UT club to compete in American College Cricket Nationals

The UT Cricket Club is one of 24 teams that will play in the American College Cricket Nationals starting March 15 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

The club advanced to the nationals by finishing second in the 2016 American College Cricket Midwest Championship, where the top 12 universities competed for the Midwest Region Gordon Gee Championship.

Under the captainship of Raj Patel, the UT Cricket Club defeated 2016 season champion Wayne State University in the semifinals and secured its place in the nationals. UT beat Wayne State in October at Lyon Oaks Cricket Field in Wixom, Mich.

With that win, the UT club became the new No. 2 team in the Midwest. League play for UT included facing Penn State University and Ryerson University.

“It was a dream come true for all the team to take UT to the national level in cricket. Beating Wayne State University was a very tough task as they are a pretty strong team and winners in the past,” said Yogendra Patil, right arm fast bowler and batsmen. “I am looking forward for the nationals in March. Me and the team will give 100 percent to bring home the trophy — #gorockets!”

Not only did UT finish as runners-up in the Midwest, the Player of the Series Award went to University alumnus Rohan Kapkar for his all-round performance, and Most Valuable Player was given to UT student Akshay Chawan, right arm fast bowler, batsman and secretary of the club.

“The UT Cricket Club is looking forward to competing and winning nationals in March,” Mohammad Wadood Majid, opening batsman and president of the club, said.

Library renovations to include new veterans lounge named for UT alumnus

By Meghan Cunningham

The second phase of renovations underway at Carlson Library will include a new veterans lounge, a glass wall spanning several stories allowing for more natural light, and an expanded concourse when you enter the building.

The $3 million renovations funded by state capital dollars will focus on the first and second floors of the library. The renovations, which are expected to be completed prior to the start of fall semester, follow the work on the third and fourth floors finished last year that included the creation of more than 20 new group study rooms and new paint, carpet, ceilings and lighting to transform the learning space.

“The south side of the second floor will be renovated to include group study rooms and study carrels like those that have become popular on the recently completed third and fourth floors,” said Barbara Floyd, interim director of University Libraries.

“We recently conducted a survey asking students if they were satisfied with the renovations done, and the comments were overwhelmingly positive, with many students crediting the renovations with their success in the classroom.”

COMING SOON: This rendering shows what the Lt. Col. Thomas J. Orlowski ’65 Veterans Lounge may look like when finished on the second floor of Carlson Library this summer.

Students recruiting 800 volunteers to help feed families in hurricane-ravaged Haiti

By Christine Billau

Three months after Hurricane Matthew unleashed a path of destruction through the southern peninsula of Haiti, devastation lingers for families who lost their homes, crops and livestock.

“It’s horrible,” said Ashley Jemerson, who studied criminal justice, forensic science and Spanish at UT before graduating last month. “Seeing the ongoing effects of the natural disaster makes me grateful for everything we have here in the United States.”

The second floor of the library also will be the new home for the University’s Veterans Lounge, which will relocate from its current location in Rocket Hall.

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UT calendar of events relaunching

By Christine Wasserman

To improve communications, the University’s calendar of events is being relaunched as a single site and more convenient online tool that will house all on- and off-campus, UT-sponsored events to better serve students, faculty, staff, trustees and the public.

In addition to featuring student and University events, this master calendar will include research, athletic and recreation events, as well as University lectures and conferences.

“This one-site master calendar will aid in planning and promoting events, plus ensure that major events don’t overlap,” Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, said. “We also want the calendar to reflect that the University is welcoming, student-centered and richly diverse in its offerings.”

Everyone has access to submit events to the calendar. Activities that should be posted on this master calendar include:

- University-sponsored events that the campus community and public may attend.
- UT-sponsored meetings that support transparency (for example, Board of Trustees and Faculty Senate meetings).
- Official academic calendar dates.
- Official academic calendar dates.
- UT News, UT NewsBreak and on the myUT portal.

Room scheduling, department meetings and events, personnel meetings, retirement announcements, and events not sponsored nor supported by the University should not be included on this calendar.

Individual areas within the University may continue posting these types of activities and meetings on their own calendars; however, the bulleted list of University-sponsored and campus-wide events above should always be mirrored on the master UT calendar of events.

Within the next couple of weeks, members of the UT calendar steering group will discuss use of the updated calendar with University deans.

To view the calendar, visit calendar.utoledo.edu, and a listing of the day’s events can be found on the myut.utoledo.edu page.

