



## Fall 2013 Season Recap

The Fall 2013 schedule was a bit lighter with only 4 rodeos on tap instead of the usual 5 competitions. That leaves the spring pretty jam-packed with 6 college rodeos, including the 46th annual UTM Rodeo in April. The women's team finished up the semester 6th in the regional standings, while the men's team ended up 2nd regionally and 9th nationally.

Individually there were some standout performances by the UTM cowgirls and cowboys. Listed below are the student-athletes currently sitting in the top 15 in the regional standings after 4 fall rodeos.

According to Coach Luthi, "We had a good fall season with our women's team sitting 6th in the region but still well within reach

of a shot to qualify in the top two teams to go to the college finals. Our men's team is currently 2nd in the regional standings, less than 100 points out of first place". He also commented, "We just had four rodeos this fall instead of the usual five, so we will have a busy spring with 6 rodeos. We are blessed with a really good group this year. They work hard and keep good attitudes. That is a good combination. I feel our best is yet to come".

### **Bareback Riding**

Tyler Waltz – 5 (only attended 2 rodeos coming off injury)  
Tanner Phipps – 6 (only competed at 1 rodeo after transfer)

### **Bulls**

Matt Smith – 7

### **Tie Down Roping**

Will Lummus – 5  
John Alley – 6  
Ben Walker – 8  
Clark Adcock – 9  
Lane Mitchell – 10  
Clay Mitchell – 12  
Jacob Dagenhart – 13

### **Steer Wrestling**

Austin Duckett – 6  
Jacob Dagenhart – 7  
Clark Adcock – 9  
Will Lummus – 11  
Clay Mitchell – 12  
Clay Brewer – 14

### **Team Roping – Header**

John Alley – 2  
Clay Mitchell – 8  
Clay Brewer – 9  
Jacob Dagenhart – 14

### **Team Roping – Heeler**

Clark Adcock – 2  
Lane Mitchell – 8  
Greg Sullivan – 9

### **Barrel Racing**

Kayla Baier – 3  
Nealy Dalton – 4  
Katie Brown – 8  
Mary Francis Gorsuch – 9

### **Breakaway Roping**

Savannah Warner – 7  
Meredith McDonnell – 14



Lucinda Fletcher

Christie's Photography

# Alumni Spotlight



*Ken and Kari Mason and daughters Sydnee and Taylor*

*Kathy McCloy Photo*

This Alumni Spotlight falls on Ken Mason who competed for UTM in 1995 – 1997 and served as a graduate assistant for the team in 1998. Ken had been rodeoing for Coach Luthi at Ft. Scott Community College in Kansas when he received a call from Tony Coleman in the spring of 1994. "He asked me to come take a look at the school and see if I was interested in competing for him", Ken recalls, "but I first thought that the school was way too big for me. However, Tony and Suzette Beams took me to the Equine Center and

I thought that I could really improve there so I enrolled in classes."

It paid off and Ken won the Ozark Region's all-around and bareback riding titles and the reserve championship in the saddle bronc riding in 1995. He remembers having a great time travelling with teammates Kevin Hefley and Bill Cato that year; especially on the way home from the Mississippi State College Rodeo, getting kicked off the go cart track because Kevin kept going round and round and wouldn't stop.

He was hoping for another big year but broke his arm when he and Clint Madison were getting things ready to work the arenas for practice. Ken said, "He ran over me with the tractor and when I think about that it still makes me laugh." One month later he blew out his knee riding broncs, so he was able to void his NIRA card wait and compete the following year.

In 1997 his best friend from home, Travis Masters, came to school and they had a great time travelling together. Ken believed "It was a

special year because he won the saddle bronc riding and I won the bareback riding in the region. I see Travis now at youth rodeos where our kids are competing and riding in our old trophy saddles."

In spring of 1997 UT Martin was looking for a new rodeo coach. Ken said, "I, along with Tara Knepper was on the hiring committee when Coach Luthi was hired as the head rodeo coach. I went to school for Coach Luthi at FSCC and I believed that he was the man for the job. UTM was blessed to get such a great man."

Ken is currently in his 9th season as the head rodeo coach at Missouri Valley College and has had much success. In 2010 his men's team won the reserve national championship and MVC has finished in the top 4 in the nation 3 years straight. In 2011 he was NIRA National Coach of the Year and coached the national champion bareback rider. He was inducted into the UTM Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2011 along with team member (and current Ozark Regional Secretary) Kathy (Curry) McCloy.

Ken states, "The real success is having these kids come in and seeing

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them mature into great people and contributing members to society". He also mentioned, "I really enjoy bringing my team to the UTM Rodeo each year to compete. It is so great to see all of the people that helped me become the man I am today."

Ken is married to Kari (Swarthout) Mason and they both graduated from UTM in 1998. Ken feels "God has really blessed me with a great wife; she is a great mother to our two beautiful daughters Sydnee (14) and Taylor (13)".

Coach Luthi commented, "Ken Mason is a special person and I am blessed

to have him for a friend. I recruited and coached him at FSCC before he transferred to UT Martin to finish his education and eligibility in college rodeo. Ironically, Ken was the one that called and asked if Diane and I would be interested in interviewing for the job at UT Martin. When we were offered the job here and accepted it, Ken was a huge asset as a student assistant in helping us our first year here. Still today, as a coach at one of our biggest competitors in the Ozark Region, I am proud of what he has accomplished and am blessed to have him as a great friend."

