

Student conquers Boston Marathon

By Deanna Woolf

Three hours and nine minutes. Not too bad for 26 miles and 385 yards.

Well, OK — it's actually a great time, especially since Ed Briercheck finished the legendary Boston Marathon last week just one hour and two minutes behind the first-place male runner.

"It was a lot of fun. It was very tough," said Briercheck, a UT senior majoring in biology with the Honors Program.

Briercheck has been running since his sophomore year of college. "I did track in high school, but I never did distance running. My uncle advised me to do it," he recalled.

He ran his first race in Akron. Briercheck was surprised to see his time was within eight minutes of qualifying for the Boston Marathon. "I thought it'd be cool to beat that," he said.

So he started training, doing small runs several times a week combined with a long run of about 22 miles once a week. Briercheck runs at Wildwood Metropark and on the University/Parks Trail. "I take an iPod with me. I'll listen to just about anything and everything. Anything that's going to be a change to keep me on task," he said.

After several races, Briercheck qualified for the Boston Marathon in November 2004 at a race in Athens, Greece, during his study abroad program. He then was eligible for 18 months to run the race in Massachusetts.

Briercheck stepped up his training regiment, aiming for the

continued on p. 9

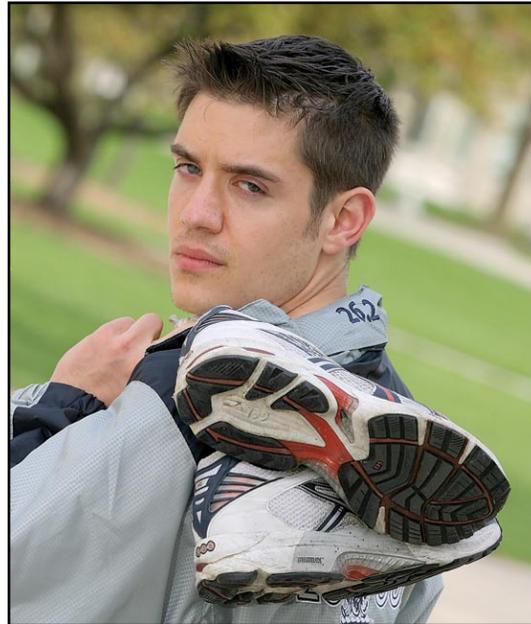


Photo by Daniel Miller

Briercheck

Sisters head back to school, graduate together

By Deanna Woolf

For those who think sibling rivalry ends during adulthood, Darlene Coleman said while she and her sister attended The University of Toledo at the same time, there was a little bit of friendly competition involved.

"She'd call me up and say, 'I got an A in this class. What did you get?'" Coleman recalled. "Of course, she's my older sister. I couldn't let her beat me. With that sibling rivalry, we pulled ourselves through the programs."

And now they've made it to graduation — at the same time.

Coleman and her sister, Glenda Hudson, are among the 2,683 students who will receive degrees during the Saturday, May 6, commencement.

But Coleman will narrowly beat her sister in the great paper chase — the liberal studies major will graduate during the morning ceremony, while her sister will graduate in the afternoon.

Coleman had started at UT in 1986 after graduating from high school. But while attending classes, "I got a job. I thought I could be making money. And I did just that," she said.

She left college and worked for the state of Ohio for 14 years, currently serving as a customer service representative for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

But after spending years at work and raising a family, "I had wanted to finish what I started," she said.

Coleman began attending classes at Owens Community College and transferred to UT in fall 2004. She decided her concentration in the liberal studies program would

continued on p. 8

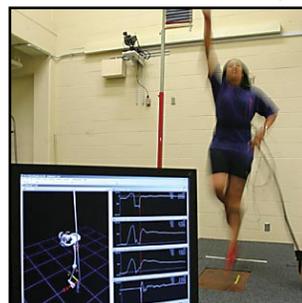
GRILL DRILL: Men's Basketball Coach Stan Joplin dished out more than 500 assists while manning the grill last week for the College of Business Administration's picnic. More than 1,100 people stopped by for hamburgers and hotdogs, according to Robert Twells, interim recruitment coordinator in the College of Business Administration, who organized the event.



Photo by Terry Fell

**LOOK FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE OF UT NEWS
MAY 15**

Jumpin' joints
p. 4



Drawing on creativity p. 9



Men at work
p. 11



Alumna, alumnus return to speak at UT commencement

By Vicki L. Kroll

Judith A. Daso Herb, an educator and business-woman, and Dr. Roderick J. McDavis, president of Ohio University, will deliver addresses at UT's commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 6, in Savage Hall.

Herb will speak at 10 a.m. for the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education, Engineering and University College. McDavis will speak at 2 p.m. for the colleges of Business Administration, Health and Human Services, and Pharmacy.

There are 2,683 candidates for degrees, including those who will finish classes in August, from the University's seven colleges. There are 540 candidates for doctoral, education specialist and master's degrees, and 2,143 for bachelor's and associate degrees.

Two honorary degrees also will be presented. UT alumna Edrene Benson Cole, retired Toledo Public Schools educator and administrator who is an expert on local African-American history, will receive an honorary doctorate in education during the morning ceremony. James A. Poure, founder, CEO and chair of GAC Chemical Corp., the worldwide leading producer of high-purity ammonium sulfate used in pharmaceutical, food and water treatment, will receive an honorary doctorate in business administration in the afternoon.

Herb received bachelor's and master's degrees in education from The University of Toledo in 1961 and 1964, respectively. She was a teacher at Birmingham Elementary in Toledo, Maplewood Elementary in Sylvania, Ohio, and at Guggenheim School in Port Washington, N.Y., from 1961 to 1970.

She is president of Herbwood Home and Office Interiors in Barrington Hills, Ill., a company she founded in 1981.

She and her husband, Marvin Herb, established the Judith Daso Herb Endowed Chair in Curriculum and Instruction in the UT College of Education in 1998. Their \$1 million gift was made in honor of her parents, Richard and Betty Daso, who owned family bakeries in Toledo for more than 40 years. The chair contributes to the research on how children learn. Through research, teaching and service activities, the



Daso Herb



McDavis



Cole



Poure

chair also advances the understanding and practice of teaching for educators and community leaders.

McDavis was named Ohio University's 20th president in 2004. He is the second OU graduate to lead the institution. He received a bachelor's degree in social sciences in secondary education from OU in 1970. He continued his education at the University of Dayton, where he received a master's degree in student personnel administration in 1971. McDavis graduated from UT in 1974 with a doctorate in counselor education.

The Dayton, Ohio, native started his academic career at the University of Florida, where he was a professor of education in the counselor education department from 1974 to 1989. McDavis served as associate dean of the graduate school and minority programs from 1984 to 1989.

He was named dean of the College of Education and professor of counselor education at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, in 1989. McDavis stayed there until 1994 when he returned to the University of Florida to become dean of the College of Education and professor of education. From 1999 to 2004, he served as provost and vice president for academic affairs and professor of education at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

Ohio Supreme Court justice to speak at law commencement

By Vicki L. Kroll

Judith Ann Lanzinger, a justice on the Ohio Supreme Court, will return to her alma mater to address UT College of Law graduates Sunday, May 7, at 1 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium.

A total of 119 students are candidates for law degrees this spring and summer. Tyler Pensyl will deliver the valedictory address.

Lanzinger graduated magna cum laude from UT in 1968 with a bachelor of education degree. She taught elementary school while starting a family. She returned to the University and received a law degree in 1977, graduating as the valedictorian.

She was an attorney for Toledo Edison Co. and later Shumaker, Loop and Kendrick until 1985 when she was elected to the Toledo Municipal Court. Lanzinger then

served on the Lucas County Common Pleas Court from 1989 to 2003 and the Sixth District Court of Appeals from 2003 to 2005, when she started her term on the Ohio Supreme Court.

In 1992, Lanzinger became the second woman in the country to earn a master of judicial studies degree from the National Judicial College and University in Reno, Nev. She is an adjunct faculty member at the UT College of Law.



Lanzinger

UT, MUO alumni associations merge

By Tobin J. Klinger

The effective date of the UT and MUO merger may be weeks away, but the changes are already prevalent within the alumni associations.

The associations have voted to merge, with MUO's three associations representing doctors, nurses and health sciences, becoming affiliates within the UT umbrella organization.