Cricket

“...”

The team has been playing together for two years and set out to compete in big tournaments this year. UT students and recent alumni comprise the team. According to the American College Cricket Midwest Championship rules, two recent alumni are allowed to play.

People interested in watching a cricket match can find games at Beatty Park in Toledo; Lyon Oaks Cricket Field in Wixom, Mich.; and Murphy Park in Pontiac, Mich. Fans also can watch on Sony Six Live and ESPN.

New assistant vice president named to improve student success, inclusion

By Meghan Cunningham

Dr. Michele Soliz has been named assistant vice president for student success and inclusion within the Division of Student Affairs.

In addition to leading the Office of Multicultural Student Success, Soliz will focus on strategic retention initiatives across the division and will have a reporting relationship to the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

“This position will support the University’s goals to enhance student success with a focus on the overall student experience on campus,” said Dr. Kaye M. Patten, senior vice president for student affairs. “Dr. Soliz’s experience as a dean of students and leading academic support services on campus and her passion for student engagement make her the perfect fit to fill this new role.”

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Purchase semester parking permits by Jan. 23

By Christine Wasserman

The start of a new semester means it’s time to purchase or renew your parking permit.

The University reminds students, faculty and staff that spring semester parking permits must be purchased by the last day to add or drop classes for the semester, which is Monday, Jan. 23. After that date, vehicles without a parking permit will be ticketed. Jan. 23 also is the deadline to cancel a permit and receive a refund.

To purchase a parking permit, visit myparking.utoledo.edu, log in with your UTAD credential, and select the “apply for a permit” option.

If you need to change the vehicle you drive to UT any time during the semester, you can update your license plate number and vehicle information for your permit on the parking system.

Guest permits for family and friends visiting on weekdays are available at guestparking.utoledo.edu.

The Office of Public Safety and Support Services also has updated its website to include a list of parking lot closings for special events, such as basketball games, so drivers may plan ahead. Visit utol.edu/publicsafety/support-services.

As a reminder, parking area 11 on Main Campus near the Thompson Student Union is a metered lot, accepting credit cards and coins. Paying by credit card offers you the convenience of adding time without revisiting the meter outside, with an extend-by-phone tool in the lot’s new meter technology.

Nearly 5,000 faculty, staff and students responded to the University-wide parking survey late last year. Results are being evaluated to help establish a new parking system that will provide more choices for the UT community and help alleviate congestion in the busiest lots. The system will be operational for next academic year.

The Office of Public Safety will provide ongoing updates throughout the semester on the move to a new parking system.

New assistant vice president

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Soliz will work to ensure the University is enhancing the student experience both inside and outside the classroom, Patten said.

“I am pleased that Dr. Soliz will have a formal role with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion,” said Dr. Willie McKether, vice president for diversity and inclusion.

“This not only provides a clearer path for our divisions to collaborate on multicultural initiatives, but also enables Dr. Soliz to better utilize her retention expertise. This is an excellent move for the University and, most importantly, our students.”

Soliz, who was named to the new position effective Jan. 10, pending approval by the UT Board of Trustees, most recently served as the executive director for academic support services in the Office of the Provost, where she provided leadership to the Learning Enhancement Center, Writing Center and TRIO Student Support Services. In collaboration with partners across the institution, she has increased the usage and visibility of the services that help retain students and put them on the path to graduation.

Soliz, who previously served as the University’s dean of students, has been a committee member of the Latino Youth Summit and Multicultural Emerging Scholars Program since their inception. She is active in the UT Latino Alumni Affiliates, serves as a mentor to African-American female students in the Talented and Aspiring Women Leaders program, and teaches the course Managing Diversity in the Workplace.

“I am excited to engage students and colleagues in inclusion and retention efforts,” Soliz said. “I look forward to collaborating across campus to have a greater impact on the overall student experience.”

She received a bachelor of arts degree in ethnic studies from Bowling Green State University and earned her master’s and doctoral degrees from UT in higher education, with a research focus on Latino student baccalaureate completion rates and student engagement.

