A&S Council meets interim dean, discusses assessment

By Jon Strunk

Dr. Nina McClelland’s history at The University of Toledo goes back further than her UT bachelor’s and master’s degrees, her faculty appointment in the Department of Chemistry, and the honorary doctorate she received in 2003. The first experience with UT for the incoming interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences goes back to when she was 4 years old. “My aunt was a math professor at UT, and I had my own desk with my name on it and spent many hours here with crayons and coloring books,” she told members of the Arts and Sciences Council at their meeting Aug. 26.

Center for Women to celebrate 30th anniversary Sept. 8

By Jacob Corkins

The Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women will celebrate its 30-year anniversary at its annual courtyard celebration Monday, Sept. 8, from 4 to 6 p.m. in Libbey Hall on Main Campus. The event will include food, an all-women’s wind ensemble and an art exhibition. State Sen. Teresa Fedor is scheduled to give opening remarks, and Dr. Rosemary Haggett, Main Campus provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, also will speak.

More than 50 women’s groups and individuals, including Catharine S. Eberly, a member of the University Board of Trustees from 1974 to 1979, lobbied for the center, which was founded in 1978. Two years later, the center was named in honor of Eberly, who died in a car accident. “The center’s existence 30 years after its creation and dedication points to its continual need and importance,” said Mike Eberly, son of Catharine Eberly. “I think my mother’s core vision of bringing a location and a voice to women’s issues in the community and the University has been well-served. The legacy is great to reflect on, but, more importantly, women’s issues have increased in both scope and complexity.”

“The goal of the Eberly Center is to be an advocate for women throughout this campus and community as they pursue higher education and personal development,” said Charlene Gilbert, director of the center and professor in the departments of Women’s and Gender Studies and Theatre and Film. “We are, in many ways, the first stop for women seeking resources, information and assistance. The center doors are always open to women seeking opportunities for education, economic advancement and personal growth.”

The Eberly Center has provided emotional and financial assistance for more than 6,000 women pursuing higher education. The event will include food, an all-women’s wind ensemble and an art exhibition. State Sen. Teresa Fedor is scheduled to give opening remarks, and Dr. Rosemary Haggett, Main Campus provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, also will speak.

READY TO SERVE: Dr. Nina McClelland smiled last week when she was introduced to members of the Arts and Sciences Council.

Sorority records holiday disc to benefit medical research

By Megan Lewis

With much determination, Madie, age 5, is fighting off a brain tumor called medulloblastoma.

Photos and stories of other children like Madie encouraged the Phi Alpha chapter of Delta Delta Delta at UT to focus on their upcoming Christmas charity project. The sisters are releasing their own full-length holiday disc this October, and 100 percent of the proceeds will go to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

John Andosca, UT 2007 graduate, producer and project manager, said the album contains a variety of sounds — Motown, country and jazz. “It has something for everyone,” he said. The CD will have 12 Christmas classics along with an original song created exclusively for the project.

The Phi Alpha chapter has 75 members and all participated in one way or another, said Sara Spence, recent graduate and sorority sister who handles the media and legal work concerning the project. “Everyone pitches in wherever needed,” Martin said.

“The collaboration and determination of the girls has made this CD project a reality.”

In order to finance the studio time, licensing of songs and retail production, Tri Delta developed a donor program and conducted numerous fundraising projects: a car wash, T-shirt sales, bake sales, an annual pancake breakfast and directing traffic at Cedar Point.

“The chapter started recording in October 2007. “It has been a long, hard but deserving project,” said soloist and recent graduate Gina Fontana. “I can’t wait to hear the final CD and see the hopefully amazing results.”

Support for the chapter has spilled in from fellow Tri Deltas. “The national support that we have received from this project is really inspirational.” Martin said. She reported that the Tri Delta executive office in Texas was thrilled when receiving information about the charity project.