"This merger would not be possible without the strong support of our collective alumni base," said Vern Snyder, UT vice president for institutional advancement. "This is symbolic of the kind of rallying cry we've heard repeatedly from graduates as we've shared our vision for the future of UT."

The alumni board will grow by four members, with MUO alumni filling each of the seats. The new entity expects to put on more than 200 events worldwide next year, one of which will take place at Fifth Third Field in downtown Toledo Saturday, May 6,

also the day of UT's commencement.

"More than 500 MUO alumni and their families will be on hand for the game, alongside their fellow UT Alumni Association members," said Lawrence Burns, MUO vice president for institutional advancement, who will become vice president for marketing, communications and enrollment services at the dual institution. "They'll be there to cheer on the Mud Hens, as well as the UT marching band affiliate as they perform the national anthem. It's a great way to showcase this new combination."

A one-year membership in the UT Alumni Association will be extended to all MUO graduates. Meanwhile, MUO's lifetime members will automatically become lifetime members of the UT Alumni Association.

"People are really excited," said Dan Saevig, UT associate vice president for alumni relations. "It's definitely a new UT Alumni Association."

Corrections

In the April 10 gender equity story, one fact was incorrect. Five men in non-administrative and non-managerial professional positions make more than \$100,000 compared to zero women, according to institutional research. There are 27 men in administrative and managerial professional positions that earn more than \$100,000 and 13 women.

In the story about communications and bills being sent via University UTAD e-mail accounts, it was mentioned that Rocket Telecom cell phone bills will be sent via utoledo.edu e-mail accounts. This refers to the bill itself, which is part of a student's tuitions and fees e-bill each semester. Rocket Telecom will continue to send detailed statements, explaining account charges, in paper format through spring semester 2007.

GETTOKNOW



DR. GEORGE MURNEN

DR. GEORGE MURNEN is professor emeritus of civil engineering. He began teaching at UT in 1958, retired in 1993 and taught as a superannuate until 2000. He has been teaching one course per semester since 2003. Murnen holds a bachelor of science degree from UT, master of science degree from the University of Illinois, and doctoral degree from the University of Notre Dame.

FAMILY: Wife, Patricia, four sons and eight grandchildren

HOBBIES: Taking pictures of bridges, refinishing furniture

LAST MOVIE WATCHED: Something about Pooh with two of my grandchildren

FAVORITE SPORTS TEAMS: Rocket football and basketball teams

WHO WOULD YOU WANT TO TRADE PLACES WITH FOR A DAY? Dan Johnson, but it would take more than a day

FAVORITE QUOTE: "The purpose of 'Modern Art' is to destroy man's faith in his cultural heritage." — Wheeler Williams

FIRST JOB: Picking beans on Brock's farm off Secor Road north of Trilby

FAVORITE DESSERT: Chocolate

WHERE DID YOU GO ON YOUR LAST VACATION? On our last mini-vacation we went to Raleigh to visit our youngest son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren. Our last major vacation was to New Orleans.

WHAT DO YOU DO TO RELAX? Read, do yard work, taste wine, ride a bike

SOMETHING PEOPLE WOULD BE SURPRISED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU: I once lived in a log cabin with no running water or electricity.



Photo by Daniel Miller

SAY GOODBYE: Jan Vezner, retired graphic designer, right, stopped by a March 30 retirement party for Barbara Burmeister, who worked at the University for more than two decades. Burmeister was a secretary for the chemical engineering department, the former Eitel Institute, and most recently for the Urban Affairs Center. She plans to spend more time with her three granddaughters and her three dogs. "I will miss the wonderful people that I have worked with," Burmeister said. "UT is a wonderful place to work and affords a great opportunity for lifelong learning."

'Grand' grads set to walk together during commencement

By Deanna Woolf

It all goes back to Marie Johnson-Ham. "She said, 'I've got a master's, your kids have degrees — when are you going to get one?'" recalled husband James Ham, custodial supervisor in the Student Union. His wife, an academic adviser with University College, wanted him to do something for himself and advance his career.

"I'm too old," Ham said he told her. But in 2000, he enrolled in the individualized study program for a bachelor's degree in business management and communications.

Then there was granddaughter Char-lana Brown. "I had always wanted to work with juveniles in counseling," she said.

Once she graduated from high school, Johnson-Ham made sure her granddaughter wasted no time in getting to college. Brown enrolled at UT in summer 2002 for a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, and her grandmother served as an "unofficial" adviser for classes.

"If you and I soar like eagles," Ham said to his granddaughter, "she's the wind beneath our wings."

"She's our backbone," Brown agreed. Marie, this one's for you — Brown and Ham are graduating Saturday, May 6.

Ham said he took extra classes to be able to walk with his granddaughter in May — even though he officially graduates during the summer. "It was our goal. We sat down and talked about it. I said I'm going to do this," Ham said.

It's the latest way grandfather and granddaughter have supported each other through their education. For example, Brown provided fashion consultation for this nontraditional student. "She's my dress coordinator," Ham explained with a laugh. "She tells me, 'You can't wear this. It looks



Ham and Brown

Photo by Daniel Miller

too old.' Or 'You can't wear this. It looks too young.'"

Brown also kept him awake during a biology class they took together. "The class was at 7:30 in the morning, and he'd just get off work at 7," she said. Ham didn't deny his snoring through the sessions. "She'd tell me, 'Wake up!'" he recalled.

"He was my backup," Brown added. "When I missed the class, he would share notes and tell me what went on. He went to

every class" despite working long hours.

After graduation, Ham said he plans to continue working at UT and will take at least one year off of school to see what he wants to do.

Brown wants to find a job working with juveniles. "I plan to move out of the state," she said.

But for now, they'll be together, celebrating their accomplishments, along with Marie.

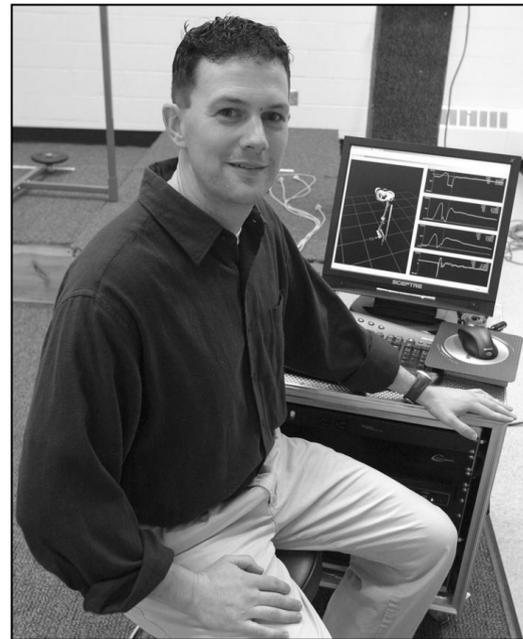
In memoriam

Wilbur F. Wistinghausen, Oak Harbor, Ohio, died April 8 at age 91. A central member of the group that created UT's Stranahan Arboretum, he used his background as a farmer and floriculturist to help choose the specimen trees and lay out the design of the 47-acre site. Renowned as a personable raconteur, he worked as the arboretum's foreman from 1965 to 1980, during which time he also designed and built a waterwheel, popular with local news photographers, between the site's two ponds.

Sprained ankle, stiff knee — UT researcher finds link between injury, leg adaptations

By Deanna Woolf

Once your leg has been outfitted with sensors, you are given a simple task — jump up, tap the



Gribble

Photo by Daniel Miller

target above you, and land on one foot. In the seconds it takes you to complete the movements, your body can exhibit telltale

signs of a previous injury.

Dr. Phillip Gribble found when subjects performed the task, those with chronic ankle instability (CAI) due to a previous ankle sprain landed with a stiffer knee and took longer to steady themselves. "What it's telling us is people with ankle instability have lost the ability to provide support for their entire leg," he said.

It provides some evidence for comments Gribble, UT assistant professor of kinesiology, has read in clinical reports. After a sprain, "people will often report a feeling of uneasiness, such that they're reluctant to do an activity. It slows them down. They report the ankle gives way. They'll be walking on the street, and the ankle will just roll.

It won't necessarily sprain again — it just makes them feel unsteady," he said.