In memoriam

Dr. Marion S. Boss, Toledo, a faculty member at UT for more than 20 years, died Jan. 4 at age 76. She came to the University in 1985 and began teaching in the Special Education Department, later moving to the Criminal Justice Department. In 1992, she founded the UT Court Academy, an advanced, special education teacher training collaborative between the College of Education, the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas Juvenile Division and the Child Study Institute. The program was recognized as one of the state’s innovators in education in 1997 by Ohio’s Building Excellent Schools for Today and the 21st Century. Boss also was the director of the School for Autistically Impaired Learners, a program that provided teaching opportunities for UT graduate students at St. Vincent Medical Center. Boss also served as associate dean of research and graduate education in the College of Health and Human Services. She retired in 2007.

Mary Lou Fox, Perrysburg, a local benefactor and former member of the UT Foundation Board of Trustees, died Jan. 3 at age 85. She established the Gina Rheinfank Foley Endowment in her daughter’s honor.

Dorothy L. (Zurkammer) May, Toledo, who was a secretary in the UT Psychology Department from 1967 until her retirement in 1992, died Jan. 8 at age 90. A UT alumna, she received an associate’s degree in legal secretarial technology in 1973.

Dr. Brian Anse Patrick, Palmyra, Mich., professor of communication, died Dec. 26 at age 62. Patrick joined the UT faculty in 2000. He taught undergraduate and graduate courses in research methods, group communication, propaganda and persuasion. A nationally recognized expert on American gun culture, Patrick wrote, lectured and was interviewed on firearm rights and propaganda. He was the author of numerous scholarly articles and five books, including “The National Rifle Association and the Media: The Motivating Force of Negative Coverage” and “The Ten Commandments of Propaganda.” In 2012, he was one of 25 UT faculty members who received the Student Impact Award. Those honored were selected based on personal nominations highlighting ways faculty members positively influenced students through enthusiasm, knowledge, dedication and creativity.
Students recruiting volunteers

continued from p. 1

Jemerson and dozens of UT students selected by their colleges to participate in the Klar Leadership Academy in the College of Business and Innovation need 800 volunteers Friday and Saturday, Jan. 27-28, in the Health Education Building on Main Campus to help produce 140,000 meals that will be sent to Haiti for hurricane relief.

The public is invited to participate in the two-day community service event called Feed My Starving Children, which is the culmination of a global service project organized by the Klar Leadership Academy’s 75 students in to feed families in the country where food is scarce.

Volunteers may sign up for shifts at volunteer.fmsc.org/Register/mobilepack/event.aspx?event=1701-270AU#.WGazaALyX9P. Shifts are from 3 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, and from 9 to 11 a.m. and from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28.

The 2016-17 Klar Leadership Academy students are 75 percent of the way to raising their goal of $31,000 to make the event called “Mobile Pack” a success.

“Leadership also is about helping others,” said Anthony Dimodica, a senior studying human resource management.

“We’re hoping our University students, faculty and staff give up a little bit of their time to make a huge difference for people who don’t have a lot,” said Dr. Clint Longenecker, Distinguished University Professor and director of the Center for Leadership and Organization Excellence in the College of Business and Innovation.

“This learning experience takes our best students across all undergraduate colleges on campus and leads them through a seven-month, transformational leadership development experience to increase their career trajectory and their ability to improve the human condition through high-performance servant leadership.”
UT research shows cigarette smoke exposure increases scar tissue in kidney, heart

By Christine Billau

S

moking cigarettes leads to fibrosis in the kidneys and heart and accelerates kidney disease, according to research at The University of Toledo.

“Smoking is bad for the kidneys and heart together,” said Dr. Christopher Drummond, postdoctoral fellow in the Cardiovascular Division of the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences. “Tobacco and nicotine increase the formation of injury or scarring called fibrosis. That reduces cardiac function, so your heart isn’t operating as efficiently. It also makes it so your kidneys can’t filter toxins from your blood as effectively.”

His research titled “Cigarette Smoking Causes Epigenetic Changes Associated With Cardiorenal Fibrosis,” which was funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health and done in collaboration with the University of California at San Diego, recently was published in the journal Physiological Genomics.

“The results of this study are a public health concern because a significant portion of the U.S. population suffers from kidney disease and heart-related side effects,” Drummond said. “When you smoke, you’re speeding up the development of kidney disease.”

An estimated 26 million Americans have chronic kidney disease, according to the National Kidney Foundation.

Drummond exposed two groups of rats to cigarette smoke five days a week for four weeks. One group had chronic kidney disease. The other group had normal renal function. Drummond compared those two groups with two control groups of rats — one with chronic kidney disease and one with normal kidney function — that were kept in a room with no smoke.

