broadway.

Another artist they have produced songs for is Fo Thugz. A taste of their music can be found on the Internet at www.myspace.com/fothugz.

Because of his expertise in producing audio tracks on CDs, Miles said that he has been asked for help with walkup music for hitters on the UT Martin baseball team.

“We put together some rap walkup music for our hitters, and they seem to like it.

“With all the audio equipment we have, I can do pretty much anything they want.”

Mark said that once the duo enters medical school, their rap music business will be put on the back burner.

“I’m sure we won’t have time to do it for a few years. But we will undoubtedly stay in touch with our rapper friends. And somewhere along the way, we will probably get involved with it again.”

Remarkable Athletes

Bubba Cates, head baseball coach at UT Martin, feels the Hartsfield twins are everything good about college baseball.

“I have known them since they were high school players and watched them play through junior college,” said Cates.

“From a talent standpoint, they are competitive, but they don’t appear to be anything special at first glance. But when you spend time with them, these are the sort of players you can’t be without. They are tremendous team guys and are so versatile.

“In junior college, one was a shortstop while the other played second base.

“In our program last year, one played third base and the other first base.

“In the middle of the season, we had to make a couple of position changes, and the twins were asked to play the outfield which they gladly did.

“They have played the catcher position. They treat the game as a backyard game. If you ask one of them to play first base, he will ask for a first baseman’s mitt and play it like it’s natural for him.

“They both play hard, smart and rub off on their teammates. It has been a real joy to watch them grow as players.”

Cates said it has been fun to watch them play together.

“They are also the best of friends.

“While they are twins, it has been interesting to watch their performances.

“It’s uncanny how close their numbers are at the end of the season. One may have a better start, and the other catches up.

“In a recent game, the twins had seven hits between them. They are just amazing athletes.”

Stay tuned. **UTM**



Great Things are Happening on the Farm!

The UT Martin Agriculture Teaching/Demonstration Complex is a lively place. The 640-acre site is one of the most active places on the campus, serving as an area where students can obtain hands-on training. The farm has created a living laboratory where students are afforded the opportunity to enhance their educational experience with activities involving livestock, maintenance and merchandising, horticulture, row crops, bio-fuels, companion animals, aquaculture, wildlife management and soil conservation.

“They made it possible for students such as myself to go to school by working on the farm. By making the farm profitable, they helped keep the school afloat during lean times.”

This teaching area is part of a wonderful university tradition—a tradition greatly influenced by the efforts of two great ambassadors of agricultural teaching on the Martin campus: **Mr. John E. McMahan** and **Mr. Earl Knepp**.

Mr. McMahan (affectionately known as Mr. Mac) came to Martin in 1937 as head of the Department of Agriculture. Upon his arrival, he was given the responsibility to increase farm revenue. With help from many students and faculty, Mr. Mac promoted activities on the farm, including work with chickens, hogs and fruit. He stepped down from his position in 1965 but continued to teach full time until his retirement in 1971.

Mr. Knepp also arrived in Martin in 1937 and taught agricultural engineering and several other agricultural courses. He served as sponsor for many student organizations and was responsible for the farm livestock for many years. In later years, he supervised the construction of campus buildings and was named as the resident engineer in 1964. He retired in 1974.

Their work with the teaching farm has influenced several generations of activity on the UT Martin campus. Many school-aged children visit the farm each year to learn about agriculture and natural resources. Additionally, activities on the farm were the primary reason that UT Martin was selected as a host site for a Governor's

School for Agricultural Sciences, one of the only three in the country. Wouldn't Mr. Mac and Mr. Knepp be proud?

A group of alumni have come together to raise funds to honor Mr. Mac's and Mr. Knepp's influence on the Agriculture Teaching/Demonstration Complex. This initiative is being driven by Paul Chandler, Harry Henderson, Guy Ed Robbins and David Shoaf—all former students of Mr. Mac and Mr. Knepp. It is the goal of this group to provide a permanent naming

opportunity to honor the work of Mr. Mac and Mr. Knepp. David Shoaf said it best: “Mr. Mac and Mr. Knepp had

a personal interest in all their students. They worked seven days a week and were always on call for the university. They made it possible for students such as myself to go to school by working on the farm. By making the farm profitable, they helped keep the school afloat during lean times.”

A permanent endowment is being established to support the activities of the teaching farm. This endowment will provide direct support to student and faculty activities on the farm, including student workshops, research and other agricultural-based activities. The endowment goal is \$300,000, of which \$34,550 has been collected. Dr. Jim Byford, who serves as dean of the UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, was also one of Mr. Mac's and Mr. Knepp's students. He says, “The current activities at the center are exactly the kind of student-centered teaching that Mr. Mac and Mr. Knepp were so well known for. The endowment in their honor will help us perpetually keep those things going—despite lean budget years.”

If you would like to join this effort and support the cause to honor Mr. Mac and Mr. Knepp, please contact Keith Carver or Jeanna Swafford in the Office of Development at 731-881-7620. We are grateful for your interest in the activities on the farm—and in honoring the outstanding contributions of John McMahan and Earl Knepp. UTM



Keith Carver
Assistant Vice Chancellor
for Development



John E. McMahan in 1968



Earl Knepp in 1974

Scholarships lighten the financial burden on students and their parents, allowing students to focus on their studies rather than their debt.

The Difference Between Having and Pursuing a Dream

Scholarships... for many students today they are the difference between having a dream and actually pursuing a dream. While universities provide funding for some scholarships, a tremendous number of scholarships are actually funded by private dollars given by generous individuals in the hope of assisting deserving students in their pursuit of a college education. Whether based on financial need or academic merit, these scholarships lighten the financial burden on students and their parents, allowing students to focus on their studies rather than their debt.

Private scholarships are set up as either an annual scholarship or an endowed scholarship. Annual scholarships are paid by the donor each year. When the donor makes the gift, a scholarship in that amount can then be awarded to a student who meets the criteria set forth by the donor for the scholarship. Annual scholarships can be set up in any amount. Endowed scholarships differ from annual scholarships in that the entire amount of the gift is invested. Only a percentage of the income each year is used to fund a scholarship for a student. The rest of the income is added to the original principle, which is never spent, for continued growth. The minimum endowment level at UT Martin is \$25,000, payable over a five-year period.