Gribble presented the results of his

study, funded by a grant from the UT deArce Memorial Endowment Fund in Support of Medical Research and Development, last month at the Great Lakes Athletic Trainers Association Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium in Wisconsin.

"Statistics show the best predictor for an ankle sprain is that you already had an ankle sprain," Gribble explained. "The reason for that is after the first sprain, you have what is called 'mechanical instability.' That's where your ligaments and joint capsules have been damaged, and they don't provide the mechanical support to the ankle anymore."

He continued, "But then there's also functional instability, and that's related more to the neuromuscular control for how the brain controls the muscles around the joint." That's where his study results come in. Gribble said landing with a stiffer knee indicates some kind of adaptation — the brain is reorganizing how the leg lands through manipulating muscles and joints.

"I don't think it's a positive adaptation [i.e. protecting the leg from additional injuries] because I don't see a positive outcome for using a stiffer knee. It's also potentially putting other joints at risk for injury," he said. "Subjects with CAI had less than two degrees of flexion in their knees, and the uninjured subjects had an average of nine degrees. While it is only seven degrees' difference, with an injury, that can be very significant."

Gribble and his lab group are performing further analyses on the data to see how the subjects' legs prepare to land. "As children, we learn how to land without hurting ourselves. What we can hopefully learn, looking at this time period before they land, is will subjects with CAI have an altered landing pattern," which will, in fact, make them more likely to hurt themselves, he said.

Based on initial data, Gribble has planned several follow-up studies, including one about the influence of ankle braces on knee flexion.

The hope is to provide therapists with better information to rehabilitate patients after ankle sprains. "The traditional route is exercises for the ankle. Perhaps what clinicians need to focus on is rehabilitation for the ankle and other joints in the same leg, including the knee," Gribble explained. "We, as researchers, are trying to answer questions for the clinicians."

Gribble will hit the road in June to accept the 2005 Journal of Athletic Training Kenneth L. Knight Award for the Outstanding Research Manuscript at the National Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium in Atlanta. He and graduate student Naoka Aminaka won for their article "A Systematic Review of the Effects of Therapeutic Taping on Patellofemoral Pain Syndrome."

UT student's research aims at precise exercises to combat hypertension, diabetes

By Jon Strunk

While experts recommend 30 minutes of exercise per day for health benefits, a doctoral student at The University of Toledo is researching ways to tailor exercise programs to help prevent and/or reverse the cardiovascular risks of people with vascular diseases such as high blood pressure and diabetes.

Joaquin Gonzales, who is pursuing a doctorate in exercise science, received a \$46,000 fellowship from the National Institutes of Health to research the effect of different exercises on the endothelial cell layer — the inner wall that lines arteries and veins.

"By investigating the effects of different blood flow patterns on endothelial cell activation, we hope to develop an exercise program that specifically improves the

health of blood vessels," Gonzales said. "We want to be able to give people more specific direction than the present general physical activity recommendation."

The research is similar to that of exercise training in general, Gonzales said. Muscles tear after a workout and rebuild stronger. The key, he said, is trying to determine if the repetition of precise exercises will help train vascular layers in an analogous way.

Gonzales' research involves measuring blood flow with Doppler ultrasound during varying rates of muscle activity. The blood flow pattern produced during exercise will be associated with measured changes in the stimulation of the blood vessel wall. The health of the blood vessel wall is determined by measuring its ability

to dilate with increased blood flow or with the administration of a vasodilatory drug.

"The research that Joaquin is working on will make significant contributions to our understanding of the role that physical activity plays in maintaining endothelial cell function in health and disease," said Dr. Barry Scheuermann, UT assistant professor of kinesiology, who is working with Gonzales on his research.

Gonzales transferred from Texas Tech University to continue working in cardiovascular research with Scheuermann, who joined the faculty at UT in fall 2003. All studies will be performed in the Cardiopulmonary and Metabolism Research Laboratory in the UT kinesiology department.



Joaquin Gonzales, left, puts weight on subject Steve Tucker prior to a test session.

Photo by Daniel Miller

Senior Design Expo to showcase engineering students' projects

By Vicki L. Kroll

A hands-free industrial log splitter. An all-terrain wheelchair for use in Oak Openings Metropark. A Web program that allows hospital patients to communicate with distant family members. A sump pump failure alert system. These are a few of the 41 projects that will be featured in the College of Engineering's Senior Design Exposition.

The expo will take place Friday, April 28, from noon to 2:30 p.m. on the first floor of Nitschke Hall.

"The projects speak for themselves,"

"Dr. Hefzy touches the lives of so many undergraduate students. He really exposes them to research through these projects," Smallman said.

And he helps those in need in the process. Providing assistance to people with disabilities is something Hefzy has wanted to do since his college days.

"I had a friend in Cincinnati who was in a wheelchair because of an accident that he had a long time ago back in Egypt. That individual was a survivor. We both were graduate students living in the same dorm at the Uni-



TRAILBLAZERS: UT senior Jeff Reinhart tests an all-terrain wheelchair he helped design as Dr. Mohamed Samir Hefzy assesses the project.

Photo by Daniel Miller

said Dr. Mohamed Samir Hefzy, UT professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering (MIME) and associate dean for graduate studies in the College of Engineering. "We have been continuously funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) since 1993."

The Senior Design Clinic was founded by Christine Smallman, director of college relations and facilities management in the College of Engineering.

"The exposition used to be just MIME, but when [Dr.] Nagi [Naganathan] went from chair of the department to college dean and I went with him, we approached Dr. Hefzy about opening it up to the whole college," Smallman said. "Now all the departments join MIME for the exposition."

As of 2005, 338 engineering students have designed 81 projects. Senior MIME students are required to take a capstone course; in one semester, they must design, construct and test a device to meet a client's specifications.

iversity of Cincinnati," Hefzy recalled. "One week after he defended his Ph.D., he had a stroke. He's not able to talk or do anything. That is why individuals with disabilities have a special place in my heart, because of that young man who was a close friend of mine."

So when Hefzy learned the NSF had a program to fund engineering students to work on constructing prototypes to aid persons with disabilities, he teamed up with a physician from the Medical College of Ohio (now Medical University of Ohio) rehabilitation department and applied for a grant in 1992.

"It's a very competitive grant," Hefzy said. "Only 21 universities in the country were funded. We have been continuously funded since then."

He explained the NSF grant has three goals.

"The first is to provide undergraduate engineering students with an opportunity to design and construct a project that has a real need by people with disabilities," Hefzy said.

"The second goal is to help people with

disabilities to get access to some gizmo-type thing that otherwise they would not have. It must have a unique feature; it must be something you can't go and buy at a store.

"The third goal is to provide universities with an opportunity to get involved in the community," he said.

Initially, the UT Senior Design Clinic received requests for projects from MUO and later from Metro Health Systems in Cleveland, the Ability Center of Greater Toledo, St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center and the UT Office of Accessibility.

Each project receives \$750 from NSF. Then Smallman finds additional funds and equipment through donations.

"We don't stop at anything. We will do whatever it takes to help with these projects," Smallman said. "And the reasons are obvious. These projects make such a difference in people's lives. They are getting back some freedom."

Take Bill Abrams of Toledo, for example. He was paralyzed after falling out of a tree while hunting. "It bothered Bill that he couldn't mow his lawn. He loved mowing his lawn," Smallman said. "We had a group of students re-engineer his riding lawn mower so he could mow his lawn. He was so touched that he could take this one task away from his wife."

In addition to helping with tasks, the UT Senior Design Clinic assists with recreation.

"I think we have developed an expertise with racing wheelchairs," Hefzy said. "When you talk about people with disabilities, usually you just talk about basic needs. To me basic needs are everything a normal person does, including sports and exercise."

This year seniors Jeff Reinhart, Hicham Elias and Sami Al Salahat designed and built a second all-terrain wheelchair to be used at Oak Openings Metropark.

"Oak Openings has sand dunes that the wheelchair will help tame," Reinhart said. "We also worked out some kinks from the original. There were some issues with wrists and arms rubbing on the tires as it was being used, so we added spacing to the hand rings and arm rests."

The students also included a second brake to the wheelchair and created a sliding mechanism for the seat assembly to foster a safer transfer into the chair.

"This course has taught me to give consideration to the human aspect of design," Reinhart said. "It's one thing to design a project to work well and be safe, but it's quite another to make it useable for a wide range of people."