“We designed and built a system to expose rats to a constant concentration of smoke from cigarettes,” Drummond said. “Those were lit and the animals inhaled around five cigarettes’ worth of combustible smoke a day.”

In the smoke groups, researchers found a decrease in the genetic material called microRNA associated with slowing or preventing fibrosis in the organ tissue.

Smoking alone drove the rats into renal dysfunction, according to Drummond. Also, blood pressure increased, the heart enlarged, and scar tissue developed in the heart muscle and kidneys.

“If you are concerned or have a pre-existing condition, quitting smoking is one of the best things you can do to improve your health,” Drummond said.

He is currently investigating the effects of e-cigarettes on the kidney and heart.

Climate change disruption to be discussed Jan. 19

By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo is hosting an event to discuss the polarizing topic of climate change.

Dr. Andy Jorgensen, associate professor of chemistry and environmental sciences at UT and senior fellow for the National Council for Science and the Environment, will lead a talk titled “Climate Change Disruption: How Do We Know? What Can We Do?” as part of the Lake Erie Center Public Lecture Series.

The free event will take place Thursday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m. at the UT Lake Erie Center, 6200 Bayshore Road in Oregon.

“Climate change and the cost of carbon dioxide pollution is a very intense topic in our country, which finds its way into political, business and social conversations, often with vocal disagreement,” Jorgensen said. “This presentation will give background information about the phenomenon and methods that have been used to characterize these changes. The human dimension of the problem will be emphasized in order to consider solutions.”

People who attend the event will be able to ask questions and share opinions. Participants also will be encouraged to share their views using a “clicker” or personal response device to compare their replies to those of more than 3,000 members of Jorgensen’s previous audiences.

NASA and the National Science Foundation have supported Jorgensen’s work on science education. He helped create an online program with more than 800 resources on climate change for students and teachers. The free, web-based curriculum can be found at cameclimatechange.org.

Physician warns cuddling while sleeping can get on your nerves

By Rebecca Schwan

With winter here and the mercury dropping, you may be tempted to snuggle a little closer to your partner overnight. But one University of Toledo Medical Center physician warns your warm and snuggly sleep position could cause nerve problems.

Dr. Nabil Ebraheim, professor and chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, said a condition called radial nerve palsy could develop when the radial nerve is compressed near the elbow.

The radial nerve runs along the underside of the arm and controls the movement of the triceps muscle and is responsible for enabling extension of the wrist and fingers. It also controls sensation in part of the hand.

“Radial nerve palsy is often referred to as honeymoon palsy, due to the closer sleeping habits of newlyweds,” he said. “When your partner falls asleep while laying on your arm, the radial nerve and surrounding muscles are compressed, which can cause numbness and prolonged tingling in the fingers or even restrict movement in the hand or wrist.”

Wrist drop is a rare, but disabling condition that causes paralysis of the muscles that normally raise the hand at the wrist and make it difficult to move the hand or fingers.

Radial nerve palsy is treated by supporting the wrist with a brace or splint and through physical therapy that helps to maintain muscle strength and reduce contracture. The nerve usually recovers within a few weeks, but in some cases it could take four to six months. Extreme cases, including wrist drop, could require surgery.

Ebraheim said the best way to avoid developing these conditions is to re-evaluate the way you sleep.

“People should be mindful of their sleep positions to reduce the risk of nerve injury,” Ebraheim said.

“It’s best to avoid positions that place pressure on the upper arm either from snuggling up with a loved one or sleeping with your arm curled under your head.”
Criminal justice reform is in the spotlight. Across partisan lines, public figures are talking about the need to reform criminal justice policy, especially sentencing and the prison population.

The United States holds 4.4 percent of the world’s population, but 22 percent of its prisoners, according to the Sentencing Project. Roughly 2.2 million people are incarcerated in prisons and jails — a 500 percent increase in the last 40 years — and the effects on children, families and neighborhoods are even farther-reaching. Poor people and people of color are disproportionately impacted. These circumstances, among others, have prompted conversations at the national level about the state of the U.S. criminal justice system.

Community artists, organizers and incarcerated people completed a public art piece inside the walls of Toledo Correctional Institution to contribute to that dialogue at the local level.

The project, a 6-foot-by-14-foot mural, was developed by community art coordinator Emily Numbers in collaboration with People for Change, Art Corner Toledo, and artists Matt Taylor and Yusuf Lateef. A public unveiling was held in November in the lobby of One Government Center.