One example of an annual scholarship at UT Martin is the **Kelly Family Emergency Assistance Fund**. Chris and Tina Kelly of Martin established the scholarship in 2008 for students who found themselves in a financial crisis through no fault of their own. Chris stated that “this was a small way that we could give back to our community by helping a student whose education may be jeopardized by tragedy.”

Chris received a bachelor’s degree in arts and sciences in 1993 and now works as a partner with the Martin Anesthesia Group. Chris is a member of the UT Martin Alumni Council. Tina serves as a registered nurse for the Weakley County School System. A Vanderbilt University graduate, she also has taught classes as an adjunct for the UT Martin Department of Nursing.

Since the establishment of the Kellys’ scholarship, eligible students have had access to immediate financial assistance if their lives are impacted by fire, flood or other natural disaster. Because of the

Kellys’ generosity, students now are provided with immediate assistance that quickly allows them to return their focus to their studies.

In 2008, Ms. Sue Foote established the **Paul and Sue Foote Mathematics Education Endowed Scholarship**. The scholarship is awarded to a student majoring in math or math education who plans to pursue a career in teaching math at the collegiate or secondary school level. The recipient must show financial need and academic success, with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Born in Arkansas, Paul Foote paid his way through college milking cows at a dairy farm. After serving his country in World War II, he finished his degree in mathematics at Arkansas State Teachers College and his master’s degree in mathematics at the University of Arkansas. In 1951, he came to UT Martin (then the University of Tennessee Martin Branch) and taught mathematics and engineering until his retirement in 1982. Martha Sue Trevathan Foote was born in the Martin area and attended Martin High School. She attended UT Junior College (now UT Martin), majoring in education. She worked in the UTJC Business Office and did so well, they asked her to take a full-time position as secretary—one of only two secretaries on the UTJC campus. She met Mr. Foote when he first arrived on campus, and they married in 1953. Ms. Foote worked part-time until her retirement in 1982. She and Mr. Foote had one child, Dr. John Foote, a UT Knoxville alumnus, who received his doctorate in mechanical engineering in 1989. He and his family reside in Madison, Ala. Ms. Foote established the Paul and Sue Foote Mathematics Education Endowed Scholarship following the death of Mr. Foote as a way for them to continue investing in the success of UT Martin.

While the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Program has certainly assisted students in funding their college tuition, it, unfortunately, doesn’t cover the full cost of attending college. More scholarships are needed to help to turn students’ dreams into reality. If you would like to establish a scholarship, or to get more information on establishing a scholarship at UT Martin, contact the Development Office at 731-881-7620. **UTM**



Sue Foote



Chris and Tina Kelly





University of Tennessee Development Council Visits Campus

Comprised of university alumni, as well as business, civic and community leaders, the University of Tennessee Development Council was created in 1955 with two objectives: (1) determine the needs of the university that should be met through private gifts; and (2) publicize those needs among prospective donors. Council members are asked to become involved in the life of the university, invest in its programs and urge others to do the same. Every year, council members gather at one of the UT campuses for their annual spring meeting. UT Martin hosted the meeting in April. UT Martin Development Committee and UT Martin Campaign for Tennessee Steering Committee members joined council members at the annual meeting.

Members had the pleasure of meeting with UT Martin faculty and students through several classroom "immersion" experiences. Each academic college participated in the immersion experience, which included: 1) Dr. Julie Hill and the "Jamaica Me Happy" percussion band for the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; 2) Dr. Arnold Redman's finance class and the TVA Investment Challenge for the College of Business and Global Affairs; 3) Dr. Karen Greenockle and the new exercise science labs with the "bod pod" for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences; 4) Drs. Michael Kempf and Michael Smart and students working on undergraduate research projects for the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences; and 5) four demonstrations for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, including soil judging with Dr. Paula Gale; a demonstration of SimMan, a human-like model attached to a computer that can be programmed for different situations, in the nursing program with assistant professor Peggy Davis (see photo); textile testing with Dr. Sue Byrd; and children's developmental learning with Leanne Snider, director of the Margaret N. Perry Children's Center.

Smith Faculty Development Endowment Recipients Named

The first recipients of the **UT Martin Ray and Wilma Smith Faculty Development Endowment** have been named. The award is based on excellence in teaching and exemplary scholarly activity.

The faculty members awarded this honor are: Dr. Stan Dunagan, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences; Dr. Janice Hanna, College of Business and Global Affairs; Dr. Beverly Hearn, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences; Dr. Marti Herndon, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; and Jenna Wright, College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

"I am honored to have received this award given the number of talented and very worthy faculty members; I am also thankful for the continuing generosity of the Smith family to UT Martin, which makes awards such as these possible."

– Dr. Stan Dunagan

Pat Wade of Union City held an exhibition of her artwork in the Paul Meek Library for the UT Development Council reception. She is pictured with Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. Her artwork includes oil paintings and woodcarvings that were displayed throughout the library and were among the favorites of her late husband, Tom Wade, who was a former UT Development Council member and past president of the UTAA.



The Real Deal



Charley Deal
Assistant Vice Chancellor
for Alumni Relations

Believe me when I say I understand if you tell me you are too busy to come back to campus.

The sun is out. The smell of hotdogs is in the air. Kids are running around, playing tag as if the winner will become the ruler of the free world. Another day at the little league ballpark, coaching future professional baseball players, scientists and teachers. I am describing this scene because we all stay busy with our family and work. These adventures often pull us in seven different directions. Believe me when I say I understand if you tell me you are too busy to come back to campus.

So, to help you see the campus in a fun way, Chancellor Rakes will take you on a ride through our campus on a golf cart to share with you some of the new construction, classrooms and programs we offer. You can find the tour on www.utmforever.com. While you are on the Web site, check out the lost alumni link, update your information and see what else you can discover about your *alma mater*.

I would like to ask you to do the following for UT Martin. **First, give us your email address.** Why, you may ask? So we can send you a monthly update

of happenings on campus, as well as special news as it occurs. We have roughly 48% of our alumni's email addresses. By providing us with your address, you can also help us save valuable resources by sending out free emails to alert you to upcoming events and other news.