Engineering prof receives award for outreach efforts

By Vicki L. Kroll

Dr. Mohamed Samir Hefzy has received the 2006 Edith Rathbun Outreach and Engagement Excellence Award for his work with the Senior Design Clinic in the College of Engineering.



Hefzy

Hefzy, UT professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering and associate dean for graduate studies in the College of Engineering, is co-director of the clinic, which has received continuous funding from the National Science Foundation since 1993. He joined the University in 1987.

"As part of their training and education, senior mechanical engineering students are required to complete a capstone design course," wrote one nominator. "During this one-semester course, students design, construct and test an original or custom-modified device to meet objectives specified by a customer."

"The goal of these projects is to assist individuals with disabilities enjoy life and to reach toward their maximum potential."

Hefzy and the students receive ideas for projects from the Medical University of Ohio, the Ability Center of Greater Toledo, St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center, UT Office of Accessibility and Metro Health Center of Cleveland. They have completed 81 projects.

"If it wasn't for Dr. Hefzy, hundreds of people couldn't get into their own home, or race on a wheelchair track or field teams, get a drink of water, get into a pool at UT, ride an adapted bike in the park, or play in an adapted playground," wrote one nominator.

Hefzy received \$750 and a plaque Friday night at the academic awards dinner.

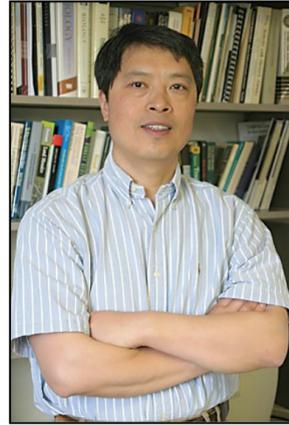
Outstanding University of Toledo advisers, researchers, teachers recognized



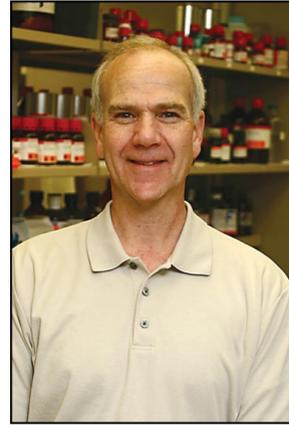
Komuniecki



Sobczak



Chen



Erhardt



Goel



McInerney



Barden



Cuckovic



Pescara-Kovach

By Vicki L. Kroll

Outstanding advisers, researchers and teachers were honored Friday night.

Each 2006 award winner received a certificate and \$1,500.

Recipients of the Outstanding Adviser Awards were:

Dr. Patricia Komuniecki, professor and chair of biological sciences. She has been advising, teaching and conducting research with undergraduates since her appointment in 1985. She also has been the director of the UT-University of Salford (England) Exchange Program since 1991.

"Dr. Komuniecki has encouraged me to improve myself both academically and personally. She challenges her students to aspire to their maximum potential and keeps close communication with them throughout their time at The University of Toledo," wrote one nominator. "She is responsive, caring and supportive when her students are in need." Another wrote, "Coming from high school, I was not heavily recruited academically, but Dr. Komuniecki never doubted my dreams or the abilities to achieve them. Equally important, Dr. Komuniecki has always been realistic."

"I love working with undergraduate students and try to take a personal interest in biology majors from recruitment to graduation and beyond," Komuniecki said. "I believe my role as an adviser is to help students navigate their way during their

undergraduate years through the maze of course selection, degree audit, co-curricular activities and make sure that they are on track for graduation."

Deborah J. Sobczak, coordinator of advising and student affairs in the College of Pharmacy. She joined the University in 1995 and is a member of the National Academic Advising Association and a past president of UT's Intercollegiate Committee on Advising.

"Deb successfully coordinates the college preprofessional advising program, serving more than 600 preprofessional students. Our students flock to Deb whenever they need advice," wrote one nominator. "As a tribute to Deb's standing among students, she was honored in 2002 with the Kappa Psi Faculty of the Year Award for 'outstanding commitment, involvement and advancement of the students in the College of Pharmacy.' This was the first time this award has been presented to an individual who is not a faculty member."

"I think all academic advisers need to be a combination of student handbook, university catalog, schedule book of courses, college program of study checklist and 'chicken soup' book," Sobczak said. "The sheer number of preprofessional students always presents me with a challenge to make sure each one feels unique, special and part of the pharmacy 'family.' I work diligently to learn students' names and make an effort to attend student events and meetings."

Receiving Outstanding Researcher Awards were:

Dr. Jiquan Chen, professor of earth, ecological and environmental sciences. He joined the UT faculty in 2001 and received the Sigma Xi/Dion D. Raftopoulos Award for Outstanding Research in 2004 for his work on landscape ecology and ecosystem science.

"Dr. Chen is emerging as an international leader in ecology," wrote a nominator. "He is doing some exciting research on global climate changes that has gained positive attention for the department and the University in the local media and, more importantly, raised the profile of the University and our programs both nationally and internationally among peer scientists."

While at UT, Chen has published 64 articles and three books. "Dr. Chen's publications have been consistently influential in his field. All together, his papers have been cited over 1,000 times," a nominator wrote. Since 2001, he has received some \$3 million in grants from the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, the state of Missouri, the Department of Energy, the Joint Fire Science Program and others. Recent work includes creating a mobile cart to compete for funding from the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON).

Dr. Paul Erhardt, director of the Center for Drug Design and Development and professor of medicinal and biological

chemistry. He came to UT in 1994 known for the groundbreaking development of esmolol, a drug used to quickly and safely lower blood pressure and cardiac stress in the emergency room.

"His research [at UT] has been directed to drug discovery with emphasis on cancer diagnosis, prevention and treatment. He also has initiated projects on synthetic methodology related to drug production," wrote one nominator. "He is recognized in the pharmaceutical industry for the development of a continuing education course in drug absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion."

Erhardt's work has been funded by the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Research Foundation, the U.S. Army and Pfizer Inc., and has resulted in nine patents and patent applications. "Dr. Erhardt has been on a positive roll with his financial support continually climbing until it is now sitting at just over \$1 million annually," a nominator noted. "His article 'Medicinal Chemistry in the New Millennium' is widely read, reprinted, and has increased the visibility of The University of Toledo in the chemical community." Erhardt has received the College of Pharmacy's Outstanding Faculty Member Award and Outstanding Researcher Award.

Dr. Vijay Goel, professor and chair of bioengineering. He came to UT in 2000. He holds five patents; his specialty is in orthopedic and dental biomechanics, especially spine biomechanics.

"Over the years, Dr. Goel has consistently received grant funding for his research efforts from various funding agencies, including Ohio's Third Frontier in Biosciences and Industry. During the last five years, he has received in excess of \$1.3 million as principal investigator and a co-investigator," wrote one nominator. "Since January 2000, he has published 56 peer-reviewed manuscripts, several book chapters and more than 130 abstracts."

In 2001, Goel teamed up with UT engineering faculty and colleagues in the Medical University of Ohio's orthopedic surgery department to create the Spine Research Center. "Dr. Goel has an international reputation for the training of the engineering work force in the area of bioengineering and orthopedics. He has been involved in the establishment of several companies leading to growth of the industry, and is internationally renowned for his work on spinal implants." In 2003, he received the H.R. Lissner Award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for his work on spinal implants.

Dr. Marcia McInerney, professor and chair of medicinal and biological chemistry. Since 1991, she has been at UT and served as an adjunct faculty member at the Medical University of Ohio. Her research focuses on Type 1 autoimmune diabetes. As a member of MUO's new Center for Diabetes and Endocrine Research, McInerney also is studying how a high-fat diet contributes to the development of Type 2 diabetes in mice.

"Dr. McInerney's major contributions at the University have been as a teacher and scholar. Her research has focused on a singularly clear idea about the way pancreatic cells are destroyed in juvenile diabetes," wrote one nominator. "She has been able to produce seminal work on this problem because of the clear questions she has asked on how this occurs. In a relatively short period of time, she has developed a major reputation in her field of study."