People for Change is comprised of incarcerated individuals and UT faculty, students and alumni who organize educational initiatives inside the Toledo Correctional Institution. It is an alumni group of the national Inside/Out Prison Exchange Project, in which university students take a course inside a prison alongside incarcerated people. Other People for Change initiatives include workshops, community speakers and an academic library.

Numbers took the Inside/Out class as a UT student in 2013. Since then, she has been a part of the People for Change alumni group.

“The Inside/Out Prison Exchange Project opened my eyes to the talent, intellect and desire to make positive change that exists within prisons, and introduced me to the vast injustice that is mass incarceration in the U.S.,” she said.

Numbers, who became interested in the concept of art as a catalyst for social change as a law and social thought student at UT, designed the project to humanize the prison population and to promote civic dialogue on issues surrounding incarceration. The art was painted on a series of 21 2-foot canvasses due to limitations on materials allowed in the prison.

“I learned about the principles of community-based art in Thor Mednick’s Arts Diplomacy class at UT, in which we painted a mural with artist Dave Lowenstein and community members at the Frederick Douglass Center. The elements of dialogue, participation and collaboration were key aspects that I wanted to keep central to this project,” Numbers, communications and public relations specialist in the College of Engineering, said.

Taylor, Lateef and Rachel Richardson, director of Art Corner Toledo, got involved when Numbers invited them to speak to the workshop group about their art in the community. After that initial meeting last spring, the three decided they wanted to continue their involvement with the project. Numbers’ vision and coordination, Taylor and Lateef’s expertise, Art Corner Toledo’s community connections, and the dedication of the incarcerated participants came together to result in this work of collaborative, community art.

Art Corner Toledo helped secure funding for the project from the Lucas County Commissioners, who have a current focus on criminal justice. The Art Supply Depot and the UT Inside/Out Project in the College of Arts and Letters also provided support for materials and supplies.

Over several brainstorming sessions with the artists, organizers and incarcerated participants, the group arrived at the final design for the piece. The imagery was ultimately inspired by the sharing of poetry written by incarcerated individuals and represents the experience of incarceration and the aspirations of the group. Viewers’ perspectives place them at the bottom of a well, looking up toward a bright opening. Both flowers and weeds fill the bottom of the well, and one determined vine makes its way into the light. Several bees are included in the image, both coming and going from the viewer’s perspective.

“To the incarcerated participants, the well represents the physical limitations of the maximum security prison in which they reside, as well as the social barriers that may have led them to the circumstance of incarceration,” Numbers explained. “The flowers indicate the possibility for life and beauty to thrive in unexpected places, and the bees represent the exchange of ideas necessary for that hope to thrive. The bees can be interpreted as teachers, family members or volunteers, for instance, who refuse to turn a blind eye to the damages done by incarceration, and who refuse to turn their backs on individuals who will ultimately return to our community.”

The piece is accompanied by a collective poem written by the incarcerated participants, elaborating on the visual metaphor.

All of the incarcerated participants in this workshop have taken college-level courses through the UT Inside/Out Prison Exchange Project. Many of the discussions leading to the design were centered on the concept of education as the key to reaching post-incarceration aspirations.

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Cheap Trick to headline rock fest March 25

Savage Arena is about to rock again. The official lineup has been released for Rock the Arena II, which will take place Saturday, March 25, and feature more than 10 hours of entertainment.

The all-day event will be headlined by Cheap Trick.

The lineup also will feature Lou Gramm, the original lead singer of Foreigner, as well as Cinderella’s Tom Keifer, WARRANT, Quiet Riot, founding Ratt frontman Stephen Pearcy, Jack Russell’s Great White, Vixen, Autograph and Trixter.

Cheap Trick hit the big time when a recording of a concert at Budokan in Tokyo was released in the United States in 1979. “I Want You to Want Me,” “Surrender” and “Ain’t That a Shame” became staples on rock radio. The band’s other hits include “Dream Police,” “Stop This Game,” “Tonight It’s You” and “The Flame.”

In April, Cheap Trick will be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The current lineup is singer and guitarist Robin Zander, lead guitarist Rick Nielsen, bassist Tom Petersson and drummer Daxx Nielsen.

