UT teams with EPA on truck and truck hydraulic hybrid systems

Three University of Toledo professors will be teaming with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to research and develop hydraulic hybrid systems for heavy vehicles in a research agreement that could be worth nearly $1 million.

The goal of the collaboration is to create new technology that would reduce fuel consumption by trucks and buses by up to 50 percent, while reducing exhaust pollution.

Dr. Walter Olson, professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering, Dr. Mohammad Elahinia, assistant professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering, and Dr. Thomas Stuart, professor of electrical engineering, are the principle investigators on the grant.

“The hydraulic hybrid systems are based on capturing energy from braking and excess energy from the vehicle engine and storing this energy in a high-pressure gas,” Olson said. “Normally, this energy is wasted as heat. When needed, this energy is then converted to drive the vehicle using an extremely efficient hydraulic motor. More

Historic Day

Gov. Bob Taft signed House Bill 478 that combines The University of Toledo and the Medical University of Ohio March 31 as academic and legislative leaders watched. More than 400 people, including members of the Blue Crew, were in Doermann Theater to see the celebrated ceremony. The merger will be effective July 1. It will make UT the third largest university in the state in terms of operating budget and one of 17 public universities in the country that has colleges of business, education, engineering, law, medicine and pharmacy. Watch the ceremony at http://video.utoledo.edu.

PULL POWER: Engineering graduate student The Nguyen explains how the hydraulic hybrid system works to, from left, Constantin Ciocanel, graduate assistant in the mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering department, and UT President Dan Johnson as fellow engineering graduate student Paul Fountaine looks on.

LOOK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF UT NEWS APRIL 24

Intricate art p. 5 Getting to Ganymede p. 6 Frames p. 8
Gender equity discussed by UT women, MUO president

By Vicki L. Kroll

There are 191 male full professors and 35 female full professors at the University. At the $100,000 salary level, there are 87 men and 11 women.

Of the administrative and managerial professional staff, five men make more than $100,000 compared to zero women.

Only 34.5 percent of the nine-month faculty are women; 21 percent of these women make more than $65,000, whereas 51 percent of male faculty receive salaries above $65,000.

A total of 73.5 percent of the employees in clerical, skilled crafts and service/maintenance are women; 77 percent of these women make less than $40,000.

Figures from fall 2003 and fall 2005 show UT lost 236 female full-time employees and gained 194 male full-time workers.

These were a few of the facts from institutional research shared by Dr. Diane Britton, professor of history, and Dr. Jamie Barlowe, president of women’s and gender studies, at a March 30 forum with Dr. Lloyd Jacobs, professor of history, and Dr. Jamie Barlowe, president of the Medical University of Ohio.

“These statistics are telling, and I think they should change,” Jacobs told some 50 women who attended the event in Libbey Hall.

Jacobs requested the meeting so he could hear concerns from UT female faculty, staff and students.

“We have a long-term and systemic gender problem on our campus,” Britton said. “We do recruit female faculty. What happens is they don’t rise through the ranks, which is one reason why they leave.”

“The data and information that you just heard beg a number of questions, ones that we have been grappling with for years, some of us for 15 to 25 years,” Barlowe said. “Scholars have named such a working environment a ‘chilly climate’ for women.”

“I want you to know it’s not a whole lot better at MUO,” said Jacobs, who will become UT president July 1. “It’s not a whole better across the city. It’s not a whole lot better at universities across the country.”

To research the status of women on campus, the Women’s Leadership Council was established in 2004, according to Dr. Pat Murphy, interim director of the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women.

“Our first project coming up in the months ahead is to support and consult on a gender equity study that will have excellent data for all of us to examine and decide what to do next,” Murphy said.

“Like that diversity is sort of a code word for the belief that strength is derived from difference. I think great strength is derived from being different,” Jacobs said. “We need to recognize our strength derived from our differences, holding them up and celebrating them.”

“I have always been and I hope to always be a strong advocate for diversity in the broadest sense of the word,” he said.

Jacobs told the crowd his UT presidential appointment would be for five years. “In our five years together, we could begin to change the face of this University.”