As principal investigator, she has received \$1.3 million in grants since 1993 and published her work on diabetes in 11 immunology journals. McInerney received a Career Development Award from the American Diabetes Association in 1993-1996, was named a Senior Iacocca Fellow for her work at the Joslin Diabetes Center/Harvard Medical School in 1998-99, and received a 2005 Outstanding Women Award from the University Women's Commission.

Honored as Outstanding Teachers were:

Dr. Tom Barden, director of the Honors Program and professor of English. He began teaching at the University in 1976 and was named director of the Honors Program in February.

"Not only does he always lend support to his students, he also supports the community of local publishers, poets, writers, artists and musicians in their various readings and events," wrote one nominator. "He has worked with students at Libbey High School, formerly gave

generously of his time as a board member of a local charter school for the severely behaviorally handicapped, and repeatedly opened his door for any number of current as well as former students by always encouraging them to 'follow their bliss.'"

"I have a lot of faith in the things I study and teach — the novels and poems, the folktales and songs, and all of the other cultural materials an English professor gets to put on a syllabus. I love this stuff and I can't imagine a better way to spend my time than studying it," Barden said. "My goal in the classroom is to guide my students through it and to get across some of my enthusiasm for it along the way."

Dr. Zeljko Cuckovic, professor of mathematics. He has been at UT since 1994.

"He has a dynamic personality, is extremely interested in student comprehension and success, and teaches in a very logical, clear and concise manner," wrote one nominator. Another wrote, "In Dr. Cuckovic's class, a C is equal to an A in any other class. It might seem kind of harsh, but think about that the next time you drive over a bridge or go to the fifth floor. Who would you want to crunch the numbers for those structures? I'm sure you would want an engineer who developed his/her sharp math skills under the direction of Dr. Cuckovic."

"A thorough knowledge of the subject area is very important. I have taught a wide-range of classes, from college algebra to Ph.D. courses. No matter what level I teach, I always want to be well-prepared, but also

leave room for improvisation," Cuckovic said. "Learning is an active process, and I encourage student participation and promote creativity as much as possible. I am a demanding professor but always try to be fair and help students as much as possible."

Dr. Lisa Pescara-Kovach, assistant professor of foundations of education. She began teaching at UT in 1999.

"She is down to earth, makes topics easy to relate to, and is an all-around wonderful teacher here at the University," wrote one nominator. Another noted, "She is so involved with her students and is always looking out for them. Her class feels like home. She's fun, funny, serious, enthusiastic, interested, interesting and so much more. She loves her job, her students and children. She is a born teacher!"

"I feel that teaching is one of the most important aspects of my life. My goal as an instructor is not only to teach the curriculum, but to create an environment in which students feel free to share their views on, and ask questions about, 'the subject matter,'" Pescara-Kovach said. "Most importantly, in the courses on human development, I want the student to leave with a respect for others' differences and knowledge in the fact that our life experiences, from infancy to adulthood, 'play a great role in who we become.' I model tolerance and acceptance in the classroom in hope that my students will live these values as well."

Noted religious philosopher to lecture at UT May 1

By Deanna Woolf

Dr. Richard Swinburne, Emeritus Noll Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion at the University of Oxford, will speak on “What Makes Me? A Defense of Substance Dualism” Monday, May 1, at The University of Toledo.

Swinburne, also emeritus fellow of Oriel College in Oxford and fellow of the British Academy, will present at noon in Student Union Room 2591.

A prolific author, Swinburne has writ-

ten 15 books — including the trilogy *The Coherence of Theism* (1977), *The Existence of God* (1979) and *Faith and Reason* (1981) — and more than 100 articles on the philosophy of religion. His most popular non-technical work is *Is There a God?* (1996), in which he summarizes his arguments for the existence of God.

For more information on the free, public event, contact the UT philosophy department at Ext. 6190.



Photo by Terry Fell

JAM SESSION: Saxophonist Joe Lovano worked with UT students during a recent master class. The jazz star was on campus for a concert with his band, the Joe Lovano Group. The Grammy Award winner played songs from *Joyous Encounter* (2005) during the show. Lovano was voted the 2005 Down Beat Critics and Readers Polls' Tenor Saxophonist of the Year.

Mummies for Dummies: Scholar to lecture on the burial practice April 26

By Deanna Woolf

If you are mum when it comes to mummies, expand your knowledge about the ancient practice and attend a lecture by an expert Egyptologist.

Dr. Salima Ikram, assistant professor of Egyptology at the American University in Cairo, will give an illustrated lecture on “Ancient Egyptian Mummies: Making the Dead Live” on Wednesday, April 26.

The free, public lecture will be held in the Law Center Auditorium at 6 p.m. It is sponsored by the Toledo Society, the local chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America.

Ikram, an internationally known expert on ancient Egyptian mummies, has appeared in television documentaries aired on the History and Discovery channels.

During the lecture, Ikram will share pictures while explaining how mummies were made, the religious beliefs surrounding them, modern methods of studying them, and the role mummies have played in popular culture.

For more information, contact Dr. James Harrell, UT professor of archaeological geology and trustee of the Toledo Society, at Ext. 2193.

Art on the Mall applications due April 28

By Deanna Woolf

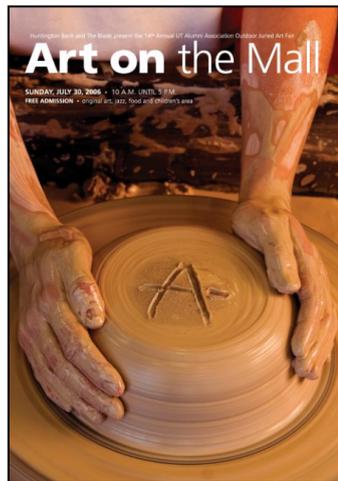
For the 14th year, the UT Alumni Association will host Art on the Mall, and artists have until Friday, April 28, to postmark their applications for the show.

Art on the Mall will be held Sunday, July 30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in UT's Centennial Mall.

Applications, which are available at www.alumni.utoledo.edu/pdfs/aomapp06.pdf, must be accompanied by a \$15 jury fee and four 35mm slides that reflect the work that will be sold.

UT alumni, employees and former students will be eligible for all awards, including the \$500 best of show honor. The art fair also will showcase work of up to 25 nonaffiliated artists.

For more information on the show, contact the UT Alumni Association at Ext. 2586.



Sisters graduate

continued from p. 1

be communication. “My co-workers teased me about how much I talk. They called me Ms. PR,” she said.

Coleman gradually learned to balance her job, family and education. “It was pretty tough at first — working full time and having night classes. I’m happy I did because it inspired my son to take [college] classes, as well. It’s an encouragement for him,” she said.

Her sister didn’t need Coleman’s encouragement to go back to school. “It’s always been a personal goal of mine,” said Hudson, who had taken nursing classes until she started a family.

A manager at Northwest Ohio Developmental Center, Hudson works with developmentally disabled adults. Social work was a natural choice for a major at UT — her job experiences and her nursing classes would count toward her degree.

In fall 2003, Hudson enrolled. She’d go to work, take one class, return to work, and leave for UT again. “It was hectic,” she said of her schedule. “I was determined this time when I went back, I wasn’t leaving ’til I was done. I just did what I had to do.” This semester, she even worked full time, had an internship and took 15 credit hours of classes. “Some days, I wonder, ‘Where do I have to go now?’” she said with a laugh.

But like her sister, Hudson’s dedication seems to be making a strong impression on her children. “My children are on the honor rolls. Their grades never faltered,” she said with pride.

Now that graduation is days away, “I still don’t really think it’s hit me yet,” said



Photo by Daniel Miller

Hudson, left, and Coleman

Hudson. “Maybe it’s going to be the day we actually have our cap and gown.”

And on that day, Hudson, Coleman and their families will gather to celebrate the sisters’ achievements. But it won’t be a farewell to higher education. Hudson will begin a master of liberal studies degree program at UT in the fall, and Coleman has applied to the Graduate School for the counseling program.

Both are passionate about encouraging other adults to go back to school. “Sit down with an adviser and plan out your whole program. It’s not as difficult as people make it,” Coleman said.

Hudson takes a bit more humble approach. “If I can do it, anyone can do it,” she said. “If it’s something you really want, you can do it.”

National City gives \$200,000 for entrepreneurship lab

By Jon Strunk

National City recently donated \$200,000 to help create an entrepreneurship action-learning lab in the new Complex for Business Learning and Engagement, which will be in the addition to Stranahan Hall.