Gramm sang lead on Foreigner’s smash hits: “Feels Like the First Time,” “Cold as Ice,” “Long, Long Way From Home,” “Blue Morning, Blue Day,” “Double Vision,” “Hot Blooded,” “Head Games,” “Urgent,” “Jukebox Hero” and “Say You Will.” His solo hits include “Midnight Blue” and “Just Between You and Me.”

Singer-guitarist Keifer was with Cinderella for “Nobody’s Fool,” “Don’t Know What You Got (Till It’s Gone)” and “Coming Home.” WARRANT scored with “Cherry Pie” and “Heaven,” and Quiet Riot is remembered for “Bang Your Head (Mental Health)” and “Cum on Feel the Noize.”

Pearcy, singer-songwriter and guitarist, fronted Ratt and sang “Round and Round” and “Lay It Down.” Russell, founding member of Great White, was the vocalist on “Once Bitten, Twice Shy” and “Rock Me.”

Vixen found success with “Edge of a Broken Heart.” Autograph was on the airwaves with “Turn Up The Radio,” and Trixter demanded attention with “Give it to Me Good.”

Last year’s inaugural Rock the Arena sold out in less than three weeks.

“Rock the Arena brings a festival atmosphere indoors,” said Chris Thompson, UT treasurer. “In fact, it could be an even more enjoyable experience in some instances since everything is on one stage in one day. Fans have the opportunity to see multiple bands from the pit or a reserved seat without having to worry about the weather, missing a performance on another stage, or losing their spot.

“Last year, there was something like 1,800 fans through the doors in the first 15 minutes, and more than two-thirds of ticket holders had scanned in by the end of the first act,” he added. “We heard from community members who had never been to Savage Arena before and alumni who hadn’t been back in years and everyone talked about what a great time it was.”

“That was one of the goals of SAVAGE LIVE, to bring more people to campus, as well as to provide additional entertainment options for our students, donors, season ticket holders, employees, alumni and community members,” said Dave Nottke, deputy director of athletics.

Doors will open at 11 a.m. March 25.

Tickets range from $39 to $125 and are available online at utsavagelive.com, by phone at 419.530.GOLD, or in person with no fees at the UT Ticket Office at Savage Arena.

Limited student tickets are available with current UT ID for $29 at the box office.

For more information on Rock the Arena II and other upcoming SAVAGE LIVE events, visit utsavagelive.com.

Art project

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Dr. Renee Heberle, professor of political science, brought the Inside/Out Prison Exchange Project to the University in 2010.

“Inside/Out and People for Change give UT students and incarcerated students a unique opportunity to engage and learn with individuals they might otherwise not only never meet, but would perhaps, otherwise, stigmatize and fear,” Heberle, coordinator of the program, said. “It has literally changed lives and career paths of students, on the inside and the outside. The innovative pedagogical model and ongoing opportunities for engagement beyond the classes cultivate democratic and collaborative skills as students confront issues related to social justice and create social change.

“This mural represents the underlying principles and values of Inside/Out in the collaborative process of its creation, while being a beautiful and aesthetically important work of art on its own terms.”

The art made its debut at One Government Center and is now hanging at the Lucas County Common Pleas Court. It will be installed in public spaces in Toledo. After completing its tour around the city, the work will be donated to a local organization selected by the participants.

“It is the intention of the incarcerated participants that this public art project will serve as a sign of hope for all viewers who may face barriers or confines of their own,” Numbers said.

“As the project travels around Toledo, it carries hope for the transformation of the criminal justice system, hope for incarcerated people seeking meaning and growth despite their circumstances, and hope for anyone facing conditions that confine, imprison or isolate.”
A total of 170 stunning, eye-catching images were submitted for the 2016 Lake Erie Center Photo Contest. Winners in three categories were announced last semester.

The contest’s theme, “The Nature of Our Region: From Oak Openings to Maumee Bay,” invited camera enthusiasts to submit up to three photos featuring various nature scenes throughout northwest Ohio.

First-place winners received a $25 prize, and all winning entries will be mounted and displayed in the front lobby at the Lake Erie Center.

Listed by category, the winners are:

- **Youth (7 to 12 years of age)** — Simon Amonette, who took a photo of a field of wildflowers set against a blue sky at Ottawa Wildlife Refuge;
- **Teen (13 to 18 years of age)** — Quentin Francis-Emonds, who zoomed in for a close-up of a chestnut-sided warbler at Magee Marsh; and
- **Adult** — Ginny Sussman, who captured a surreal reflection of the Maumee River at Side Cut Park.