Second, visit campus—either in person or by watching the video. Then make plans to come and visit during homecoming and bring a friend. For those who have attended homecoming in recent years, please tell your friends about your own experience and invite them to take part. On the homecoming Web site, you will find an electronic postcard invitation you can send to family and friends with your own personal message. I am sure you and your family will not be disappointed with our festivities.

I must close my thoughts now. It's time to take the field again, and the kids are starting to climb the fence. I only wish I had half that energy!

Go Skyhawks.

Homecoming Highlights

Award Winners

Outstanding Young Alumni Award Winner:
Dawn Gunter Gabriele

Outstanding Alumni Award Winner:
William (Bill) and Roberta Blankenship

Chancellor's Award for University Service:
Charlie and Bettye Moore

Special Reunions

Home Economics and Family and Consumer Sciences:
Contact Lisa LeBleu – llebleu@utm.edu

Softball Reunion and Championship Celebration:
Contact Sarah Daws – sdaws@utm.edu

SAACS:
Contact S.K. Airee – skairee@utm.edu

BSU/BCM Reunion:
Contact Morgan Owen – mowen@utm.edu

UT Telefund Program



The mission of the UT Telefund Program is to contact UT alumni of all campuses to raise private dollars for campus and collegiate support, update demographic and biographic data for the central alumni data warehouse and provide a personal means of contact between alumni and their *alma mater*. Since the program's beginning in 1985, more than \$7.7 million has been pledged from UT alumni and friends in support of the university.

The UT Telefund Program is implemented by the UT System Office of Alumni Affairs in Knoxville, which saves each campus the expense of maintaining a call center and staff. Approximately 70 students from all majors are employed each semester at the Telefund. Callers are trained and prepared to address questions and inquiries from all alumni regardless of the campus of graduation.

The UT Martin campus benefits from the Telefund Program. Even though the calls are made from Knoxville, pledges and gifts through the Telefund Program can be directed to any campus, college or specific program according to the donor's preference. This ensures that each donor can help his or her own campus, college or major program. In the past five years alone, student callers have raised



THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN
2009 Homecoming Schedule

Friday, Oct. 9 Blue And Orange Day

- 9:00 am Golf Tournament; *Sharon*
- 3:15 pm Rope Pull Championships; *Pacer Pond*
- 6:00 pm Alumni Dinner and Awards; *Boling University Center Ballroom*
- 8:30 pm Pyramid and Pep Rally; *Elam Center*

Saturday, Oct. 10

- 7:30 am Letter Winner's Breakfast and Hall of Fame Inductions; *Alumni Gym*
- 9:30 am Chancellor's Brunch; *Alumni Center Chancellors' Suite*
- 10:30 am **QUAD CITY OPENS**
Special Reunions
- 11:00 am Football Team's Hawk Walk; *Quad by Paul Meek Library*
- 2:00 pm Football game vs. Tennessee Tech University; *Graham Stadium*
- 5:00 pm Softball Reunion and Oldtimers Game; *Softball/Baseball Fields*
- 7:30 pm NPHC Greek Step Show; *Elam Center*

Sunday, Oct. 11

- 10:00 am Walk in the Quad
- 10:30 am Homecoming Brunch; *University Center*

more than \$163,500 from UT Martin alumni. The Telefund Program staff works closely with the UT Martin campus staff to ensure that questions or concerns recorded by the student callers are addressed. In addition, the UT Martin Office of Alumni Relations has provided a pre-shift pizza party for "Martin Kickoff Night" for the past several years. Last November, Chancellor Tom Rakes and several other UT Martin staff came to the Telefund Center to meet and thank the callers for their efforts.

If you receive a call from a UT Telefund student, please take the time to talk with him or her and let them know you appreciate their hard work on behalf of the university and the UT Martin campus. **UTM**

Let us know what you're up to!

Please also use this form to update your address if it has changed.

Full Name (include maiden name, if applicable): _____

Years Attended: _____ through _____ School/College of: _____

Degree(s): _____ Major: _____

Home Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Business Phone: _____

Occupation: _____ Business Name or Employer: _____

Business Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Your Email Address: _____

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

Full Name of Spouse: _____

Did your spouse attend UT Martin? Yes No

Years Attended: _____ Through _____ School/College of: _____

Degree(s): _____ Major: _____

Occupation: _____ Business Name of Employer: _____

Business Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Spouse's Email Address: _____

Names and Ages of Children: _____

Additional News (honors, promotions, etc.): _____

List your current hobbies: _____

Would you consider taking an active leadership role in UT Martin alumni activities?

Yes No

Would you like this information published in *Campus Scene*? Yes No

If you know anyone who may be interested in UT Martin and is a high school junior or senior, please give us his or her name and address.

Enclose a recent color headshot photo, if possible.

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

Fill out, clip and return this form to:

Office of Alumni Relations
 University of Tennessee at Martin
 1900 Alumni Way
 Martin, TN 38238
 alumni@utm.edu



UTM '59



Golden Grad Reunion Attendees included (photo above) *bottom to top, left to right*: Tom Hendrix, Ottis Parrish, Lee Jones, Joyce Vineyard Rice, Doris Hettinger Lashlee, Emily Knudsen, Anne Meek, Harry Jetton, Paul Chandler, Bobby Gregory, Mary Ann Baxter, Harold James, Ray Bryant, Gene Wimberley, Charles Youngerman, J. Douglass Chandler, Bill Cude and John M. White.



UT Alumni Association Executive Committee met on campus May 15-16. Members of the council include: seated (l-r) Kim Cross, Marty Begalla; standing (l-r) Ford Little, Mike Moss, Joe Johnson, Dan Brown, Mark Warren, Jan Simek and Kevin Clark. The UTAA Executive Committee is comprised of representatives from all UT campuses.



The committee is pictured here in the Alumni Center Executive Conference Room, listening to Anthony Haynes, assistant vice president for state relations, give, via video conference, an update on state and federal legislation and upcoming challenges for higher education.



Lost Alumni

Can you take a photo or create some type of picture to help draw attention to our lost alumni? We are under a push to reduce our number of lost alumni by 15%. Anything you can do to help will be appreciated.