Now recording: Members of the Phi Alpha chapter of Delta Delta Delta, from left, Paige Timmer, Angela Strayer, Shelly Grey, Gina Fontana, Sara Spence and Sara Martin, sang “Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)” as producer John Andosca played piano during a recording session at Studio in the Woods.
College of Medicine entering class is largest ever

By Jim Winkler

The 2008 UT College of Medicine entering class is the largest in the school’s history, according to Dr. James Kleshinski, associate professor of medicine and associate dean for admissions.

The number of first-year enrollees totals 176, a 7 percent increase over 2007. More than 3,400 individuals applied to enter medical school in 2008, an increase of approximately 20 percent over 2006.

Ohio’s growing aging population, coupled with an aging physician population, trends such as doctors working fewer hours and fewer years, and shortages in various specialties and subspecialties add up to more doctors needed now and in the future. Following the introduction of McClelland, Arts and Sciences Council Chair Dr. Announcing that her job was to work with the faculty, she asked those in attendance: “I know I can’t do it alone.”

A prominent chemist nationally, McClelland told faculty she never understood how anyone in either the sciences or the arts couldn’t be fascinated by both areas of study.

“I took vocal lessons and earned my spending in college singing,” she said, adding that her mother taught six languages and she sponsored a high school scholarship in foreign languages in her mother’s name.

Following the introduction of McClelland, Arts and Sciences Council Chair Dr. Lawrence Anderson-Huang, professor of astronomy, gave a brief recap of events from the summer, and much of the meeting was spent discussing the format of the upcoming assessment from the Learning Alliance of the University of Pennsylvania.

A central question raised was how names would be selected for the 35-person roundtable participants who will be interviewed for the strategic assessment. Dr. Mike Dowd, associate professor and chair of economics, advocated for representative membership from each department. Dr. Ben Pryor, associate professor and chair of philosophy and co-director of the Law and Social Thought Program, didn’t disagree with Dowd, but suggested that the panel’s “presentation may be more important than its representation,” saying it was important to get members who are able to look beyond their individual departments and advocate for the college as a whole.

Also during the meeting:

• Dr. Harvey Wolff, professor of mathematics, gave a report on the tentative agreement reached between the UT chapter of the American Association of University Professors and the administration, saying details were to be on the Web for review as of last Friday.

• Faculty discussed a memo from Provosts Dr. Rosemary Haggett and Dr. Jeffrey Gold inviting faculty to participate in a voluntary mid-term grading initiative to inform first-year students if they are struggling in class.

• Dr. John Gaboury, dean of University Libraries and interim vice provost for faculty and organizational development, gave an update on the Memorial Field House, announcing the Sept. 18 celebration of the building and that the current plan was for faculty from the departments of English and Foreign Languages to begin moving into their offices in the renovated building in October.
President, VPs talk about Rocket Solution Central, Banner at town hall meeting

By Jim Winkle

Answering tough questions on topics that ranged from long lines on the first day of classes at Rocket Solution Central to recycling efforts on Health Science Campus, UT President Lloyd Jacobs held his first town hall meeting of the school year last week.

Some 75 faculty and staff and students attended the program on Health Science Campus, where the president often called on his vice presidents to provide additional details to answers.

Jacobs agreed with one student who complained about long lines at Rocket Solution Central on the first day of classes.

“Yesterday’s lines were long, but it was the first day that people were back,” Jacobs acknowledged. “But I don’t like to see students or patients standing in line.”

Kevin Kacera, associate vice president for enrollment services, said a project team is examining how to streamline Rocket Solution Central operations and make things easier for students, including perhaps offering different payment schedules and putting more forms like parking passes online so students can fill them out during the summer before returning to classes.

Jacobs rejected the idea of halting implementation of SCT’s Banner student information management computer system despite complaints he has heard about the system’s shortcomings. He expressed confidence that the problems soon will be ironed out as employees become more comfortable with the system.

“Implementing big, university-wide systems is rocky,” the president said, and “we are not where we want to be. It will probably be another year before the system is fully implemented.”

In response to a question about different vacation benefit packages for employees on Main and Health Science campuses, Jacobs reminded the audience that two years ago he warned that it would take five years to merge employees’ benefits and salary packages and hundreds of other widely divergent personnel policies that were in place when UT and the former Medical University of Ohio merged in 2006.