The contest also featured a People’s Choice Award, which went to the shot that received the most votes on the Lake Erie Center’s Facebook page.

That honor went to Tiffany McCray, who photographed the sun on the horizon at Raccoon Park on Lake Erie.

“‘The Lake Erie Center hopes that this contest will continue to inspire others to get outside and enjoy the beauty of nature in our area,’” Kathy Sullivan, communication and technology specialist at the Lake Erie Center, said. “And a very big thank-you to all of the individuals who submitted photos for the contest.”

Go to facebook.com/lakeeriecenter to see more photos that placed in the categories.
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
KICK OFF LUNCHEON

FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER
ANGELA DAVIS
ACTIVIST, SCHOLAR, PROFESSOR, AUTHOR

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4
NOON TO 2 P.M.
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
LANCELOT THOMPSON STUDENT
UNION AUDITORIUM

STUDENT RSVP AT UTOLEDO.EDU/DIVERSITY FOR FREE ADMISSION

FACULTY, STAFF AND PUBLIC $20 TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT UTOLEDO.EDU/DIVERSITY
Library renovations

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“Our student veterans were interested in a more centrally located space, and in this academic setting, they also will have better access to library resources for research and homework with longer hours to take advantage of the lounge,” said Navy Reserve Lt. Haraz Ghanbari, UT director of military and veteran affairs.

A $20,000 donation from the Coalition to Salute America’s Heroes supports the creation of the new lounge, which also will be larger with a separate social area and private study section.

The coalition’s gift was made in recognition of Lt. Col. Thomas J. Orlowski, a UT alumnus and Army veteran who is the immediate past chairman of the organization’s board. The lounge will be named the Lt. Col. Thomas J. Orlowski ’65 Veterans Lounge in his honor.

“It’s a fantastic idea, and I’m proud of the University for doing it. I’m just very humbled to be honored as part of the project,” Orlowski said. “The exchanges that will occur in this lounge will start with, ‘What are you studying and with what professors?’ But after that familiarity builds up, then the war stories come up. It will definitely help veteran students academically, but a secondary benefit that people may not realize is the camaraderie of others who have been where you’ve been and done what you’ve done.”

Orlowski graduated from UT in 1965 with a degree in English literature, and he also was a middle linebacker for the football team. He joined the Army later that year, and his 20-year military career included assignments in the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam, 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized), HQ U.S. Army Europe, HQ U.S. Continental Army Command and the Office of the Adjutant General of the Army.

According to the coalition, for his service in Vietnam, he was awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star, Bronze Star for Valor with two Oak Leaf Clusters and Air Medal.

The new Veterans Lounge is expected to open in early summer.

Library renovations will continue during the summer, with the addition of a glass wall on the east side spanning the height of the building that will open up the library with more sunlight. The staircase from the first to second floors also will be redesigned with a mezzanine area on the second floor further opening up the space.

The separate hallway that you currently pass through when walking into the library will be removed so that guests will immediately be in the lobby when they walk in from outside. The redesign also will bring all of the library’s patron services — including circulation, reference and instruction — to the first floor. The information technology help desk recently moved from the back of the floor to share space with the circulation desk at the front.

Varsity ‘T’ Hall of Fame Induction Banquet to move to fall

By Paul Helgren

The UT Athletic Department and the Varsity ‘T’ Executive Board have announced that the annual Varsity ‘T’ Hall of Fame Induction Banquet will be moved to the fall beginning with the 2017 Hall of Fame class.

The date of the induction banquet will coincide with a Rocket football game, with the class also being presented at a game in the Glass Bowl.

Previously, Varsity ‘T’ Hall of Fame induction banquets took place in January or February.

Nominations for the 2017 class of the Varsity ‘T’ Hall of Fame are being accepted through Tuesday, Jan. 31.

Nominations may come from any source. Nominations from previous years automatically carry over to the next year.

Nomination criteria are:

- Any athlete who has performed with distinction at The University of Toledo. The athlete need not necessarily be a graduate.
- Any athlete who has been out of the University for at least five years and who has demonstrated good citizenship since leaving UT. For the 2017 class, nominees must not have been active on or after July 1, 2012.
- Any coach, administrator, trainer, etc. who has served The University of Toledo with distinction for a period of at least five years and who has been retired or resigned or otherwise dishonored from his/her position for a period of at least five years. For the 2017 class, nominees must not have been active on or after July 1, 2012.
- Anyworthy alumni, including those who have been active on or after July 1, 2012.
- Any worthy另行的荣誉，包括那些在July 1, 2012之后仍活跃的人。

A genealogy form and list of inductees can be found at admin.utrockets.com/hof.aspx.