1941

Jeanne Elizabeth Waller Campbell, ('41), lives in Germantown. She attended UT Junior College and transferred to UT Knoxville where she was in the first December graduation class in 1943, during WWII. She worked with the UT Extension Service in Greene and Henry counties. She married Burton W. Waller in 1945 and, following his death, married James E. Campbell Jr. in 2005. James and Jeanne had dated at UT Junior College in 1940. Jim died in 2007. She has two sons: **George Michael Waller** ('70); and Burton W. Waller Jr. Email: jcampbell7820@comcast.net.

1966

Joe Wesley Morgan, ('66), and his wife, Susie, live in Huntingdon. He works with Morgan Medical Management Consultants. He received a D.O. degree in 1971, a J.D. degree in 2008 and was named an honorary Indian chief in 2009. Email: joesocrates@aol.com, joesocrates@bellsouth.net, joesocrates@gmail.com.

1972



June Bowen Reasons, ('72), above, taught for 30 years in Tennessee and is now teaching mathematics

in Mississippi. She is a national board-certified mathematics teacher. She is married to Gaylon Reasons and has two children and twin granddaughters.

1974

David Agee, ('74), is a retired teacher and basketball coach and lives in Dyersburg. He is serving for the 10th year on the Dyer County Legislative Board. He is chair of the budget committee, the fire committee and the records committee; vice chair of the beer board; and a member of the local government committee and the road committee. Email: ageedavid@att.net.

Brenna Knight Ayers, ('74), lives in Bon Aqua and is a retired teacher and coach. She owns BB's (Brenna's Buddies), an in-home pet sitting service in and around the Nashville area. She has a son: Donald "Taft" Ayers, 29. Email: helgatoodles@yahoo.com.



Pat Montgomery, ('74), above, author of the book, *Now You Know What I Know: Parenting Wisdom of a Grandmother*, received a 2008 Pinnacle Book Achievement Award for her work. The book led to her becoming host of a radio talk show for parents called Parents Rule! and a role as a parent advocate. E-mail: mamapat312@yahoo.com.

Linda McFarland Oseman, ('74), and her husband,

Gary Oseman, ('74), live in Brentwood. She is a retired teacher. Email: linda61752@aol.com and Gary21850@aol.com.



Charles "Chip" W. Westbrook, ('74), above, lives in Memphis and is vice president of human resources for Buckman Laboratories, Inc. He received the Bishop's Cross for giving generously of his time and talent to the churches and institutions in the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee. He is married to Carol Kelso Westbrook, and they have two children: Ben, 28; and Rachel, 24.

1975

Mike Faulk, ('75), lives in Kingsport and is a lawyer in the Faulk Law Office. He was elected to the Tennessee Senate on Nov. 4, 2008. He has two children: Katy, 28; and Andy, 26. Email: mike@faulklaw.com.

Col. Chuck Harrison, ('84) inspector general for the Tennessee National Guard, was the guest speaker at the ninth annual Memorial Day Commemoration at UT Martin. Col. Harrison served in and was commissioned as an armor officer in the Tennessee National Guard while attending UT Martin. He earned a master's degree in national security affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif. He also completed Command and General State College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; and, in 2004, received the U.S. Army Senior Service College Fellowship, Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, Mass. He has received the Silver Star, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Meritorious Service Medal with three Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, among others. In 2005, he was inducted into the UT Martin ROTC Hall of Fame.

1976

Lucindia Chance, ('76), is dean of the College of Education at Georgia Southern University and has been named to the board of directors of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. In December 2008, she was named a Fulbright Specialist and will participate in lecture and research activities and will promote increased connections among U.S. and non-U.S. post-secondary academic institutions.

1977

Garry L. Phillips, ('77), lives in Paris. He returned from the U.S. embassy in Baghdad, Iraq, in December 2008. He is now retired and is building a log home east of Como.

1978

Alyece White Day, ('78, MS '84), and her husband, Gary, live in Sevierville, where she works for the Sevierville Middle School. Email: alyeceday@yahoo.com.





“My hope is I can provide some insights to what they can expect after graduation and perhaps influence some of them to think about an international business career.”

Peter Hoffman, ('82), recently returned to UT Martin as a speaker in the International Lecture Series, sponsored by the College of Business and Global Affairs, the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the Center for Global Studies and International Education.

Hoffman, director of Global Research and Development Strategy for The Boeing Co., spoke on “The Importance of Global Technology Collaboration in Challenging Economic Times.”

“With the current economic conditions, I felt it was important to share with UT Martin’s students the benefits that can be gained by reaching out globally and building collaborative networks,” he said. “These networks are especially important when companies are looking to reduce expenses through economic downturns. The ability to share development costs with partners allows technology to advance at a reduced cost. Having the opportunity to return to Martin and interact with today’s students is very gratifying for me. My hope is I can provide some insights to what they can expect after graduation and perhaps influence some of them to think about an international business career,” Hoffman added.

He graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering technology and from the UT Space Institute with a master’s degree in mechanical engineering. After joining The Boeing Co. in 1984, he earned a master’s in manufacturing engineering from Washington University in St. Louis and a master’s in international business from St. Louis University.

Hoffman, a Martin native, joined Boeing after receiving his master’s degree from the UT Space Institute, spending more than a decade specializing in advanced materials and structures in the company’s research and development unit.

“I have to admit that when I graduated in 1984 I did not have a clear idea of what I wanted to do from a career perspective. I knew the country was recovering from an economic downturn and the job market was still tight, and I knew I had a car payment to make. Luckily, a UT alumnus at Boeing was building a team that aligned with a stated interest area on my resume. That got me in the door for an interview, and here I am 25 years later still being challenged every day,” he said.

His next position was industrial participation country manager for South Korea, in which he was responsible for all offset-related (counter trade) business in the country. He then advanced to senior manager, International Industrial Technology, focusing on supporting offset technology needs. These positions marked an important career transition for Hoffman shifting from research and development to international business development.

Speaking about his departure from a technical role, Hoffman reflected, “Leaving engineering for an international business development role was a bit of a leap of faith on my part, but in retrospect it was a good decision. I had reached a comfort level in engineering and a knowledge/career plateau. Being dropped into an international business environment after years in engineering was a great learning experience. It was a difficult period with long hours, but I came out on the other side a much better business person with my technology skills still intact. Looking for roles that are challenging and require you to learn new skills are key to keeping your work interesting and opening up new career options,” he said.