Part of the gift will go to create an endowed fund that will support initiatives specific to the National City Bank Entrepreneurial Lab.

The donation exemplifies the University’s continued successful efforts to collaborate with the Toledo business community.

“We have been impressed with [college] Dean [Dr. Thomas] Gutteridge’s commitment to working with the business community,” said Brian H. Bucher, president and CEO of National City Bank’s northwest region. “For our region to be successful, we must all work together — the business community, colleges and

universities, and economic development agencies — to enhance the economic growth of the region.”

The UT Center for Technological Entrepreneurship and Innovation — of which the National City Bank Entrepreneurial Lab will be a part — will encourage community-university partnerships to revitalize the regional economy and enhance economic competitiveness in northwest Ohio, Bucher said.

Gutteridge said, “National City’s gift will give future University of Toledo graduates and entrepreneurs the hands-on experience needed to excel in tomorrow’s ever-changing world of business.”

The new business addition identified by UT’s Facility Master Plan is expected to cost about \$13.2 million and will house high-tech classrooms, computer labs and breakout rooms. Officials expect the complex will be ready to open its doors in 2009.

Artwork by honors students showcased in Sullivan Hall

By Deanna Woolf

Visitors to the UT Honors Program in Sullivan Hall will be able to view an art exhibit.

Works from honors students in the art department are on display in the Honors Program reception area.

Dr. Tom Barden, director of the UT Honors Program, plans to rotate the work of students as they complete their final senior showings at the Center for the Visual Arts.

“Some of our best Honors Program students are art students,” he said. “They do a show in their own department. Usually, they take them down and that’s that. This way, we have a nice space for them to show their work on the Bancroft campus.”

Each work is identified with the artist, title and medium. Barden hopes people who stop by “especially direct-from-high-school students, will see we value our artists.”

Diana Attie, professor of art, assisted in coordinating the exhibit; she and her students hung the works.



Photo by Daniel Miller

“Ramon,” graphite, by Andrew Mauer

The art is on display Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information on the free, public exhibit, contact the Honors Program at Ext. 6030.



Photo by Daniel Miller

FULL POWER: UT senior Meera Vallabh accelerates in the bungee run, which was part of the College of Pharmacy’s Field Day near the Law Center on Friday.

Students’ paper refunds end, direct deposits begin

The Bursar’s Office will no longer issue paper refund checks beginning July 1. Students are urged to enroll in direct deposit of funds now to avoid delays for fall semester.

Students can have their refunds deposited in any account they own solely or jointly. Direct deposit enrollment forms are available in college offices and in Rocket Hall offices — Bursar, Registrar and Financial Aid — and on the Web at <http://bursaroffice.utoledo.edu/Forms/direct%20deposit%20form.pdf>.

For more information, contact the Bursar’s Office at Ext. 5751 or visit its Web site at <http://bursaroffice.utoledo.edu>.

Boston Marathon

continued from p. 1

April 16, 2006, marathon. He caught a cheap flight to Boston the night before and woke up early the morning of the race to be bused 26 miles to the starting line.

The scene at the starting area was fairly relaxed. “Everyone was laying on blankets, eating bagels and PowerBars,” Briercheck described.

But when the race began at noon, things were more intense. “There is a lot of downhill in the course. You’d think it would be easy. But it’s hammering on your legs. Then, all of a sudden, at mile 16, it’s uphill. The last five miles, I was feeling it pretty bad,” Briercheck said.

The scenery made the physical pain bearable. “There were little kids along the course handing you oranges and water. The kids got all excited if you took their water,” he said. “You go by Boston College. It was just crazy — people standing out there, yelling and cheering as you went by.”

Briercheck said of his time, “It was



Briercheck

pretty good. I ran it in three [hours] and nine [minutes], which was longer than I wanted to run. It got me re-qualified. I’m thinking about running it again. We’ll see. I’m going to med school next year.”

In addition to conquering the course of runners’ dreams, Briercheck lived out the couch potato’s fantasy. “I’ve pretty much been eating continuously since I’ve been done,” he said a day after the race. “I ate a lot of pizza, a lot of junk. I’m moving around pretty slow today.”

Fiscal 2006 year-end deadlines announced

With the end of the 2006 fiscal year approaching, your attention is requested to the year-end processing deadlines listed below. These deadlines for various financial activities are necessary to facilitate an effective and efficient year-end accounting close and to allow for proper preparation of the University's financial reports.

Purchases requiring purchase orders — encumbrances

When purchases are requisitioned in fiscal year 2006, items are ordered and funds are encumbered. This means that the money used to pay for such items will come from the current year's budget regardless of when the goods are delivered or when the invoice is paid.

If funds are not available, the item should not be ordered until fiscal year 2007 (after June 30) causing the funding to come from the new year's budget. The key to when the funds are encumbered is the date the commitment to buy is made.

The deadlines for submitting online requisitions to Purchasing in order to guarantee that they will be processed in fiscal year 2006 and charged to the current year's budget are as follows:

Purchases more than \$50,000 requiring advertised bids	May 12
Purchases more than \$10,000 requiring competitive bids (not advertised)	May 26
Purchases less than \$10,000 not requiring bids	June 16

Purchases not requiring purchase orders

Some items may be ordered directly on the Fast Order/Requisition without the need for a purchase order. In such cases, an invoice is attached to the Fast Order/Requisition and forwarded to Accounts Payable. If the goods or services are received prior to July 1, the expense will be charged in the current fiscal year. Invoices should be received in Accounts Payable by July 7. If the goods or services are received on or after July 1, the expense will be charged in the following fiscal year.

The deadlines for submitting fiscal year 2006 orders to the following vendors are:

OfficeMax	June 16
Laser Chargers	June 16
Midwest Paper Specialties	June 16

The June 2006 purchasing card packet is due to Accounts Payable by July 14.

Travel/individual reimbursements

Reimbursement for travel, which was completed by June 30, will be recorded as fiscal year 2006 expenditures. In order to ensure that the travel expenditure is recorded in fiscal year 2006, reimbursement requests should be in Accounts Payable by July 8.

Budget transfers

The deadline for permanent budget transfers is April 28.

Permanent budget transfers submitted to either the Budget and Planning Office or General Accounting by April 28 will be posted on FRS for month ended May 31 and will be reflected in the fiscal year 2006 base budget. Any permanent budget transfers initiated between April 30 and June 30, inclusive, will be processed as one-time adjustments to the budget.

Requests for one-time budget transfers are to be submitted by June 30 to either the Budget and Planning Office or General Accounting.

Your cooperation in meeting these deadlines is appreciated. If there are any questions or special circumstances that must be considered, call Nancy Ruiz at Ext. 8707 regarding purchasing topics, Tom Page at Ext. 1377 regarding accounting issues, and Ken Long at Ext. 8769 regarding budget issues.

CALENDAR

continued from p. 12

Saturday, May 6 Commencement

Speakers: Judith Daso Herb, educator and businesswoman, will speak at 10 a.m. for the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education, Engineering and University College; Dr. Roderick J. McDavis, president of Ohio University, will deliver the address at 2 p.m. for the colleges of Business Administration, Health and Human Services, and Pharmacy, Savage Hall. Info: 419.530.2675.

Planetarium Program

"Don't Duck, Look Up!" Join Dudley the duck and his barnyard friends for this introduction to the sky, Ritter Planetarium. 1 p.m. \$4 for adults; \$3 for seniors and children ages 4-12; free for children 3 and younger. Info: 419.530.4037.

Sunday, May 7 Law Commencement

Speaker: Judith Ann Lanzinger, Ohio Supreme Court justice. Student Union Auditorium. 1 p.m. Info: 419.530.2712.

Tuesday, May 9 Faculty Grades Due by 10 p.m.

UT Board of Trustees Committee Meetings
Driscoll Alumni Center: 8 a.m. Info: 419.530.2814.

Watershed and Stream Restoration Workshop

Three-day workshop continues May 10-11. Sponsors: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; UT earth, ecological and environmental sciences department; and UT Legal Institute of the Great Lakes. Free, public. Details and RSVP: Michelle.A.Wozniak@usace.army.mil.

UT Employee Computer Class

"Word II" Class concludes May 10, University Computer Center Room 1600, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free for UT employees. Register: 419.530.1460.