Send the nomination form along with supporting data to:

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Three Rockets selected to play in East-West Shrine Game Jan. 21

By Paul Helgren

Toledo senior tight end Michael Roberts, senior offensive lineman Storm Norton and senior defensive tackle Treyvon Hester have accepted invitations to play in the 92nd East-West Shrine Game.

The contest will be held Saturday, Jan. 21, at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, Fla., kicking off at 3 p.m. and televised live on NFL Network.

Roberts was named first-team All-America by the Football Writers Association of America and Phil Steele Publications. He caught 45 passes for 533 yards and led the nation’s tight ends with 16 touchdown receptions, eight more than the nearest tight end. A first-team All-Mid-American Conference honoree this season, Roberts broke the Toledo record for touchdown catches in a season previously held by Lance Moore (14 in 2004). He shattered the school record for TD receptions by a tight end, formerly held by Don Seymour (9 in 1973). He had three TD catches in one game against both Western Michigan and Bowling Green.

Norton, 6-8, 306 pounds, is a two-time, first-team All-MAC selection at left tackle. He was the leader of a unit that allowed just 14 sacks in 2016 and powered a Rocket offense that led the MAC in total offense (517.8) and passing offense (322.8). This past season, he was on the official watch list for the Outland Trophy, awarded annually to the nation’s top interior lineman. He recently was named to SB Nation’s All-America Team.

Hester, however, will not be able to participate due to an injury. The 6-3, 300-pound defensive tackle is a three-time All-MAC player who earned second-team honors in 2016. In his four-year college career, Hester has totaled 153 tackles, 31.5 tackles for loss and 13.0 sacks. Hester led the Rockets with 5.0 sacks this season.

These Rockets join an elite list of football greats, such as John Elway, Tom Brady, Brett Favre and 74 NFL Hall of Famers who have played in the East-West Shrine Game, in addition to more than 265 East-West Shrine Game alumni on NFL rosters each year. More than 100 players from the 2016 game signed with professional teams last spring, and more than 70 made final NFL rosters.

While the teams are divided by East and West, the players come together for the beneficiary of the event, Shriners Hospitals for Children, an international pediatric specialty healthcare system.

Running back to suit up for Senior Bowl

By Paul Helgren

UT senior running back Kareem Hunt has accepted an invitation to play in the Reese’s Senior Bowl.

The game will be played Saturday, Jan. 28, at Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile, Ala., kicking off at 2:30 p.m. and televised live on NFL Network.

Hunt led the Mid-American Conference in rushing with 1,475 yards and is a three-time All-MAC honoree. He has run for 4,945 yards in his career as a Rocket and is UT’s all-time leading rusher. His career-high rushing game came in Mobile when he gained 271 yards in a 63-44 victory over Arkansas State at the 2015 GoDaddy Bowl Jan. 4, 2015. Hunt also rushed for five TDs that game, tying a bowl record held by Barry Sanders of Oklahoma State.

The Senior Bowl began in 1950 and has been played in Mobile every year since 1951. Some of the biggest names in college football history have competed in the Senior Bowl, including 17 members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Rockets to host Craft Beer Night Feb. 7 at Savage Arena

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo will host its first Toledo Rockets Craft Beer Night at Savage Arena prior to the men’s basketball game vs. Eastern Michigan Tuesday, Feb. 7.

Treu House of Munch will feature 18 of its most popular craft beers in the Fetterman Practice Gym beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tipoff for the basketball game is at 7 p.m.

Cost for the event is $35 and includes game ticket, 12 three-ounce beer samples, and appetizers. Tickets are $25 for fans who already have purchased their game tickets. The cost for designated drivers is $25 and includes game ticket, appetizers and soft drinks.

This event is for fans 21 and older. All attendees will be required to show a valid photo ID upon entry. No refunds or exchanges will be provided for failure to provide ID or failure to attend.

Attendees can redeem their event vouchers at the door of the Fetterman Gym from 5:30 to 7 p.m. for access to the pregame event.

For tickets, call 419.530.GOLD (4653), go to utrockets.com, or visit the UT Ticket Office in Savage Arena.
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