## Rodeo Calendars On Sale Now



*The annual UTM Rodeo Team Calendars are on sale now – just in time for Christmas! They include individual pictures of each team member, action shots, and team picture. The cost is \$10.00 per calendar and can be purchased from any team member. You can also request them by calling the rodeo office at 731-881-7426 or emailing [dluthi@utm.edu](mailto:dluthi@utm.edu).*

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE **UT**  
MARTIN

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### UTM BOOSTER CLUB

## Barrel Racing Jackpot

January 10 – 11

### UTM BOOSTER CLUB

## Team Roping Jackpot

February 14 - 15

## 2014 Spring Rodeo Schedule

February 20, 21, 22 – at Cossatot CC

March 6, 7, 8 – at Southern Arkansas

March 13, 14, 15 – at Arkansas-Monticello

March 27, 28, 29 – at East Mississippi CC

April 3, 4, 5 – at Northwest Mississippi CC

### SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 10, 11, & 12, 2014

**46TH ANNUAL UT MARTIN  
SPRING COLLEGE RODEO**

# 2013-14 UTM Rodeo Team



**Clark Adcock**  
Smithville, TN  
Junior



**John Alley**  
Adams, TN  
Senior



**Kayla Baier**  
Kenton, TN  
Freshman



**Courtney Bell**  
Bethlehem, PA  
Senior



**Riley Bibee**  
Adairville, KY  
Freshman



**Clay Brewer**  
Rutherford, TN  
Junior



**Katie Brown**  
Waverly, TN  
Junior



**Kelsey Bussell**  
Cookeville, TN  
Freshman



**Cody Cooper**  
Martin, TN  
Sophomore



**Madison Crow**  
Kingston Springs, TN  
Freshman



**Jacob Dagenhart**  
Statesville, NC  
Junior



**Nealey Dalton**  
Adamsville, TN  
Sophomore



**Austin Duckett**  
Dalton, GA  
Junior



**Lucinda Fletcher**  
Knoxville, TN  
Senior



**Natalie Fletcher**  
Knoxville, TN  
Sophomore



**Kaytlyn Franklin**  
Sparta, TN  
Freshman



**Mary Francis Gorsuch**  
Lancaster, OH  
Junior



**Micayla Gray**  
Jackson, MO  
Sophomore



**Alexandria Hancock**  
Morganfield, KY  
Freshman



**Dacia Horne**  
Lebanon, TN  
Sophomore



**Cody Inman**  
Prospect, TN  
Sophomore



**Lukas Jordan**  
Bon Aqua, TN  
Sophomore



**Robert Joyce**  
Dyer, TN  
Senior



**Tucker Kail**  
Gleason, TN  
Freshman





**Colt Kitaif**  
Tylertown, MS  
Junior



**Lauren Larsen**  
Pendleton, NY  
Senior



**Will Lummus**  
West Point, MS  
Senior



**Zack Mabry**  
Oneonta, AL  
Junior



**Meredith McDonnell**  
McEwen, TN  
Sophomore



**Jessie McMahon**  
Smyrna, TN  
Sophomore



**Clay Mitchell**  
Bolivar, TN  
Senior



**Lane Mitchell**  
Bolivar, TN  
Sophomore



**Sarah Montgomery**  
Petersburg, OH  
Sophomore



**Tanner Phipps**  
Dalton, GA  
Junior



**Jerry Rogers**  
Trenton, TN  
Sophomore



**Heath Simpson**  
Somerville, TN  
Junior



**Matthew Smith**  
Kenton, TN  
Senior



**Tyler Smith**  
Seneca, TN  
Freshman



**Greg Sullivan**  
Primm Springs, TN  
Junior



**Tammi Swearingen**  
Horseheads, NY  
Senior



**Jacy Thrasher**  
Culleoka, TN  
Sophomore



**Lauren Wagner**  
McClure, PA  
Senior



**Ben Walker**  
Sparta, TN  
Senior



**Tyler Waltz**  
Jersey Shore, PA  
Senior



**Savannah Warner**  
Red Bank, TN  
Freshman

## Staff



**John Luthi**  
UT Martin  
Rodeo Coach



**Nelson Davis**  
Assistant Rodeo  
Coach  
Athletic Trainer

*Best wishes to everyone for a great New Year!*

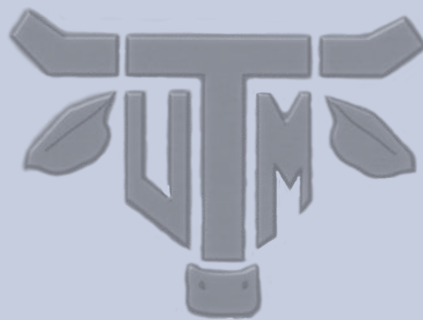
## *Remember this Handout...*



Winning is a marathon. It's not a sprint.

Keep eating that elephant –  
one bite at a time.

Remember the stonecutter hammering away at his rock perhaps a hundred times without as much as a single crack showing in it. Yet at the hundred and first blow, it will split in two and you know it was not that blow that did it, but all the blows that had gone combined.



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**[www.utmsports.com](http://www.utmsports.com)**