In his current post, he is responsible for developing and implementing Boeing’s global technology sourcing strategy to access world-class technology, intellectual capital and funding while strengthening Boeing’s global presence. “Technology engagement with global partners is highly valued by our customers and can be used to strengthen our relationships with industry and governments,” said Hoffman.

Educational diversity has always been important to Hoffman as demonstrated by his engineering, manufacturing and business degrees. “I look to my original degree from UT Martin setting the tone for the balance of my formal education. The mix of hands-on manufacturing classes in the mechanical engineering technology program plus a number of business classes exposed me to a practical view of the interplay between engineering and business. These early lessons have remained with me throughout my career. If you look at my master’s degrees, they are just more advanced versions of the classes I took at UT Martin,” he said.

1980

Tracey Williams Boyd, ('80), lives in Anna, Ill. She works for the State of Illinois Division of Mental Health and recently won an award from the United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association. She and her husband, Jay Boyd, also have a home-based heating and air-conditioning business, Home Air Direct. Email: southgal11@verizon.net.

1981

Ineta Ruth Austin Barber Curnow, ('81, '84), is a financial adviser with Waddell & Reed and owns a tax practice called Ruth's Tax Service Plus. In 2007, she was the top sales producer in the Memphis Waddell & Reed Division and was in the top five for 2008. She and her husband, Charles, have two sons, a daughter and a grandson. Email: rcurnow@netease.net.

1982

Sandra Starr, ('82, '98), lives in Jackson and is a family nurse practitioner at Tucker Clinic. She is also a mental health post-master's student at Mississippi University for Women.

1983

Jerry Lyn King, ('83), lives in North Augusta, S.C., and was selected as the number-one teacher candidate in the state of Georgia for the 2007-08 school year. Email: jerryking19881@yahoo.com.

1984



Ashunda L. Montgomery, ('84), above, lives in Parsons, where she is a teacher at Decatur County Middle School. She obtained her master's in administration and supervision from Trevecca Nazarene College in 1988. Email: ashunda@hotmail.com.

1985

Dr. Bruce E. Davis, ('85), lives in Murfreesboro and is assistant professor of psychiatry at Vanderbilt University. A former member of the UT Martin rodeo team, he trains quarter horses and still team ropes. His wife, **Lori Madden Davis**, ('87), teaches at Wilson Elementary School in Murfreesboro. They have two children: Olivia, 20; and Emily, 17. Email bruce.e.davis@vanderbilt.edu and davislo@rcs.k12.tn.us.

Dr. Chris Moore, ('85, UT Medical '90), was a guest speaker in April on the topic of missionary dentistry for the UT Martin Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science.

1990

Van Jones, ('90), has been appointed special adviser on green jobs to the Obama administration. He has been featured in the *New Yorker*, on *The Colbert Report*, and *National Public Radio*, among others.

1991

Sandy Copous Patrick, ('91), lives in Portland, Ore. She is an attorney and professor of legal writing at Lewis and Clark School of Law. She recently completed a first-year textbook for law students on legal writing and analysis titled *A Lawyer Writes*. She is married to Shawn Patrick, and they have two children: Anna Blake, 4; and MacLean, 1. Email: Patrick@lclark.edu.

1993

Brad Michael Davis, ('93), lives in Brush Creek and is a financial adviser with Edward Jones. He has two children: Hunter, 8; and Harrison, 6. Email brad.davis2@edward-jones.com.

1997

Lance L. Wilson, ('97), lives in Collierville, where he is a pilot with Pinnacle Airlines and also conducts pilot interviews. His wife, **Walairat "Sarah" Meesaeng**, ('02), is a revenue tester with FedEx. They have two children: Jack, 16 mos.; and Ty, 3 mos. Email: lancelamar340@yahoo.com.

Barbara Gail Casteel Stubblefield, ('97), lives in Memphis, where she works as a quality auditor with Third Party Solutions. She and her husband, **Patrick Brian Stubblefield**, ('94), have a son: Joshua, 2 mos. Email: bgs1998@hotmail.com.

1998

Elizabeth "Betsy" Brasher, ('98, MBA '03), was named one of *The Memphis Business Journal's* 2008 Top 40 Under 40. Those selected stand out not only in their professional achievements, but also for their community involvement and their contributions to Memphis. The winners are selected from more than 210 nominations and represent a diverse group of up-and-coming professionals. She was also appointed to be the 2009-10 chair of the UTAA Women's Council. She is employed by First Tennessee Bank as manager of continuing credit education. Betsy has served the university as a member of the Women's Council since 2006, the UT Martin Alumni Council and past president of the UT Martin School of Business Advisory Council.

1999

Barry "Skipper" Bondurant, ('99), is administrator/CEO of Baptist Memorial Hospital-Tipton. He and his wife, Ginger, have two children: Carter, 4; and Shelby, 3.

2000

Sunny Hammonds Hall, ('00), and **Brandon Hall**, ('03), live in Knoxville. Sunny is owner of Cutie Tooties Natural Baby store in Knoxville. Brandon is regional bank representative for State Farm Bank. They have three-year-old triplets, two boys and one girl. Email: sunny@cutietooties.com and brandon.hall.ma6v@statefarm.com.



All in the Family The Wood family of Jackson gathered May 9 at the Elam Center to celebrate the graduation of Andrew, which completes this family of UT Martin graduates. In the picture from left to right are: Patrick, Eddie, Sandy, Andrew, Jennifer (Brian's wife) and Brian. Patrick, Brian and Andrew are the sons of Eddie and Sandy. Eddie, Brian and Andrew are also members of UT Martin's Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter.



Earns Online Degree Tami Kesling, wife of Bob Kesling, director of broadcasting and voice of the Vol Network, received her bachelor's degree May 9, at UT Martin. Tami earned her degree through UT Online, the University of Tennessee's online degree program located at the Martin campus. She is joined by Bob and their daughters, Allison (left) and Melissa (right). The Keslings reside in Knoxville.

2001

Deshawndra Marnise Gillispie Dilworth, ('01), and her husband, Antonio, live in Louisville, Ky. Email: only1red@hotmail.com.