Wednesday, May 10 Project Succeed Orientation

Program for women in transition following a change in marital status. Center for Women, Tucker Hall Room 168. Noon. Free, public. Info: 419.530.8570.

Rec-Fit Fitness Class Registration Deadline

Details at www.utreccenter.com. Info: 419.530.3706.

Friday, May 12 Second Summer Deregistration 100 Percent

Future Semester Deregistration 100 Percent

Deadline for Submitting Online Requisitions to Purchasing for Fiscal-Year 2006 for Purchases of More Than \$50,000 Requiring Advertised Bids

Baseball

UT vs. Eastern Michigan, Scott Park. 3 p.m. \$3; \$1 for UT employees and children 17 and younger; free for UT students. Info: 419.530.2239.

"Street Smart Astronomy"

Learn how to navigate using the nighttime sky. Ritter Planetarium, 8:30 p.m. Observing at Brooks Observatory follows program, weather permitting. \$4 for adults; \$3 for seniors and children ages 4-12; free for children 3 and younger. Info: 419.530.4037.

Saturday, May 13 University Women's Commission Shopping Trip

Take a bus to Polaris Mall in Columbus. Leave at 7:30 a.m., return at 9:30 p.m. \$25. Register: 419.530.8014.

Baseball

UT vs. Eastern Michigan, Scott Park. 1 p.m. \$3; \$1 for UT employees and children 17 and younger; free for UT students. Info: 419.530.2239.

Planetarium Program

"Don't Duck, Look Up!" Join Dudley the duck and his barnyard friends for this introduction to the sky, Ritter Planetarium. 1 p.m. \$4 for adults; \$3 for seniors and children ages 4-12; free for children 3 and younger. Info: 419.530.4037.

Sunday, May 14

100 Percent Refund Ends for Summer Sessions I, IV and Law

Residence Halls Open

Baseball

UT vs. Eastern Michigan, Scott Park. 1 p.m. \$3; \$1 for UT employees and children 17 and younger; free for UT students. Info: 419.530.2239.

Monday, May 15

Summer Sessions I, IV and Law Begin

Tuesday, May 16

Summer I 90 Percent Refund Ends

Latino Youth Summit

Volunteers needed to help more than 600 Latino youth who will be on campus for educational workshops. 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Info: 419.530.5826.

Baseball

UT vs. Dayton, Scott Park. 3 p.m. \$3; \$1 for UT employees and children 17 and younger; free for UT students. Info: 419.530.2239.

Art

Bachelor of Fine Arts Exhibition II

Works by UT art students Ani Avanian, Clifton Harvey and Timothy Stover are on display, Center for the Visual Arts Gallery. Through May 5, Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.8300.

"Exploring Texture"

Exhibition of mixed media and collage by Nathine Smith, Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women, Tucker Hall Room 168. Through May 12, Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.8570.

UTNEWS

UT News is published for faculty and staff by the Marketing and Communications Office biweekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newsstands on the Bancroft, Scott Park and Toledo Museum of Art campuses. UT News strives to present accurate, fair and timely communication of interest to employees. Story ideas and comments from the UT community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #949, Marketing and Communications Office, Vicki Kroll, E-mail: vickikroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: Marketing and Communications Office, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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Fraternity continues to build community outreach efforts

By Shannon Coon

In the past, members of UT's chapter of the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity have built an accessible tree house for children with disabilities in Texas and cycled from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., to raise money and awareness for people with disabilities.

Last month, 20 members of the fraternity continued their efforts to help people with disabilities by building a ramp for Leland Foster, a Swanton, Ohio, man with cerebral palsy.

The fraternity and Foster seemed destined to cross paths.

"Leland contacted me to see if I knew of anyone who could help with building a ramp for his new home," said Debbie Arbogast, coordinator of services for the UT Office of Accessibility. "A few weeks later Eric Goad of the fraternity contacted our office to see if we knew of a consumer in the community who needed a ramp constructed. This was perfect timing — I guess you could call it a blessing for Leland."

Charlie Martin, home accessibility manager with the Ability Center of Greater Toledo, supplied the ramp design. "He had the plans, we just provided the man power," Goad said.

The Office of Accessibility provided food and beverages to the fraternity volunteers throughout the day.

"It was a complete act of kindness and generosity on the fraternity's part: to work hard with a specific focus, giving their resources and talents to another with a specific need. That was admirable," Arbogast said. "The entire event was like watching 'Extreme Home Makeover' under Charlie Martin's direction and guidance."

The results were appreciated by the local resident.



Photo by Daniel Miller

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM FRIENDS: Pi Kappa Phi members Ben Warren, left, and Tim Swank help build a wheelchair ramp.

"The ramp gives me a chance to get out of my house instead of having to go through my garage," Foster said. "It allows me to get to the front porch because before I wasn't able to get to my front porch."

"[The ramp] took about eight hours to build," said Goad, chair of PUSH, the fraternity's national outreach project that raises money and provides services and education to raise awareness about disabilities.

"It was definitely something we enjoyed doing," Goad said. "We feel good about what we've done, and we will probably do it again this fall."

"I think it's really great what they did for me," Foster said. "Most disabled people don't have a high enough income to afford this on their own. They are giving people with disabilities an opportunity to live more independently."

UT student honored for service with Ping Award



PICNIC TIME: UT student Andrea Pallotta, left, posed for a photo with Karen Geiner, seated, a resident of Josina Lott Residential and Community Services; Jack Letcher, a volunteer from Sylvania Southview High School; and Nancy Spitulski, a staff member of Josina Lott Residential and Community Services.

By Deanna Woolf

Andrea Pallotta, a UT student majoring in pharmacy, has received the Charles J. Ping Award for The University of Toledo.

Pallotta was honored during the first Student Service-Learning Conference April 19. She also was among four Ping awardees statewide to receive a \$500 grant toward the community partner of her choice.

"Andrea has led the service-learning group in exemplary manner with her contagious enthusiasm and insightful leadership, motivating many freshmen and sophomores into the service-learning fold. I see a great advocate of social justice in Andrea," said Dr. Sudershan Pasupuleti, director of the UT Office of Service-Learning and Community Engagement. "She is an energetic role model for UT students engaging or aspiring to engage in service learning. I am extremely impressed with her altruistic personality."

The Ping Award, named for the 18th president of Ohio University, is presented to an undergraduate student with outstanding leadership contributions to community service or service learning on his or her campus and within the community. An award is given to one student from each Ohio Campus Compact member institution, with the winners competing for the four grants.

Pallotta is designating her grant for Josina Lott Residential and Community Services in Toledo, which provides services to individuals with mental retardation or developmental disabilities. "I'm a peer facilitator on the service-learning floor on the Crossings. That's our project this year," she said. Pallotta visits twice a month to help with activities. "We do games, dances, outdoor activities. They're a lot of fun. It's my relaxation. I really enjoy the residents," she said.

Pallotta also was a student coordinator for the 2006 UT Alternative Spring Break trip, a volunteer at the 2006 Stranahan Arboretum's Maple Sugaring Festival, and an event coordinator at the Darlington Nursing Home.

"I'm really humbled," she said about winning the Ping Award. "I don't do things to get the award. I do things because I want to. Being recognized is surreal because I'm volunteering to help others."

UT CALENDAR — APRIL 26-MAY 16

Wednesday, April 26

Law Exams Continue

Job Search Strategies for Liberal Arts Majors
Student Union Room 1532. 10-11 a.m. RSVP: 419.530.4341.

German Coffee Hour

"Kaffeestunde." Anyone interested in speaking German is welcome.
Student Union Room 3020. Noon-1:30 p.m. Free, public.
Info: 419.530.5506.

Student Alumni Association Exam Study Break

Members can stop by for a relaxing massage or a quick snack.
Student Union Room 2591. Noon-4 p.m. Info: 419.530.2586.

Mathematics Lecture

"Low Dimensional Lie Algebras." Speaker: Ian Anderson, mathematics department, Utah State University, Bowman-Oddy Laboratories Room 1049. 3 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2232, 419.530.2568.

Bahá'í Service

Multi-faith prayer and meditation. Student Union Room 1507.
4:30 p.m. Info: 419.464.8148.