William Logie, vice president for human resources and campus safety, noted that work has started to review more than 600 human resources policies and pledged to complete the process as quickly and equitably as possible.

He also said the recent consolidation of Human Resources offices in preparation for their move to Scott Park Campus brings the division’s employees closer together, which will help improve efficiency and service.

There are no plans to establish a satellite office on Health Science Campus, he added.

Jacobs strongly disagreed with a questioner’s assertion that UT Medical Center has abandoned its value-driven mission.

“I believe we have kept our eye on the ball,” he said, noting that the hospital has maintained its commitment to the city’s poor, continues to attract mission-driven physicians and nurses, is making discoveries that will save lives, and is addressing some of the region’s thorniest health issues like AIDS. “Our mission is to improve the human condition. Our jobs are a higher calling, a life commitment.”

Keep benefit coverage current, report family changes within 30 days

Important events in your family life can affect your health plan coverage.

Take steps to update your coverage immediately when one of these events occurs:

• Marriage
• Birth of a child
• Adoption of a child
• Change in spouse’s job status that affects coverage
• Change in child’s dependent status
• Divorce
• Death

These events qualify you to add or change coverage for you and your family, but you only have 30 days from the date of the event to make these changes.

Report any family status change to the Benefits Department in Human Resources within 30 days of the event, and make sure you complete the correct enrollment/change forms.

Changes after the 30-day window cannot be allowed until the next open enrollment period. Open enrollment is held annually from mid-October to mid-November with a Jan. 1 effective date.

Forms may be found at http://utoledo.edu/depts/hr/.

Search for graduate school dean to re-launch

By Tobin J. Klinger

In the coming weeks, UT will re-launch its search for a new dean of the College of Graduate Studies; however, this time the position will be bolstered with a broader scope of responsibilities, and the committee will first focus its attention internally.

According to a memorandum from Dr. Rosemary Haggett, Main Campus provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, and Dr. Jeffrey Gold, Health Science Campus provost, executive vice president for health affairs and College of Medicine dean, the University “will be looking for someone to fill a more robust position, tentatively titled vice provost for graduate affairs and dean of the College of Graduate Studies. It is our belief that a broader scope of responsibilities will attract a broader pool of candidates for the position.”

The memo stated, “While we are disappointed that we did not achieve our desired outcome, this situation has presented us with an opportunity that may enhance this important part of the University’s mission.”

The provosts said that the best person for the job may already be a member of the University community, adding that, “It is our belief that there are many qualified members of our faculty that would make

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Hot topics on menu at Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women lunchtime discussions

By Jacob Corkins

Black women in the White House. Fighting child sex trafficking. Child care. Women and medicine. The Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women will serve up an array of topics during brown-bag seminars this semester.

The lunchtime talks will take place Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Tucker Hall Room 0180 on Main Campus.

“The brown-bag seminars are a great way to hear about the research expertise of faculty members and UT experts in an informal and relaxed setting,” said Charlene Gilbert, director of the center and professor in the departments of Women’s and Gender Studies and Theatre and Film. “Usually, the room is filled with a great mix of students, faculty and staff, with lots of opportunity for interaction and discussion.”

Listed by date, topics and speakers scheduled are:

- Sept. 4 — “Does Law Matter? Race, Gender and Social Change” with Dr. Renee Heberle, UT associate professor of political science.
- Sept. 11 — “UT Women and Medicine” with Dr. Nancy Collins, UT professor of medical microbiology and immunology.
- Sept. 18 — “Protecting Women and Saving Children: Fighting Child Sex Trafficking in Lucas County” with Dr. Celia Williamson, UT associate professor of social work.
- Sept. 25 — “Computers, Culture and Control: How Grassroots Technologies Are Changing Corporate, Gender and National Hierarchies” with Dr. Sumitra Srinivasan, UT assistant professor of communication.
- Oct. 9 — To be announced.
- Oct. 16 — “It Takes a Village: Child Care and the University Community” with Sherry Roush, director of Apple Tree Nursery School.
- Oct. 23 — “Catharine S. Eberly: One Woman’s Legacy” with Gilbert.
- Oct. 30 — “Keys in One Hand, Pepper Spray in the Other, and a Whistle in Your Mouth: Recognizing and Challenging Women’s Safety Messages” with Diane Docis, coordinator of the UT Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Program.
- Nov. 6 — “Women of Color in the Academy: From Oppression to Grace” with Dr. Amanda C. Bryant-Friedrich, UT associate professor of medicinal and biological chemistry.
- Nov. 13 — “They Are the Soul of the Councils: Indigenous Women’s Leadership” with Dr. Barbara Mann, UT lecturer in English and a Bear Clan Ohio Seneca.
- Nov. 20 — “Black Women in the White House” with Dr. Angela Siner, UT instructor of anthropology.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their lunches and opinions.

For more information on the free, public seminars, call the Center for Women at 419.530.8570.

Center for Women

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through programs that include Project Succeed, which specifically supports women in transition, returning to school or pursuing new career paths.

“The Eberly Center strongly believes that higher education can enable women to achieve their highest potential. We support women in their efforts to return to school, find new career paths, and have successful careers here at UT,” Gilbert said.

Eberly said, “I am frequently asked if I am ‘connected’ to the center, and more often than not a story is related of a friend or relative who was assisted in accessing higher education with the help of the center.”

The center holds various events throughout the year; these include the brown-bag seminar series that features notable UT scholars and local experts; art exhibitions; a single mom support group; a women’s circle; and classes for women in transition. In addition, the center has an open computer lab and resource room available to all UT students, faculty, staff and community members.

This year, the Eberly Center is launching its new Women in STEM Excelling (WISE) mentor program, which received funding from the First-Year Experience Program and is coordinated by Dr. Isabel Escobar, UT associate professor of chemical and environmental engineering. The WISE program is designed to partner incoming female students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, math or medicine with women who have experience in these fields.

“We believe through support, networking and one-on-one mentoring, women can be successful in a broad range of STEM fields where women have been underrepresented in the past,” Gilbert said.

In conjunction with the anniversary celebration, the center is holding a silent online art auction fundraiser with final bids being placed by 5 p.m. at the courtyard celebration, where the artwork will be on display. The winners of the auction will be announced at the end of the event. See works up for bid at womenscenter.utoledo.edu.

All proceeds will help support the Eberly Center in pursuit of another 30 years of helping women in the community and will include the third installment of the Legacy Courtyard engraved bricks, which can be purchased for $250 $1,000.

The celebration will feature the Aura Silvae Wind Ensemble and the recognition of the 2008-09 Eberly Scholarship recipients.

For more information on the event, auction or buying a brick, contact the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women at 419.530.8570 or visit womenscenter.utoledo.edu.
While Barbara Rondelli Perry has performed more than 50 major operatic roles on three continents, she’s never forgotten her roots.

“The lyric soprano grew up in Chicopee, Kan. “When I was 15 and learning to sing Italian arias, my father would help me with the pronunciations; he could speak excellent Italian. I’m second-generation Italian, and my father was first-generation Italian, born in this country,” the UT professor of music said.

For a long time, Rondelli Perry wanted to put together an Italian concert program to pay tribute to her parents and grandparents.

“The Bella Italia — Italian and Neapolitan Songs and Arias” will take place Sunday, Sept. 7, at 4 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall on Main Campus. Rondelli Perry will be accompanied by pianist Robert Ballinger, UT lecturer in music and director of the Opera Workshop.

“My grandparents and parents, like the other immigrants of the 19th and 20th century, while proud of their native heritage, were so thankful and even more proud to be Americans,” reads the dedication in the concert program.

Rondelli Perry will sing songs by Francesco Cavalli, Alessandro Stradella, Ildebrando Pizzetti, Giocchino Rossini, Francesco Paolo Tosti and Luigi Denza. The program features diverse selections from the 17th through the 20th centuries. In the 17th century arias, Rondelli Perry will sing her own embellishments and cendenzas.