After the opening presentations by Britton, Murphy and Barlowe, Jacobs fielded questions.

Dr. Sharon Barnes, assistant professor of interdisciplinary studies, asked Jacobs if he had experience in leadership development for women.

“Perhaps. We’ll have to see if the experience I have is transferable,” he said. “I have considerable experience one-on-one training of surgeons, and I have trained a sizable number of women surgeons.”

Beth Eisler, interim dean of the College of Law, pointed out there are few women administrators on campus. Barbara Floyd, director of the Canaday Center and university archivist, followed up. “That means women aren’t represented at the table when decisions are being made, which is one of the reasons I think shared governance is so important. Can you share your vision of shared governance?”

“If you are committed to moving forward the agenda of diversity of women and their place in society, one of the tools is power and you should seek to get it,” Jacobs said.

A student asked Jacobs how he planned to start improving gender equity on campus.

“It would be nice — frankly, I’m not sure we can do it in five years — but it would be nice to have the full professors to 100 women and 125 men,” he said. “For the faculty at $100,000, 60 percent men and 40 percent women seems reasonable in five years.”

“One of the things we always have to remember is that the questions, issues and problems we’re talking about today have been discussed for decades, even centuries, and not just here at UT,” Barlowe said. “The same kinds of questions we’re asking were asked by women in earlier centuries.”

“I like what you [Jacobs] were saying about action. These issues have been put aside because there’s always a reason we can’t do something — there’s budget reductions, rules, laws, there’s this, there’s that. We have to look to creative solutions.”

Former UT professor named law dean

By Vicki L. Kroll

Douglas Ray, a former faculty member of The University of Toledo College of Law, will return to campus to be dean of the College of Law.

Ray is professor of law at Widener University School of Law, where he served as dean and vice president for the Law Center from 1999 to 2005. He oversaw operations at two campuses — Wilmington, Del., and Harrisburg, Pa.

He will start his new position July 1. Ray, 58, will receive an annual salary of $210,000, with a stipend of $15,000.

“We’re very pleased that Douglas Ray has accepted the offer to become dean of the College of Law,” said Dr. Alan Goodridge, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs and enrollment services. “His administrative and academic credentials will benefit the UT College of Law, its students, faculty and staff.”

“I am enthusiastic about returning to Toledo; I am honored by the appointment,” Ray said. “The College of Law and its faculty have achieved a national reputation, which provides the foundation for an outstanding future. I think the school is now positioned to be a significant resource for the University, the community, the region and our nation.”

In fact, the UT College of Law was just named one of the top 100 law schools in the country, according to the U.S. News & World Report. Rankings show UT tied for 93rd with Seattle University, the University of Hawaii and the University of San Francisco.

Goodridge thanked Beth Eisler for her service as interim dean of the College of Law for this fiscal year.

During Ray’s six-year tenure as dean of Widener University School of Law, applications doubled to more than 3,800, classrooms were renovated, and an initiative was launched to involve students in public interest work.
New vice provost for enrollment management hired

By Tobin J. Klinger

Kevin Kucera, dean of admissions and enrollment services at Siena Heights University in Adrian, Mich., has been named vice provost of enrollment management.

He will assume the post May 8 and receive an annual salary of $108,000.

“We are delighted that Kevin has agreed to join us,” said Dr. Alan Goodridge, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs and enrollment services. “This is an exciting time at The University of Toledo, and I am confident that we will see growth in this important area under his leadership.”

“I am extremely excited to get started,” Kucera said. “The University of Toledo has a rich history and lot to offer prospective students. Now those offerings are enhanced with the merger with the Medical University of Ohio, and it’s a real thrill to be a part of the first team to take that message to prospective students.”

Kucera has been dean of admissions and enrollment services at Siena Heights University since 1997, and served as director of financial aid there from 1985 to 1988. He was dean of admissions and financial aid at Edgewood College in Madison, Wis., from 1988 to 1997, and worked at Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, as assistant director of admissions from 1981 to 1983 and director of financial aid from 1983 to 1985.

He received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Mount Mercy College in 1981 and a master of business administration degree from Edgewood College in 1993.