Rami Riad Roumi, ('01), lives in Jeddah, Lebanon, and works for Roumi Contracting Establishment. Email: rami@roumi.com.

2002

Jerry Stephan Bauer, ('02), lives in Chicago, Ill. He completed his master's in philosophy at Loyola University in 2008 and works as the SafeRide coordinator at Northwestern University.

Cynthia Leigh Hutchens, ('02, MBA '06), lives in Gallatin and is a certified CPA. She works for Old Hickory Buildings, LLC. Email: cla38242@hotmail.com.

Veronica Moore, ('02), lives in Covina, Calif., and works with PepsiCo. Email: endlessbeauty1@yahoo.com.

2003

Arneita Taylor Kailiawa, ('03), lives in Kapolei, Hawaii. She is a school counselor. She married Glenn Ka'eo Kailiawa on May 24, 2008. Email: amtadpi@hotmail.com.

2004

Johnny Deaton, ('04), lives in Florence, Ala., with his wife, Stacy. He was recently promoted to district manager with Kelly Services Inc., and covers the north Alabama district. Email: jmfd615@hotmail.com.

John Ferebee, ('04), lives in Cumberland Gap and is working on a master's in nursing with a nurse anesthesia concentration at Lincoln Memorial University.

Stacie Smith Sullivan, ('04), lives in Starkville, Miss. She earned a doctorate in pharmacy from the University of Mississippi in May 2009. Her husband, Todd, is in veterinary school at Mississippi State University.



Joshua Ryan Warren, ('04) above, lives in Lobelville. He is a loan officer with the



Jennifer Walker-Journey, ('90), of Homewood, Ala., has been hired as the BlissMom.com blogger for b5media's BlissTree.com lifestyles portal. B5media is a Canadian-based global blogging network covering more than 300 topics including entertainment, technology, beauty, health, music, travel, sports, business and lifestyles. Jennifer's blogs focus on the varied aspects of motherhood from behavior and entertainment issues to kid-friendly recipes and the ever-elusive "me time."

Jennifer launched a professional writing and blogging service in August 2007. Other clients include the law firm of Beasley Allen, book publishers Beers & Associate, and magazine publishers, Valor Media Concepts.

Jennifer has worked in the industry for nearly 20 years, beginning as a reporter for newspapers and eventually becoming food editor of the *Montgomery Advertiser* in Montgomery, Ala. In 1997, she switched to nonprofit public relations, writing press releases, scripts and Web site content. "After what I call a midlife crisis, I realized how much I hated PR and missed writing," she said. "I landed some regular freelance writing gigs and quit my fulltime PR job in August 2007."

She expected to write for general-interest and business-to-business magazines but landed a regular blogging job with Beasley Allen Law Firm, one of the largest plaintiffs attorneys in the Southeast. "It gave me the experience I needed to land the b5media motherhood blog job," she said.

Besides maintaining the BlissMom.com (featured on BlissTree.com) and law firm blogs, she writes a regular column for business-to-business magazines *Religious Product News* and *Christian School Products* and serves as contributing writer and editor of the book *Mobile Bay: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow*. Her work has also been published in magazines such as *Emerald Coast*, *Bay Life*, *Taste of the South*, *Lipstick* and *Portico*.

As the economy has soured for some print publications, Jennifer's blogging skills have become even more valuable, and she has advice for aspiring bloggers. "Being a good writer is key to landing a job with a blog network, especially if you do not have prior blogging experience," she said. "And that is what I credit UT Martin with giving me - a solid foundation from which to build a career out of my love of writing. It's a base that served me well in the print industry and now in the online writing world."

Follow Jennifer at JWJourney.com, BlissMom.com (featured in BlissTree.com) and on Twitter - Twitter.com/JWJourney

Bank of Perry County. He is a member of the 2009 Perry County Leadership class, which focuses on the overall economic development of Perry County. He attended the 2009 Southeastern School of Banking in July. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have a son: Landon, 7 mos.

2005

Nick Bruner, ('05), lives in Gainesville, Fla., and works with Rushton & Company. In December, he was promoted to audit senior and specializes in auditing governments, construction and manufacturing companies and non-profits.

Brandon S. Weise, ('05), lives in Memphis and works for FedEx. Email: polisci89@yahoo.com.

2006

Margaret Loflin Kite, ('06), earned a master's in nursing, clinical nurse leader, in May 2009 from Central Methodist University and works as the stroke coordinator for the University of Missouri Health Science Center. She and her husband, Randy, have a child, Hayden, 3. kitem@health.missouri.edu

2007

Maggie Hodges, ('07), earned a master's in organizational communication from the University of Arkansas.

Amy Katherine Sanders Wilson, ('07), lives in Murfreesboro with her husband, **Stephen Curtis Wilson**, ('07). She is a graduate student at Middle Tennessee State University. He is an engineer with Ross Bryon in Nashville.

2008



Candace Brooke Franklin, ('08), above, lives in Lexington where she works in marketing and advertising with *The Lexington Progress, Inc.* She will be married in August 2009. Email: franklinbrooke@hotmail.com.

2009

Lester Hudson, ('09), two-time All-American who led the UT Martin men's basketball team to its first-ever Ohio Valley Conference championship in 2008-09, was selected by the Boston Celtics with the 58th overall pick in the NBA Draft, held June 25 at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

The two-time Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Year will join the Celtics, who spent their lone pick in the 2009 draft on Hudson. The Celtics won the NBA championship in 2007-08 and advanced to the Eastern Conference semifinals this past season.

Hudson becomes the first-ever player from UT Martin to be selected in the NBA Draft, after a remarkable two-year run that left him just two points shy of becoming the school's all-time leading scorer, a record held by four-year player Mike Meschede (1984-88).

The Memphis native blossomed onto the college scene two years ago after he scored 35 points in his first collegiate game against eventual national runner-up Memphis. Just two games later, the legend of Hudson grew to spectacular heights as he became the first player in NCAA Division-I history to accumulate a quadruple-double (25 points, 12 rebounds, 10 assists, 10 steals).