Archaeological Lecture

"Ancient Egyptian Mummies: Making the Dead Live." Speaker: Dr. Salima Ikram, assistant professor of Egyptology, American University, Cairo, Egypt. Law Center Auditorium. 6 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2193.

"Building Healthy Relationships"

For campus community members who want to learn how to maintain healthy relationships with everyone. Parks Tower Multi-purpose Room. 6 p.m. Info: 419.530.4964.

University Bands Concert

Conducted by Dr. Jason Strumbo, UT assistant professor of music. Doermann Theater. 8 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2448.

Thursday, April 27

UT Employee Professional Development Class

"Workplace Violence Awareness." University Computer Center Room 1600. 9 a.m.-noon. Free for UT employees. Register: 419.530.1460.

Job Search Strategies for Liberal Arts Majors

Student Union Room 1532. 10-11 a.m. RSVP: 419.530.4341.

Men's MAC Tennis Tournament

UT Courts, weather permitting, or Laurel Hill Tennis Club, 2222 Cass Road. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Matches continue Friday and Saturday, April 29-30. Free, public. Info: 419.530.4925.

Pharmacy Lecture

"Design and Synthesis of Novel Muscarinic Receptor Subtype-Selective Agonists: Effects of Spacers on the Binding and Activity." Speaker: Dr. Frederick Tejada, UT postdoctoral fellow, pharmacology department, Bowman-Oddy Laboratories Room 2850. Noon. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2902.

UT Employee Computer Class and Open Lab

"Building Your Keyboarding Skills." University Computer Center Room 1600. 2-4:30 p.m. Free for UT employees. Register: 419.530.1460.

Mathematics Lecture

"MAPLE and VESSIOT Software Demonstration." Speaker: Ian Anderson, mathematics department, Utah State University, University Hall Room 1000. 3 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2232, 419.530.2568.

Physics and Astronomy Colloquium

Speaker: Ratna Naik, Wayne State University, McMaster Hall Room 1005. 4 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2241.

Vocal Recital

Kara McCourt, UT junior. Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. 7:30 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2448.

Vocalstra Concert

Directed by Jon Hendricks, UT Distinguished Professor of Jazz. Doermann Theater. 8 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2448.

Friday, April 28

Last Day of Classes

Deadline for Permanent Budget Transfers for Fiscal-Year 2006

Men's MAC Tennis Tournament

UT Courts, weather permitting, or Laurel Hill Tennis Club, 2222 Cass Road. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Championship Saturday, April 29. Free, public. Info: 419.530.4925.

College of Engineering Senior Design Expo

A total of 41 projects by UT engineering students will be on display. Nitschke Hall First Floor. Noon-2:30 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.8212.

Biological Sciences Seminar

"The Selection of MHC Class I-Restricted T Cell Responses to GAD65 in Autoimmune Diabetes." Speaker: Rhea Busick, UT doctoral candidate. Wolfe Hall Room 3246. 2:30 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.1577.

Art on the Mall Application Deadline

Applications available at www.alumni.utoledo.edu/pdfs/ao-mapp06.pdf. Art on the Mall will take place Sunday, July 30. Info: 419.530.2586.

Mathematics Lecture

"From Lie Algebras to Lie Groups and the Symbolic Integration of Differential Equations." Speaker: Ian Anderson, mathematics department, Utah State University, University Hall Room 4010. 3 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2232, 419.530.2568.

UT Bowling Fund-Raiser

To benefit U.S. Army unit in Iraq. Lido Lanes, 865 South Ave. 5:30 p.m. \$10. RSVP: 419.343.6988, 419.290.9626.

Planetarium Program

"Serpents of the Sun." Program looks at astronomical culture of Native Americans who lived in Ohio. Ritter Planetarium. 7:30 p.m. Observing at Brooks Observatory follows program, weather permitting. \$4 for adults; \$3 for seniors and children ages 4-12; free for children 3 and younger. Info: 419.530.4037.

Opera Workshop

Directed by Robert Ballinger, UT lecturer of music. Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. 8 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2448.

"Lose Control"

Second annual drag show featuring the men of Delta Lambda Phi. Doermann Theater. 8:30 p.m. \$5 in advance; \$7 at the door. Funds to benefit fraternity; 50/50 raffle to benefit David's House of Compassion. Info: 419.530.4799.

Saturday, April 29

Men's MAC Tennis Tournament Championship

UT Courts, weather permitting, or Laurel Hill Tennis Club, 2222 Cass Road. 1 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.4925.

Planetarium Program

"Bear Tales (and Other Grizzly Stories)." Learn about the constellations in the spring sky during a "camping trip." Ritter Planetarium. 1 p.m. \$4 for adults; \$3 for seniors and children ages 4-12; free for children 3 and younger. Info: 419.530.4037.

Piano Recital

Olga Rua, UT graduate student, and Joel Monaco, UT junior. Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. 3 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2448.

Sunday, April 30

Finance and Law Seminar for Pharmacists

Driscoll Alumni Center. 9 a.m.-noon. Free, public. RSVP: 419.530.2586.

Harp Recital

Christina Muntz, UT graduate student. Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. 1 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2448.

Choir Concert

Conducted by Dr. Stephen Hodge, UT professor of music. Doermann Theater. 8 p.m. \$5; \$3 for students and seniors. Info: 419.530.2448.

"Building Healthy Relationships"

For campus community members who want to learn how to maintain healthy relationships with everyone. Parks Tower Multi-purpose Room. 6:30 p.m. Info: 419.530.4964.

Piano Recital

Aura Strohschein, UT graduate student. Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall. 7 p.m. Free, public. Info: 419.530.2448.

Monday, May 1
Semester Exams Begin

Vocalese, please



Photo by Daniel Miller

Jon Hendricks will direct the Vocalstra in concert Thursday, April 27, at 8 p.m. in Doermann Theater.

The UT Distinguished Professor of Jazz is known as the father of vocalese — the art of setting lyrics to established jazz standards.

His students will sing during the free, public concert.

For more information, call the UT music department at 419.530.2448.

Law Exams Continue

Philosophical Lecture

"What Makes Me Me? A Defense of Substance Dualism." Speaker: Dr. Richard Swinburne, Emeritus Nolloch Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion, University of Oxford, and author of *Is There a God?* (1996). Student Union Room 2591. Noon. Free, public. Info: 419.530.6190.

Tuesday, May 2

Christianity and World Religions Spring Lecture Series

"Christianity and Hinduism." Speaker: Dr. Francis Clooney, Parkman Professor of Divinity and professor of comparative theology, Harvard University. Corpus Christi University Parish. 5:30 p.m. \$10; free for UT employees and students. Info: 419.530.1330.

Wednesday, May 3

RSVP Deadline for UT Alumni Whitewater Weekend

Three-day trip to New River Gorge in West Virginia June 23-25. For cost and info: 419.530.2586.

Friday, May 5

First Summer Deregistration 100 Percent

Residence Halls Close

UT-MUO Joint Board of Trustees Meeting

Libbey Hall. 1-3 p.m. Info: 419.530.2814.

UT Employee Computer Class

"Open Lab and Keyboarding." University Computer Center Room 1600. 2-4:30 p.m. Free for UT employees. Register: 419.530.1460.

Entry Deadline for Women's Equity Action League Writing Contest

Paper must be written during 2005-06 academic year. Undergraduate and graduate categories. Topics open; preference for Title IX, disabilities and aging as feminist issues, and effects of social and economic policies on women. Women's and gender studies department, University Hall Room 4260. 4 p.m. Info: 419.530.6206.

"Street Smart Astronomy"

Learn how to navigate using the nighttime sky. Ritter Planetarium. 8:30 p.m. Observing with Ritter 1-meter telescope and at Brooks Observatory follows program, weather permitting. \$4 for adults; \$3 for seniors and children ages 4-12; free for children 3 and younger. Info: 419.530.4037.

continued on p. 10

UT News publishes listings for events taking place at the University and for off-campus events that are sponsored by UT groups. Information is due by noon Wednesday, May 10, for the May 15 issue. Send information by e-mail to utmarcom@utnet.utoledo.edu, fax it to Ext. 4618, or drop it in campus mail to #949, UT News, Marketing and Communications, University Hall Room 2110. Due to space limitations, some events may be omitted from UT News; the complete calendar can be found online at www.utnews.utoledo.edu.