“I would like to thank Carol Baumgartner for her leadership during this period,” Goodridge said. “She has been a tremendous asset to the division during the last year.”

University Women’s Commissions recognizes employees, students

By Vicki L. Kroll

Five UT women were honored March 30 for their work and contributions to the campus community at the 20th annual Outstanding Women’s Awards.

Nearly 200 people attended the ceremony, which was sponsored by the University Women’s Commission and the Society of Women Engineers.

President Dan Johnson helped hand out the Outstanding Women Awards to:

• Dr. B. Jean Haefner, chief psychologist in the University Counseling Center. She joined the University in 1991. Haefner is assistant director of the Northwest Ohio Psychology Consortium and supervisor/trainer of interns. “Jean is highly skilled in consulting with faculty, staff and administrators at UT regarding individual student situations, stabilizing campus-wide crises, and mediating in departmental office staff concerns,” wrote one nominator. She is part of the emergency response team and is on call around the clock three months of the year to help students in emotional distress.

• Carol Holton, academic adviser in the College of Education. She has worked at UT since 2000. “Carol really enjoys working with students; her goal is to keep each one on track to the successful completion of their program,” wrote one nominator. She has taught classes on self-esteem and assertiveness at the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women since 1999. “She has raised nearly $3,000 to date for the Center for Women’s Legacy Courtyard,” a nominator noted.

• Laurie Jenkins, public inquiries assistant in the Carver Learning Technology Support Center in the College of Education. She joined the University in 1973. “Laurie has taught herself how to use technology that most of our students (and, yes, faculty) find daunting. She simply decides that she needs to learn something — usually so she can help someone else — and she learns it,” wrote one nominator. Her efforts for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Race for the Cure over the years also were acknowledged. “She quietly continues her work behind the scenes, without seeking recognition or notoriety.”

• Dr. Janet Restivo Kryzminski, director of development for the College of Pharmacy. In 1993, she became the development officer in the College of Education and has worked in the College of Pharmacy since 1999. Restivo Kryzminski co-created the Women and Philanthropy Initiative at the University in 2005 to help mentor young women in the art of giving. She holds four degrees from UT — bachelor’s, master’s, education specialist and doctoral degrees.

In addition, the commission presented $1,000 scholarships to four students. Receiving awards based on academic achievement, support of women’s and gender studies, and campus and community involvement were Rachel Chapman, a senior in the colleges of Arts and Sciences and Health and Human Services; Tammy Lynn Holder, a sophomore in University College; Andrea Pallotta, a senior in the College of Pharmacy; and Jessica Trease, a junior in the College of Health and Human Services.

The commission handed out four $50 professional staff development awards to Dr. Sharon Barnes, assistant professor of interdisciplinary studies; Brenda Humble, worker’s compensation and risk management specialist in Health and Safety; Dr. Barbara Mann, lecturer of English; and Dr. Peggy Myles, adjunct faculty member and field supervisor in the early childhood, physical and special education department.

Schedule graduate photos

Faculty and staff or members of their families who will graduate from the University in May can contact the Marketing and Communications Office if they wish to have a photo taken and published in UT News.

Call Joanne Gray at Ext. 2675 to schedule an appointment by Friday, May 5. Photos will appear in the May 15 issue of the paper.

Luncheon, workshop with guest women’s scholar April 14

By Deanna Woolf

Dr. Chandra Mohanty, professor of women’s studies and the dean’s professor of the humanities at Syracuse University, will visit campus for a free, public luncheon and workshop Friday, April 14.

The luncheon will be held from noon to 2 p.m. in Libbey Hall, with the workshop/discussion from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. in the Ward M. Canaday Center in Carlson Library.

Mohanty works with transnational feminist theory; studies colonialism, imperialism and culture; and promotes anti-racist education. Among the publications she’s written and edited are Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity (2003) and Feminist Genealogies, Colonial Legacies, Democratic Futures (1997).

To RSVP for the luncheon or for more information, contact the department of women’s and gender studies at Ext. 2233.
EarthFest 2006 to educate, entertain while raising environmental awareness

By Krista M. Hayes

The University of Toledo’s Society for Environmental Education will host EarthFest 2006, an event to raise environmental awareness and celebrate nature, on Monday, April 17, from noon to 10 p.m. on Centennial Mall.

