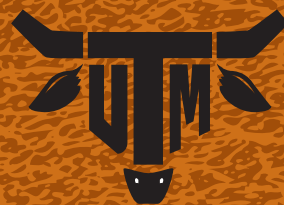


UT Martin Rodeo News

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN

June, 2015



2015 Rodeo

The 47th Annual UTM College Rodeo is in the books and although it was hard to top last year, apparently we did! We again had record breaking overall attendance during the 3 days of the rodeo! It was a great end to a great season and we appreciate everyone's support in helping to bring it all together.

The UT Martin Men's team finished 2nd in the Ozark Region and once again qualified for the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming. It is the 42nd consecutive year the men's team has competed at the Finals. The UTM cowboys head west ranked 5th nationally with plans to improve on that ranking at the CNFR and defend their National Championship! However, all points are wiped clean at the CNFR and national championships are based solely on results at the College Finals.

Lane Mitchell ended the year as the 2nd best heeler in the Ozark Region. He will be headed to Casper for the College National Finals to rope with Clark Adcock. Jacob Dagenhart has gotten several automatic byes to the College National Finals Rodeo. He will compete in all three timed events and is a strong candidate to contend for the Men's All-Around Title.

UTM's Clark Adcock qualified for the college finals in the team roping and the calf roping. He also has a chance to make a run at an all-around title as well as individual honors.

Tanner Phipps punched his ticket to the CNFR in June by placing 2nd in the year end bareback riding standings in the Ozark Region and receiving the automatic bye. Filling out the men's team is Zack Mabry. He will be heeling for Jacob Dagenhart.

UTM cowgirls Dacia Horne, Nealey Dalton and Ashley Brooks dominated the Ozark Regional barrel racing year end standing by winning 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All 3 cowgirls have received automatic byes to the CNFR in Casper, WY this June. They will be joined by Natalie Fletcher who will compete in the breakaway roping as the Regional Student Director.



Top: Ashley Brooks makes a quick turn in the barrel race; middle: Jacy Thrasher and Natalie Fletcher compete in the team roping at the UTM Rodeo. Photos courtesy of Christie's Photography; bottom: Sarah Montgomery making a fast tie in the goat tying. Photo courtesy of Nathan Morgan, UT Martin Photographer.

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2015 Rodeo

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According to Coach Luthi, "We are blessed to be taking nine student-athletes to the College Finals. I feel we have a tremendous group going. All of them are very capable of doing great things at the Finals. I pray God blesses us with good stock draws and we all continue to keep good attitudes and do our best with what we draw. I know extraordinary things are possible with this group!"

The CNFR will begin on Sunday, June 14th. There will be updates on the UTM Rodeo Facebook page each evening, so be sure to check it regularly. You can also find articles at www.utmsports.com/sport/rodeo.

UTM Rodeo is now on twitter @ UTM_Rodeo. We will be tweeting live updates all week during the CNFR. So follow us on Twitter for the fastest updates on your favorite cowgirls and cowboys.

GRAND ENTRY

Before a full house on Saturday night of the 47th UTM College Rodeo, the UT Martin cowgirls did a wonderful tribute to America.



Top: Cody Inmn salutes the crowd during the Grand Entry at UTM Rodeo; bottom: Heath Simpson rides a buckner at the 2015 UTM Rodeo.

Photos courtesy of Nathan Morgan



"RODEO OF THE YEAR" 10 OUT OF 10 YEARS

UTM was voted as the Ozark Region's "Rodeo of the Year" for the 10th consecutive time.

Link to free replay of the 2015 UTM Rodeo

<http://www.ovcdigitalnetwork.com/watch/?Archive=1465>

Link to Channel 6 news report "UTM Rodeo Capitalizes on National Championship", with live footage from the 2015 Rodeo and interview with Coach Luthi.

<http://www.wpsdlocal6.com/story/28783515/ut-martin-rodeo-team-capitalizes-on-national-championship>



REMEMBER THIS HANDOUT?

Teamwork is the cornerstone and the heart of every successful organization.

Teamwork is when everybody is committed to each other's success --committed to the same common cause.

RULES OF TEAMWORK:

1. Do What's Right
2. Do the Best We Can
3. Treat Others Like We Would Want to be Treated

In reaching our goals, we must daily ask:



What's

Important

Now

SAY: This is what I want to do:

What's

Important

Now

THAT ANSWER

THREE BASIC QUESTIONS

1. Can I Trust You?
2. Are You Committed to Excellence?
3. Do You Care About Me?

What do I have to do to get it done--

RODEO WEEK ACTIVITIES



Christie's Photography was the Window Decoration winner, sponsored by the Martin Business Association.



Enjoying a beautiful day in downtown Martin at the Rodeo Booster's Scholarship Auction.



Rodeo clown Brian White, rodeo announcer Tim Fuller, and Rodeo Boosters Russ Finney & David Vowell help with Rodeo Team's Barbecue and Scholarship Auction.



Left: You never know who might show up at the Booster Club's Annual Crawfish Supper. John Alley grabs a plate of crawfish.



Right: Rodeo clown, Brian White, speaks to Martin students about the importance of goal setting.



Left: Working on correct technique during the Sankey Rodeo School. Photo courtesy of Sasha Nelson Photography.



Right: Folks enjoying the free BBQ at the Booster Club's live auction sponsored by Edward Jones.



Sydney Dressler, Micayla Gray, Tammi Swearingen and Coach Luthi volunteering at the Carl Perkins Gala.