“In London, I was introduced to the Pizzetti songs — ‘Lady of Lombardy,’ ‘The Prisoner,’ ‘The Fisher of Rings,’ translated titles — and that was originally with string quartet, which I did at the Royal Academy of Music as a Fulbright scholar,” she said.

“Now I’m going to do them with a piano transcription. I think they are so interest- ing, as the text originates from the ‘people’s poetry,’ and they are off-the-beaten track.”

“L’Orgia” (“The Orgy”) is from Rossini’s “Serati Musicale.” Rondelli Perry said she placed this song before intermission. “It’s a fun piece and most people are familiar with it,” she said.

“Some songs are totally new for me; a few other pieces I have done before. So I’ve got challenges in there as far as learning new things, which I always like to do when I plan a recital,” she said.

In addition to rehearsing this summer, Rondelli Perry was invited to her alma mater Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kan., in July to attend a press conference, where she was recognized as one of the school’s outstanding music graduates during an announcement that the university received a $10 million gift that will be used to build a new performing arts center.

“It was such a great feeling. Pittsburg State was called Kansas State Teachers College when I went there, but it always had a tremendous music department,” the 1960 graduate said. “They really love music there, and they support music and the arts program.”

For more information on the free, public performance, contact the UT Music Department at 419.530.2448.
New pharmacy building to enhance education, research

By Charisse Montgomery

In fall 2010, the College of Pharmacy will expand to Health Science Campus, taking a portion of its students and faculty to a state-of-the-art new building. The college is working with Poggemeyer Design Group of Toledo to plan and design the $25 million pharmacy facility, which will include laboratories, lecture halls and offices to provide more space for the College of Pharmacy and offer students hands-on experience in an integrated medical community.

The new pharmacy building will be located between the Block Science Building and the Health Education Building, a site chosen for its central location on campus and its proximity to classrooms, clinics, Mulford Library and UT Medical Center. In addition, the building site has foundation elements in place that will reduce construction time and costs, according to Chuck Lehnaert, vice president for facilities and construction.

The two-story building will feature modern professional development amenities and high-tech laboratory space. Lehnaert said the modular design with movable laboratory elements will enhance efficiency and flexibility in the new building, making it the most complete and clinically advanced facility in the region. A 500-seat auditorium also will be constructed in the Collier Building to accommodate large lecture classes.

Dr. Johnnie Early II, dean of the College of Pharmacy, said pharmacy students will have the opportunity to learn in a rich environment that allows all health science majors to further hone their clinical skills and become more knowledgeable about the roles and contributions of each profession.

“Since the year 2000, we have experienced a 75 percent growth in our student population, and we are currently recruiting new faculty and staff. The new facilities will improve the human condition by creating the rare opportunity of occupying two modern facilities and offering state-of-the-art infrastructure for teaching and research in pharmacy, the pharmaceutical sciences and patient care,” he said.

Early said that among its other high-tech amenities, the new pharmacy building will include a sterile products lab in which students will learn to prepare the types of injections and intravenous fluids that would be processed in a hospital or specialty pharmacy. The laboratories and learning spaces will offer UT students the latest technology and practice facilities, including the most modern techniques and equipment for extemporaneous compounding.

The building’s core laboratories will foster interaction among health science disciplines. Pharmacy students will have access to more lab and learning space while they gain real-world experience in UT Medical Center and clinical settings. As the college increases its enrollment, the new facility will allow growth in both the new building and in Wolfe Hall.

Pharmacists will be a welcome addition on UT’s Health Science Campus.

“The value of a pharmacist’s input can’t be overstated,” said Dr. Mark Burket, professor of medicine and director of vascular medicine. “A huge portion of attending rounds is decision-making, and a major portion of decision-making involves drug choices. There simply isn’t enough time to stop and look up the answer. If you have an expert in pharmacologic issues, the answers are [clearer], come faster, and undoubtedly improve both patient outcomes and the educational process.”