The event will begin with a presentation by Marisa Rinkus, population specialist from the National Wildlife Federation’s Great Lakes Resources Center, who will speak on “Thinking Globally and Acting Globally: Why Population, Gender and the Environment Are Important.”

From 3 to 5 p.m., a performance art presentation about corporate globalization in the Western Hemisphere titled “Mesoamerica Resiste” will be presented by the Beehive Design Collective. The Beehive is a volunteer art-activist group started in Machias, Maine, that has gained international fame for its graphics campaigns focused on globalization and militarization. “Mesoamerica Resiste” offers a tale of widespread resistance to a corporate project known as Pan Puebla Panamá, which threatens to devastate the economy and environment of the Central American isthmus.

At 5 p.m., “Erie Invaders,” a musical and theatrical trilogy that highlights the dilemma of invasive species in the Great Lakes with song, dance, spectacle and comedy, will be premiered by the North Coast Theatre. The trilogy was written and directed by Christine Child, UT instructor of playwrighting, with music by Dr. David Jex, UT professor of music. The performances of the “Song of the Zebra Mussel” will give voice to a tiny mollusk. “Round Goby Rules” reveals what to do after catching a really ugly fish, and “Frankenfish” will confront the audience with a fish that walks on land.

Other events at EarthFest will include an environmental poetry reading. The EarthFest 2006 Environmental Poetry Contest winners will be announced, and $250 in prizes will be awarded at 6 p.m. At 7 p.m., entertainment will be provided by ALMA Dance experience, a group that consists of dancers who perform authentic native dances from African and Caribbean cultures to the accompaniment of drumming.

The fest will conclude from 8 to 10 p.m. with a Drum-for-the-Earth circle featuring a number of natural-material drums that will lead participants in rhythmic patterns that simulate the heartbeat and the vibrations of the Earth.

EarthFest is a fun opportunity to learn more about important environmental issues and to celebrate the Earth and nature,” said Dr. Linda Smith, UT lecturer of humanities for the Honors Program and adviser of the Society for Environmental Education. “It’s a way to remind ourselves that we depend upon the environment for everything we have and everything we need. It’s the height of foolishness not to value and appreciate something that is so crucial to our very existence.”

EarthFest also will include information tables by close to 30 organizations, including Mercy for Animals, Northwest Ohio Peace Coalition, Toledo Grows, UT Vegetarians, Food Not Bombs, National Wildlife Federation and the UT Stranahan Arboretum.

In case of rain, events will be held in Student Union Room 2582.

The event is sponsored by the UT Society for Environmental Education and co-sponsored by the English department, the earth, ecological and environmental sciences department, the College of Law, and the University Honors Program.

Parking will be available in the East Parking Garage and the adjacent lot.

For more information on the free, public events, contact Smith at Ext. 6039 or Linda.Smith@utoledo.edu. For a detailed list of events visit www.usc.ee.utoledo.edu.

Professor to examine parallels between Shakespeare’s life, plays

By Hillary Porter

Dr. David Bevington of the University of Chicago will discuss “Shakespeare’s ‘The Tempest’ as a Retirement Play” at The University of Toledo’s 17th Annual Richard M. Summers Memorial Lecture Friday, April 21, at 4 p.m. in the Law Center Auditorium.

Bevington will examine the hypothesis that Shakespeare’s last work, “The Tempest,” is a play that shows Shakespeare’s view of his own achievements, his reasons for retiring, and his aspirations for the future.

It is commonly believed among Shakespearean scholars that, through one of his characters in “The Tempest,” Shakespeare alluded to giving up his own powerful status as a playwright. Just one or two years after he wrote “The Tempest,” Shakespeare left London and his work.

Bevington also will examine questions as to whether or not Shakespeare’s other plays reveal anything about his life.

“David Bevington is the best there is at explaining Shakespeare to a popular audience,” said Dr. Matthew Wikander, UT professor of English.