After Hudson led the Skyhawks to its first OVC tournament semifinals appearance, he tested the waters at the NBA pre-draft camps in Orlando. After much deliberation, Hudson decided to return to school for his senior season, which prompted many analysts to choose UT Martin as the preseason pick to win the OVC in 2008-09.

Fred Wylie McPeake, ('37), died Jan. 23 in Knoxville. He was 88. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and served in WWII in the Pacific. He was very active in church and community activities and was instrumental in organizing the Knoxville Scottish Rite shoe program, health-care equipment-lending program and hearing and speech clinic.

George C. Thomas, ('38), died March 14 in Dresden. He was awarded a Bronze Star for his bravery in combat with the U.S. Army's 112th Cavalry Regiment in the Pacific in WWII. He retired from the National Guard with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He served as Weakley County judge for 18 years and then built a successful law practice.

Theresa Lawler Anderson, ('38), died March 20 in Memphis. She was 90 years old. She taught school in Rutherford, Trenton, Dresden, Alamo and Knoxville before retiring as a fourth-grade teacher at Auburdale School in Cordova.

John Fleming Pate, ('38), died Dec. 29, 2008, in Jackson. He was 83. He served as a Marine during WWII. He retired from the Social Security Administration after 30 years of service. He was also an avid traveler and visited more than 160 countries and territories.

Joe H. Sanford, ('50), of Jefferson City, died Dec. 3, 2008. He was 78. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict, retired from Farm Credit Services in 1985 and was a farmer for many years.

Louis Frederick Welch, ('51), died March 13 in Urbana, Ill. He worked at the Georgia Experiment Station, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the agronomy department at the University of

Illinois. His research dealt with soil fertility and fertilizers. He retired from the university in 1990.

Richard Neal Hudgins, ('53), died Jan. 16 in Obion. He was 76. He was a retired lab manager for Wayne Feeds, where he worked for 37 years. He was active in church. He served in the U.S. Army for two years. He was a member of the North American Blue Bird Society and maintained a blue bird trail in southern Obion County for eight years, fledging more than 8,000 blue birds.

Dr. Donald Brooks Freeman, ('57), died Jan. 11. He was 73. He taught pharmacy at Samford University and retired as a pharmacist from Cooper Green Mercy Hospital.



Dr. Kenneth Houston, ('59), above, died Feb. 10 in Decaturville. He served for 25 years as a public education teacher, coach, principal and superintendent in Henderson County Schools. For 15 years, he worked as an adjunct professor for UT Martin and the University of Memphis. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Korean conflict and was raised on and owned Houston Century Farms, family-owned since the 1850s. He was active in his church and community.

In Memory, cont.

Connly “Ray” Pryor, (65), died Nov. 26, 2008, in Knoxville. He was 66. He retired from Alcoa, where he was a member of the 25-Year Club.

Nina Francis Scarborough Walker, (UTMB, '65), 65, of Lexington, died Nov. 21, 2008. She was a social-work counselor with the Tennessee Department of Human Services before retiring in 2003 with 35 years of service. She worked in many roles during her career, including child protective services, foster care and adult protection services. (Courtesy *Pafford Funeral Home*)

James Luther Ramsay, ('77), died March 11 in Nashville. He was 57. He worked in health-care management and had worked in Saudi Arabia, London, Rome and Panama. He was most recently employed as chief financial officer of Ameris Health Systems. As an active member of the Boy Scouts of America, he received the Silver Beaver award for his years of service to the youth of Middle Tennessee.

Jane Elizabeth Kirby, ('79), died Dec. 31, 2008, in Jackson. She was 51. She was a 30-year employee of the State of Tennessee Department of Correction Children's Services. She was active in her church and was an emergency room volunteer.

Alma Jean Green Fulton, ('83), of South Bend, Ind., died Dec. 21, 2008. She was active in her church and her sorority. She was a program coordinator for AWS.

Charles “Chuck” Osborne, ('83), died Nov. 14, 2008, in Tullahoma. He was an avid Vols fan and enjoyed spending time with the “Holy Smokers” championship barbecue-cooking team.

Eric “Guy” Kelly, a member of the 1987 Pacer football team, died April 4. He was 41 years old. Kelly started at left cornerback for head coach Don McLeary in 1987 after transferring to UT Martin from the College of Eastern Utah for the 1987 season. He was a 14-year veteran of the Pittsburgh Police Department and was one of three police officers killed in the line of duty.

Kevin Rogers, ('95, '00), died April 15, 2009. He worked for both the *Weakley County Press* and UT Martin's Office of Sports Information. Later, he worked for the *Columbia Daily Herald*. His friend, Justin Lamb, also of the *Daily Herald*, wrote, “Kevin had a contagious passion for both middle school and prep sports, and it showed in his writing. He was an enthusiastic writer, and he loved nothing more than to be covering a game for the paper. His passion and his overwhelming kindness made him a well-liked and respected person. He was someone that I was honored to call my friend.”

Martha B. Johnson, (UTJC certificate '50), of Kingsport, died April 30. She attended UT Junior College in Martin and later earned her bachelor's degree in education from UT Knoxville. She worked at Tennessee Eastman Co. for several years before resigning to become a full-time homemaker and mother. She was an avid reader and never lost interest in education, having once served as president of the Kingsport Institute for Continued Learning. (Courtesy *Kingsport Times-News*)

Lauren Jean Witty, ('08), of Memphis, died May 23 in a traffic accident near Jackson. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration

with a major in marketing. She was pursuing an MBA degree at UT Martin at the time of her death. (Courtesy of *The Commercial Appeal*.)

Dr. William A. (Bill) Dillon, of Martin, died Dec. 4, 2008, at Regional Hospital in Jackson. Dr. Dillon, 75, was UT Martin professor emeritus of biology. He held an undergraduate degree from Texas Christian University, a master's degree from William and Mary Virginia Institute of Marine Science and his doctorate from the University of Southern Mississippi. He was retired from the Tennessee National Guard. (Courtesy *Murphy Funeral Home & Florist*)

Thomas Wayne Fisher, 101, of Dresden, died Dec. 18, 2008, at the Huntingdon Health and Rehabilitation Center in Huntingdon. He was a UT Knoxville graduate and a member of the UT Board of Trustees from 1953-81. Mr. Fisher was a former Dresden mayor, superintendent of Weakley County Schools and a World War II veteran. During his service on the UT Board of Trustees, he was known as a strong advocate for the Martin campus. Wayne Fisher Drive between the Boling University Center and Paul Meek Library bears his name. (Courtesy *Dresden Enterprise* and *The University of Tennessee at Martin: The First 100 Years* by Bob Carroll)

Wilsie B. Fulton, age 86, died May 13. She worked in the university's dining services area for 35 years (1953-1988).