Early added that expansion to Health Science Campus will lead to more research collaborations among students and faculty and enhance current collaborations in the fields of cancer and diabetes treatment, immunology and transplantation, and neurodegenerative disorders.

Based on the National Institutes of Health (NIH) grants and contracts data, the pharmacy colleges that receive the most NIH research and grant funding tend to be located on health science campuses. Early said College of Pharmacy faculty will have the opportunity to achieve a higher level of research through access to resources on Health Science Campus.

According to Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, Health Science Campus provost, executive vice president for health affairs and College of Medicine dean, “The construction of this new facility will create great synergy in the education, research and clinical care programs of all of the UT health science programs. Sharing classrooms, laboratories, libraries and student centers will promote collaboration and enhanced mutual respect. The opportunities are truly without limit to improve the human condition.”

Buy banned book, promote right to read

By Shannon Wermer

UT’s Banned Books Week Vigil will take place Thursday, Sept. 25, in the Center for Performing Arts on Main Campus. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to show their support for the right to read by purchasing books from the American Library Association’s most banned list that will be given out as door prizes throughout the vigil. The books cost between $9 and $15.

Monday, Sept. 15, is the deadline to buy books.

Those interested in purchasing a book should contact Colleen Strayer, general manager at the UT Bookstore, at 419.530.2516 or at bkstoledo@bncollege.com.

Search

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ideal candidates for this position, and we hope you will actively encourage your colleagues to consider applying.” As such, the search will start with a review of internal applicants, with a national search taking place if necessary.

The search committee will be named in the next few weeks, with a goal of having a permanent person in the position at the beginning of spring semester.

ON THE DRAWING BOARD: This new rendering by Poggemeyer Design Group of Toledo shows what the College of Pharmacy building may look like when constructed on Health Science Campus. The $25 million facility is slated to open in 2010.

AT THE LAUNCH PAD: Sophomore Jaquelynn Williams picked up a free notebook from Joe Bendor, assistant director of intramurals at the Student Recreation Center, who volunteered to man one of the Launch Pads on Main Campus during the first week of classes. Students could ask questions and receive maps and other information at several locations.
Toledo PKD Walk slated for Sept. 20
By Kim Harvey

The University community is invited to participate in the third annual Toledo Walk for PKD Saturday, Sept. 20, at Stone Oak Country Club.
PKD, or Polycystic Kidney Disease, is a common, life-threatening condition. Dr. Shobha Ratnam, assistant professor of medicine who specializes in nephrology, and Trish Carter, clinical nurse specialist, spearheaded northwest Ohio’s PKD chapter after treating many patients who often shared a bloodline.

“We noticed how distressing it was when our patients came in for treatment because this disease commonly runs in families,” Carter said. “We wanted them to have a support system that was closer than the groups located in Cleveland and Detroit.”

The two organize quarterly chapter meetings that feature speakers, educational programs and social events.

This year’s Toledo Walk for PKD is expected to draw about 400 people. The goal is to raise $45,000, which will be donated to the national PKD organization for research and education. The walk is the northwest Ohio chapter’s most substantial fundraiser.

The University is a gold sponsor, contributing $5,000 to the event.

Registration will take place before the race at 9 a.m., with walkers stepping off at 10 a.m. The walk will encompass 5 kilometers.

Carter said patients whose health doesn’t allow them to walk find other ways to contribute.

“Some patients don’t have the strength to walk, but they’ll come and sit on the picnic tables to cheer us on.”

Many UT employees form teams for the walk, she said, including herself, Ratnam and employees from UT’s Nephrology Division and Kidney Transplant Program.

For more information, contact the UT chapter of the national PKD organization at www.pkdcure.org/ConnectLocally/WalkforPKD/2008ToledoWalkforPKD/tabid/905/Default.aspx.

Clean Your Streams Day will be Sept. 13
By Shannon Wermer

Tired of all the trash along the streams? Partners for Clean Streams Inc. will host the 12th annual Clean Your Streams Day Saturday, Sept. 13.

The event will bring together volunteers to clean debris from the banks of local rivers and creeks. More than 47 tons of trash has been collected during the past 11 years from local streams.