Bevington is the Phyllis Fay Horton Distinguished Service Professor in the Humanities at the University of Chicago, where he has taught since 1967. He has written, edited and conducted research for several books related to Shakespeare and his contemporaries. His recent works include Shakespeare (2002), Shakespeare: Script, Stage, Screen (2006) and the forthcoming Universal Theater: Shakespeare in Performance. Then and Now.

For more information on the free, public lecture, contact the English department at Ext. 2381.

Humanities roundtable series ends April 21

By Deanna Woolf

Dr. Marshall Gregory, Ice Professor of English, Liberal Education and Pedagogy at Butler University, will deliver his fourth and final presentation in the 2005-06 Arts and Humanities Roundtable Lecture Series on Friday, April 21.

Gregory will address “The Dynamics of Desire in Everyday Classrooms” at 1 p.m. in Student Union Room 2592.

“It’s very seldom that anyone can put anything in another person’s head. The learner has to take it in,” Gregory said. “But if all education had to rely on us making words of such memorable captivation that no one could refuse to take it in, there’d be very little education. What it means is that in the end, teaching is successful because learners want to learn, not because you’re forcing it in their heads.”

Gregory’s 2005-06 consultancy is sponsored by the UT Arts and Humanities Roundtable and the Humanities Institute. A Program for Academic Excellence Award is providing funding for the visits.

For more information on the free, public lecture, contact the Humanities Institute at Ext. 2329.

Law dean continued from p. 2

Prior to joining Widener, Ray taught in the UT College of Law from 1981 to 1998. He was an associate professor and later was named the Charles W. Fornoff Professor of Laws and Values. In addition, he served as an associate dean.


He has taught at the University of Richmond Law School, worked as an economist with the U.S. Department of Labor, and was a labor attorney with Dorsey & Whitney in Minneapolis.

Ray is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and Harvard Law School.
Artist uses everyday objects, creates colorful collages

By Vicki L. Kroll

Nathine Smith can see artistic possibilities in just about anything, even dryer lint.

“That’s right, lint. I deal mainly with mixed media and abstract art,” Smith said. “I incorporate household materials into my art.”

That includes toothpicks, dryer lint and strips of shiny wrapping paper, which are featured in “Primary Colors.”

“I’m a saver. I grew up in the Depression, and I was taught you save things,” Smith said. “When I was in Diana Attie’s class — I think it was foreordained because these [saved] materials were wonderful to work with. I had a ball.”

Attie, UT professor of art, encouraged Smith to see common objects in a creative way.

And she has. The artist used pastels to add color to torn dryer sheets to construct a roof in one of her pieces, “Shingles.”

Twenty-four of Smith’s works can be seen in “Exploring Texture” at the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women through May 12. The free, public exhibit is on display Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Smith’s art career began when her youngest son left for music school. She took a drawing class at UT in 1977 and met Attie.

“Art just became part of my life at that time,” recalled Smith, who is married to Willard Smith, retired UT vice president for business affairs, who worked 30 years at the University.

In 1983, she received a bachelor of arts degree in art and studied with Attie for three more years. Smith developed her own style of using mixed media — paints, pastels, color pencils, crayons, inks and glue with different kinds of papers, cloth and found materials.

Smith’s 3-D collages abound with eye-catching color.

“Mainly I work with my hands. I like the feel of the textural surface, the piecing together — almost quilt-like — of paper creations,” she said. “I like the feel of a pencil in my hand. I like to work with texture and Prismacolor pencils.”

She spends a great deal of time on her artwork.

“I work with layers and layers of art tissues, stacks of them, and I have to sort through those and cut and tear to size,” Smith said. “It could take three weeks or sometimes a couple months if it doesn’t flow easily.

“I couldn’t possibly duplicate a piece — the colors are always different.”

The striking shades beckon to viewers.

“I would like people to enjoy the experience of looking at my art and to somehow feel a specific attraction or pull to a certain piece,” Smith said. “Some may not understand art, but you don’t have to understand it. Just let the art appeal to you color-wise, texture-wise.”

The work also calls to the artist.

“When I approach my work, it’s always exciting. I do things in a nontraditional way — that’s the fun of it,” Smith said. “I’ve been known to dry my pieces in the oven to finish them.”