Martha Jean Hutchens, 72, of Martin, died June 4. She retired in 2008 from UT Martin following 53 years of service with the Paul Meek Library. She was a 1955 graduate of Martin High School and a member of the Martin Church of Christ.

Beuford Wayne Keene, 71, UT Martin professor emeritus of English, died Feb. 23. He came to UT Martin in 1966 and retired following 34 years of teaching. Born in Benton, Ark., he held a bachelor's degree in English from Arkansas Polytechnic College (now Arkansas Tech University) and a master's degree in English from Michigan State University. His professional affiliations included the Tennessee Folklore Society and the Tennessee Philological Association. Mr. Keene received professor emeritus status in 2000 following his retirement.

John Wikstrom, who taught geography at UT Martin from 1970 to 1995, died Jan. 30 in Grand Rapids, Minn.



Seven Benefits of a Gift Annuity

There's rarely been a better time to obtain a charitable gift annuity through the University of Tennessee Foundation. Low interest rates and roller coaster markets are causing people to think twice about their financial decisions, and to consider the seven benefits of the UT Foundation's gift annuity program.

1. Attractive Rates.

When you compare our gift annuity rates with what you might receive from a certificate of deposit you will likely be pleasantly surprised. For example, the rate of a 70-year senior is 5.7 percent, and, if you are age 80, the rate is 7.1 percent. In other words, a \$100,000 gift annuity would provide an 80-year-old person \$7,100 every year.*

2. Regular Payments.

When you establish your gift annuity, you decide how often you want to receive your payments. While most annuitants receive their checks or direct deposits every quarter, some choose semi-annual payments and some once-a-year payments. Those who qualify can select monthly payments if they wish. Whatever you choose, receiving your regular payments on a specific, predetermined date is comforting and also helpful for planning purposes.

3. Fixed Income.

Your payment rate will be locked in at the time you obtain your gift annuity. It will not rise or fall with the economy. Instead, it will be the same amount every year — and that can mean a lot in uncertain times.

4. Lifetime Benefit.

Gift annuities are for life. No matter what your age as an annuitant or how long you live, your payments will continue until your death. And if you have a two-life gift annuity, when one person dies, the other can continue to receive the same amount for the rest of his or her life. This benefit of ongoing payments can provide security for each spouse as they enter their older years.

5. Dependable Source.

The UT Foundation stands behind all of our gift annuities. We have a reserve fund set aside to meet our obligations and, what's more, we back up our annuity obligations with the full financial assets of our organization. We want you to feel safe and secure and to have confidence that your payments will continue without fail.

6. Relief From Taxes.

Since part of your contribution for a gift annuity is considered a charitable gift by the IRS, you will receive an income tax charitable deduction to apply on an itemized return. Also, during your life expectancy, you will be able to claim part of the annuity payment as tax-free income.

7. Simple Process.

Obtaining a gift annuity through the UT Foundation is much easier than most people think. We provide you with a tailor-made illustration so you can see how it all works with your age and contribution amount included. We provide materials you can share with your family and adviser(s).

Another benefit we should add is the enormous satisfaction you will receive for making a charitable gift in this manner. Every time you receive a payment, you will be reminded that your gift annuity will eventually benefit the university.

For a personalized gift illustration, call the UT Martin Office of Development at 731-881-7620. Please understand that we will not pressure you in any way to proceed with a gift annuity if you ask for further information. Our role is to simply provide clear illustrations and to let the seven benefits speak for themselves.

**Note: Rates are slightly lower when the annuity is for two persons. Also, like most charities, The UT Foundation uses the rates recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities.*

Kathleen Hyneman Elam, 94, of Union City, died April 9, at her home. She and her husband, the late Thomas French "Tom" Elam, were longtime supporters of the University of Tennessee and local and regional projects. Before her death, UT Martin welcomed family members and friends to honor Ms. Elam on March 3 during the first round of the Ohio Valley Conference men's basketball tournament at the Elam Center.

At halftime of "Kathleen Elam Appreciation Night," university Chancellor Tom Rakes announced that the multipurpose room in the Bob Carroll Football Building

would be named the Kathleen H. Elam Room in her honor. A plaque recognizing Ms. Elam's support for the university was presented to family members in attendance.

"Ms. Elam's generosity has made a lasting impact both in athletics and academics for UT Martin," Rakes said after the announcement. "She and her husband, Col. Tom Elam, have left a legacy that will benefit students and student-athletes for generations to come."

Ms. Elam and her late husband supported many academic and athletic programs

during their lifetimes. A \$1 million pledge to UT Martin in 1996 before Col. Elam's death coincided with the university's naming of the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center in the couple's honor. Ms. Elam continued her support by giving the university nearly \$1.9 million since Col. Elam's death.

The Skyhawk football program received more than \$1.7 million of Ms. Elam's gifts. This included a \$560,000 challenge gift to launch a private fund-raising campaign to build the Bob Carroll Football Building located in the south end zone of Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

Office of Alumni Relations
University of Tennessee at Martin
1900 Alumni Way
Martin, TN 38238

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Nashville, TN
Permit No. 768

Calendar of Events for Alumni

- Aug. 15UT Martin Alumni Council
and Development Committee Meeting
- Aug. 27Legacy Luncheon
- Sept. 3Alumni and Current Legacy Tailgate Party
at Alumni Center
- Sept. 14Alumni reception in Dyersburg
- Sept. 19 UT Martin Blues and Orange Tailgate Tour –
UT Martin vs. Memphis Football Game
- Oct. 9-11..... UT Martin 2009 Homecoming Celebration
- Nov. 6.....UT Martin Alumni Reception in Nashville
- Nov. 18 UT Martin Alumni Reception in Knoxville

Senior Send-Off Parties are being scheduled at this time