“We are fortunate here on the Main Campus to have a section of the Ottawa River pass through and have the opportunity to act as good stewards of this community resource,” said Dr. Patrick Lawrence, associate professor and graduate adviser in the Department of Geography and Planning.

“In recent years, the University has become much more active in regards to addressing the many issues associated with the Ottawa River,” Lawrence said. “Our commitment and involvement with Clean Your Streams can demonstrate that we can play an important role in environmental improvements in Toledo.”

He added that Clean Your Streams is perfect for student community service credits; organization, school and business groups are encouraged to participate as teams and wear something to advertise their groups.

Cleanup sites and meeting locations for this year’s event are:
• Swan Creek — Highland Park Shelter House, 1865 Finch St., Toledo;
• Upper Ottawa River — Olander Park Shelter House, 6930 Sylvania Ave., Sylvania;
• Middle Ottawa River — UT Main Campus by Carlson Library;
• Middle Ottawa River — Ottawa Park Shelter House, 2200 Kenwood Blvd., Toledo;
• Lower Ottawa River — Washington Township Fire Station, 2469 Shoreland Ave., Toledo;
• Lake Erie Tributary and Middle Maumee River — Lake Township Friendship Park Shelter House, 27975 Cummings Road, Millbury; and
• Maumee Bay and Lower Maumee River — Oregon Municipal Building, 5330 Seaman Road, Oregon.

Check-in will begin at 8 a.m. with an orientation and the cleanup to follow. All volunteers must attend the 8:30 a.m. orientation to receive an assignment.

The day will end with an appreciation picnic for all volunteers. Awards will be given for various competitions throughout the cleanup, as well as special thank-you items for participants.

Volunteers need to arrange transportation to the meeting location and to the appreciation lunch in Ottawa Park following the cleanup.

For more information, visit the Clean Your Streams Web site at www.partnersforcleanstreams.org.

Going my way? Get to Main Campus from three city locations with Rocket Ride
By Kim Harvey

As part of ongoing efforts to ease traffic congestion on Main Campus, the University has instituted a free, weekday transit program.

Rocket Ride offers three locations where students, faculty and staff may park their cars and board buses to Main Campus.

Parking locations include The Docks in east Toledo, Westfield Franklin Park in west Toledo and Wal-Mart on Glendale Avenue near Health Science Campus. The program began yesterday and will operate Monday through Friday.

“Any UT student, faculty or staff member can board the buses by showing a UT identification,” said Steve Wise, manager of transit services. “We have a.m. and p.m. pickups and dropoffs at each location.”

The parking locations are designated by signage that contains the words “Rocket Ride.”

Morning boarding times are: The Docks — 7:06 a.m., Wal-Mart — 7:15 a.m. and Westfield — 7:15 a.m. Buses will transport riders to the bus loop at UT’s Transportation Center. Departure boarding for all Rocket Ride buses will take place at 5:15 p.m. at the loop.

“Our primary goal is to provide a ‘park-and-ride’ type of service to relieve congestion on our campuses and help save fuel,” Wise said, “but we also want to make it easier for students to get to and from places where they do their errands and shopping.”

The Wal-Mart and Westfield locations will have expanded transportation hours, he said. Buses will run from these locations to the Transportation Center between 5 and 10 p.m., with service every hour, Monday through Friday.

Additional Rocket Ride locations may be added in the future, Wise noted, depending on students’ demand. The program is funded by Transit Services.

For more information, contact Transit Services at 419.530.1026.
Excitement in the air: Rockets ready to play

By Paul Helgren

The Toledo Rockets are set to hit the road — and to defend their turf, the new FieldTurf installed in the Glass Bowl.

“I’m very pleased with our practices,” said Head Coach Tom Amstutz, who is entering his eighth year at the helm. “Our guys have come out with a good attitude and a lot of enthusiasm. Our coaches are doing a great job of working on our fundamentals, and our goal is to start with the basics and build a football team from the ground up.”

He added the team is eager for the season to start.