Jam Before You Cram April 12

By Deanna Woolf

Live music, celebrity guests, prizes and great food — get your fill before exam week begins, with AVI’s Jam Before You Cram Wednesday, April 12.

The event will be held at Ottawa House and the Crossings’ front lawn from 3 to 7 p.m.

Radio station WJUC will have a live remote at the event from 3 to 5 p.m., with WXUT providing the music from 5 to 7 p.m.

There will be prize raffles and a menu featuring grilled chicken, hotdogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, pasta salad, corn on the cob, chips, ice cream, cotton candy and popcorn.

“This is AVI’s way of saying thank you to our students and that we care about them,” said Rosalyn Emerson, marketing manager of AVI Foodsystems at UT. She added they plan to hold the event each year.

Jam Before You Cram is free to students who are on meal plans.

For more information, contact Emerson at Ext. 8467.

‘The Dragon’ to rule Center for Performing Arts April 14-23

By Deanna Woolf

Scales, sinewy tongue, ability to breathe fire — what’s not to love about the ruler of this medieval town?

Well, a lot, because the dragon requires the annual sacrifice of a maiden.

The townspeople are used to the terms and everything is running smoothly until a newcomer — a wandering knight — challenges the dragon to a battle, leaving everyone to wonder, “What happens once the dragon is slain?”

“The Dragon” will run in the Center for Performing Arts Theatre April 14-23. The play is directed by Vladimir Przhevalov, UT visiting assistant professor of theatre, and features set and costume designs by Marketa Fantova, UT visiting instructor of theatre.

The play was written in Russia in 1942 and is a satirical look at war, dictatorship, propaganda and idealism. Fantova’s designs reflect the setting and theme with muted colors and angular forms (get a sneak peek of set and costume renderings at www.theatrefilm.utoledo.edu/index.asp?id=161).

Curtain times are 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sundays. There will be a signed performance on Thursday, April 20.

Tickets are $13, $11 for UT faculty, staff, alumni and seniors, and $9 for students. There will be a special preview performance on Thursday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. with limited seats available for $9 each.

To purchase tickets, contact the box office at Ext. 2375 or visit the theatre and film Web site at www.theatrefilm.utoledo.edu.

For more information, contact the department of theatre and film at Ext. 2202.
University communications, bills now via University UTAD e-mail accounts

By Deanna Woolf

By June 1, all UT students will be assigned “firstname.lastname@utoledo.edu” e-mail accounts. Beginning July 1, these accounts will receive select official University communications, including tuition and fees bill notices, registration announcements and Rocket Telecom cell phone billing. No paper copies of these items will be sent to students.

According to Melissa Crabtree, UT communications and quality administrator with Educational and Information Technology, the switch to e-mail communication is in line with other University processes, such as “applying for admission, accessing the course catalog and checking your grades,” she said. “We also know that once students graduate, the ‘firstname.lastname’ account follows them throughout their lives, so they will always be a part of The University of Toledo community.”

While all students have a “firstname.lastname@utoledo.edu” e-mail address, about 22 percent have their e-mail forwarded to an outside mailbox, such as a Yahoo or AOL account, according to Crabtree. Another 12 percent of students have no forwarding address or e-mail box, meaning they do not receive any e-mail communications from the University. Around 66 percent of students already use University e-mail services.

Crabtree said students can visit http://myutaccount.utoledo.edu to check the name of their utoledo.edu e-mail account or to create an account if they haven’t already done so. Students can then visit http://email.utoledo.edu/exchange or log on through the myUT Portal to access their mailboxes to read and send e-mails.

Crabtree said if students do not set up and start accessing their accounts by June 1, EIT personnel will create mailboxes for them. “Students will be responsible for accessing the e-mail and for reading all communications that are sent to the account,” she said.

The first official communication students will likely receive is their tuition and fees bill notice in July. Brenda Holderman, assistant bursar, said e-bills offer several advantages. “It’s secure — the e-mail will notify them of bill payment due dates and instruct them to use Student Self-Service via the myUT Portal to view their bills.”