“We can’t wait to get out there and play,” Amstutz said. “I feel really good about this team and the players we have coming back. I feel we have the potential to be a very special football team.”

The Rockets were picked to finish in fourth place in the West Division of the Mid-American Conference by the MAC News Media Association in a poll released at the annual Football Media Day this summer.

“We’re a hungry football team, and our players have a new challenge ahead of them,” Amstutz said. “I’m excited about our chances this season and all the veteran players that we have returning. We have the potential for an explosive offense, and we’re going to have more depth and speed on defense.”

The Rockets return 15 starters from last season, including three All-MAC players: junior safety Barry Church, senior wide receiver Nick Moore and junior wide receiver Stephen Williams.

Q&A with Toledo QB

By Steve Easton

Junior quarterback Aaron Opelt, a two-year starter, will call the signals and run the offense.

On defense, the Rockets return five starters who missed all or most of 2007. Four of the players — senior free safety Tyrrell Herbert, senior defensive end Sean Williamson, sophomore defensive end Douglas Westbrook and sophomore corner-back Desmond Marrow — were injured and received medical hardship redshirts. Sophomore linebacker Archie Donald also is back after sitting out last year. In all, Toledo has 13 players on defense who have been starters at some point in their careers.

Season tickets are on sale at the Glass Bowl (third floor of the press tower) or by calling 419.530.GOLD. The ticket office is temporarily located in the Glass Bowl due to construction at Savage Hall.

![Opelt](Photo by Daniel Miller)

Junior quarterback Aaron Opelt is in his third season at Toledo and is the leader of the Rockets’ offense.

Opelt threw for 1,756 yards and 12 touchdowns in nine games last year, including a 387-yard, four-touchdown performance against Northern Illinois. The Fremont, Ohio, native sat down to talk about the 2008 campaign.

With two years of playing quarterback at the collegiate level under your belt, are things getting any easier for you?

It’s definitely getting easier for me. It just takes a lot of work, a lot of film study, and going over opposing defenses. It’s definitely a great position, and I enjoy playing it.

Do you see yourself in more of a leadership role this year compared to the last two seasons?

I think this year I do have to take on more of a leadership role since I understand the offense and can get guys where they need to be. I’m going to lead the best I can and help the young guys in any way possible.

What’s it like having two All-MAC receivers in Nick Moore and Stephen Williams to throw to?

It’s great to have them to throw the ball to. They run perfect routes and all I have to do is give them the ball and watch them do their thing.

How is the offensive line shaping up with the addition of some new guys?

I’m excited about it. I think we have some great young guys to step in to replace John Greco. I think we’re going to be pretty strong.

Is there anything you would change about college football?

I don’t think I would change anything at all. It’s one of my dreams to come out here and play college football, and it’s everything I expected it to be.

Your family has been very supportive of you. What has that meant to you?

They’ve made a huge impact on my life, and I wouldn’t be where I am today without their support. I owe a lot to them, and I don’t think they’ve ever missed one of my games even since I was a little kid. It’s nice to know that after the game you can go and talk to your parents.

For tickets, call 419.530.GOLD or go to utrockets.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Tucson</td>
<td>10 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Eastern Michigan*</td>
<td>Ypsilanti</td>
<td>Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Sept. 20</td>
<td>Fresno State</td>
<td>Glass Bowl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Sept. 27</td>
<td>Florida International</td>
<td>Glass Bowl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>Ball State (Homecoming)*</td>
<td>Ann Arbor</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Oct. 11</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Oct. 18</td>
<td>Northern Illinois*</td>
<td>Glass Bowl</td>
<td>Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Oct. 25</td>
<td>Central Michigan*</td>
<td>Akron</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<td>Wed.</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>Akron*</td>
<td>Kalamazoo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat.</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
<td>Western Michigan*</td>
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<td>7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Fri.</td>
<td>Nov. 21</td>
<td>Miami*</td>
<td>Glass Bowl</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri.</td>
<td>Nov. 28</td>
<td>Bowling Green*</td>
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*Conference Games

All times listed are local