For more information on e-mail accounts and e-billing, visit the Educational and Information Technology Web site at http://eit.utoledo.edu and the Bursar’s Office Web site at http://bursaroffice.utoledo.edu.

NASA rocket scientist to talk

By Vicki L. Kroll

Dr. Gregory Whiffen, senior engineer with the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., will be at The University of Toledo Thursday through Saturday, April 20-22.

He will give four talks on his application of optimal control theory in mathematics to determine trajectories for unmanned space flights using ion drive rockets to the outer planets.

“The trajectories produced by optimal control exhibit a beauty that the eye can learn to identify after seeing enough of them,” Whiffen said. “I have collected quite a bit of this ‘trajectory art’ and will include a little bit in the talks.”

Whiffen will give talks:
- Thursday, April 20, at 4 p.m. in Nitschke Hall Auditorium and at 7:30 p.m. in the Driscoll Hall Auditorium;
- Friday, April 21, at 4 p.m. in McCracken Hall Room 1005; and
- Saturday, April 22, at 4:30 p.m. in University Hall Room 4010.

The free, public discussions are sponsored by UT’s Delta X Math Student Interest Organization, the College of Engineering, the mathematics department, the physics and astronomy department, and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics Great Lakes Section.

For more information, call the UT mathematics department at Ext. 2232 or Ext. 2568.

Student physicists take second in national competition

By Tobin J. Klinger

Using the wacky inventions of cartoonist Rube Goldberg as inspiration, a group of UT students has gained notoriety by taking second place in a prestigious national competition.

On April 1, the UT Society of Physics Students Team placed second in the Rube Goldberg competition that was held in West Lafayette, Ind. The event challenges contestants to come up with a complicated but reliable machine to perform a simple task.

The team, consisting of Tricia Gallant, Daniel Kageorge, Nick Sperling and Adam Gray, designed a machine that would shred a standard sheet of paper into five strips, using 20 or more steps. The Associated Press described it as “modeled after a children’s bedroom inhabited by monsters.”

The group was bested only by Purdue University’s engineering team, which has won the competition several years running and boasts a machine with 215 steps.

UT’s 29-step machine ran flawlessly twice, once for 22 seconds.

This is the second time the UT Society of Physics Students Team has participated.
CALENDAR
continued from p. 8

Women's Leadership Forum
Spring semester report on UT faculty and staff women's issues. Student Union Auditorium. 4 p.m. Info: 419.530.8578.

Mathematics Lecture
"Teaching the Solar System Using Ion Engines — The Present and Future of Deep Space Robotic Exploration." Speaker: Dr. Gregory Whiffen, senior engineer, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Robert Finn, Stanford University; Mónica Torres, Purdue University; Matthew Marvay, Ohio State University. Student Union Hall Room 4010; Noon-12:30 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2994, 419.530.2232.

Concert

Theatre Performance
"The Dragon." Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre. 7:30 p.m. $13; $11 for seniors and UT employees and alumni; $9 for students. Info: 419.530.2237.

Softball
UT vs. Eastern Michigan. Doubleheader. Scott Park. 1 p.m. $3; $1 for UT employees and children 17 and younger; free for UT students. Info: 419.530.2237.

Baseball
UT vs. Western Michigan. Scott Park. 1 p.m. $3.50; $1 for UT employees and children 17 and younger; free for UT students. Info: 419.530.2237.


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"The Dragon." Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre. 7:30 p.m. $13; $11 for seniors and UT employees and alumni; $9 for students. Info: 419.530.2237.

Softball
UT vs. Central Michigan. Doubleheader. Scott Park. 1 p.m. $3; $1 for UT employees and children 17 and younger; free for UT students. Info: 419.530.2237.

Baseball
UT vs. Western Michigan. Scott Park. 1 p.m. $3.50; $1 for UT employees and children 17 and younger; free for UT students. Info: 419.530.2237.


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Cinematic showcase

Check out the 2006 Graduating Film/Video Senior Show Series, featuring works by a few graduating seniors. The shows highlight the students’ artistic development during their studies at the University.

For more information on the free, public screenings, call the UT theatre and film department at 419.530.2202.

• Saturday, April 22, at 6 p.m. — Steve Long and Jessica Lopez.

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