"BARRELS, BRONCS & BACHELOR'S DEGREES"

A tremendous article in the Tennessee Alumnus magazine about past and present UT Martin Rodeo teams written by John W. Lacey. It has interviews with cowboys and cowgirls who helped build the Martin Rodeo Program and contributed greatly in its current success. Also some fantastic pictures.

<http://alumnus.tennessee.edu/2015/05/ut-martin-rodeo-alumni>



Top: Bull fighter Jon Roberts in action; Below: Cowboy protector Jon Roberts ready to step in; Right: Jon Roberts works his magic before a full house at the UT Martin College Rodeo.



Photo courtesy of Handprints & Horseshoes Photography

BULLFIGHTER EXTRAORDINAIRE

Former UTM Rodeo cowboy Jon Roberts is an accomplished professional bull fighter and we were excited to have him back in Martin to fight bulls and protect our cowboys.

SO PROUD OF OUR RODEO TEAM STUDENT-ATHLETE GRADUATES!

We will miss all our 15 graduating seniors



Jack and Colt Kitaif with Coach Luthi standing beneath the National Championship Banner in the Ag Pavilion.



Coach Luthi with Tammi Jo Swearingen after graduation.

SPECIAL TIMES AT THE UTM RODEO



Jacy Thrasher celebrates her final lap in an orange vest Nathan Morgan



Left: Meredith McDonnell helps out in the goat tying. Photo courtesy of Nathan Morgan

Right: Brian "The Brown Clown" White is returns to the UTM Rodeo.

Photo courtesy of Handprints&Horseshoes Photography



UTM Rodeo Team celebrates during the Grand Entry Nathan Morgan

Right: Tommy Pettit leads riderless horse in honor of his father John Pettit.

Photo courtesy of Christie's Photography.



Left: UTM cowboy Tucker Kail makes a friend during the rodeo weekend.



Right: Coach Luthi thanks Greg Hensley and Dan Boot Boots for their sponsorship on the UTM Rodeo Team.



UTM student, Brianna Pitcher is escorted from arena by rodeo booster David Vowell after doing a wonderful job singing the national anthem.

Photo courtesy of Nathan Morgan



Coach Luthi is inducted into the UTM Rodeo Hall of Fame.



FINAL OZARK REGIONAL STANDING UTM ROUGH STOCK



Above: Tanner Phipps spurs his way to a first place finish.
Photo courtesy of Nathan Morgan.

BAREBACK RIDING

2. Tanner Phipps
6. Colt Kitaif
7. Jack Kitaif
8. Houston Herbert

BULL RIDING

5. Jerry Rogers
13. Heath Simpson
14. Riley Bibee

FINAL OZARK REGIONAL STANDINGS FOR UTM COWGIRLS

BARRELS

1. Dacia Horne
2. Nealey Dalton
3. Ashley Brooks
9. Katie Brown
13. Kayla Edmondson
25. Mary Francis Gorsuch

GOAT TYING

11. Micayla Gray
18. Meredith McDonnell

BREAKAWAY ROPING

7. Kelsey Bussell
13. Natalie Fletcher
20. McKenna Cox
26. Alexandria Hancock
27. Micayla Gray



Micayla Gray sets up her run in the goat tying.
Photo courtesy of Nathan Morgan.



Dacia Horne shows off her winning form that placed her first in the Regional Barrel racing standings.
Photo courtesy of Nathan Morgan.

OZARK REGION MEN'S FINAL STANDINGS:

Here is how UTM cowboys's finished in the regional standings in the men's timed events.

STEER WRESTLING

2. Jacob Dagenhart
7. Trey Lloyd
9. Lane Mitchell
14. Clark Adcock
16. Clay Brewer
18. Austin Duckett
19. Tucker Kail
21. Cody Hattaway
25. Slade Bronson

HEADER

2. Clark Adcock
4. Jacob Dagenhart
7. Tucker Kail
13. Savannah Warner
21. Trey Lloyd

HEELER

2. Lane Mitchell
5. Zack Mabry
7. Cody Inman
12. Vann Figgeroa

TIE DOWN ROPING

1. Jacob Dagenhart
3. Clark Adcock
9. Slade Bronson
11. Lane Mitchell
12. Clay Brewer
19. Cody Inman



*Vann Figgeroa ropes 2 feet during the team roping.
Photos courtesy of Nathan Morgan.*



*Hazer Jacob Dagenhart yells encouragement to
teammate Clark Adcock in the steer wrestling.*

FINAL REGIONAL TEAM STANDINGS

Women's Team
3rd in Region

Men's Team
2nd in Region



NATIONAL CHAMPION MEN'S TEAM

Saturday night before the rodeo the UT Martin 2014 National Champion Men's Team was honored before the rodeo. They were the first and only team from east of the Mississippi to win a rodeo national team title. It was also the first national title won by any team from UTM. All six men contributed points during the College National Finals: Tyler Waltz, Tanner Phipps, and Colt Kitaif in the bareback riding, Clark Adcock in the tie down roping and team roping, Will Lummus in the tie down roping and steer wrestling, and John Alley in the team roping.



Above: UTM Men's Team honored for bringing the National Championship home to Martin and Tennessee. Photo courtesy of Handprints&Horseshoes Photography



Top: Coach Luthi, Tanner Phipps, Colt Kitaif, Clark Adcock and Coach Davis salute the crowd as they are honored for winning the 2014 Men's National Team Championship.

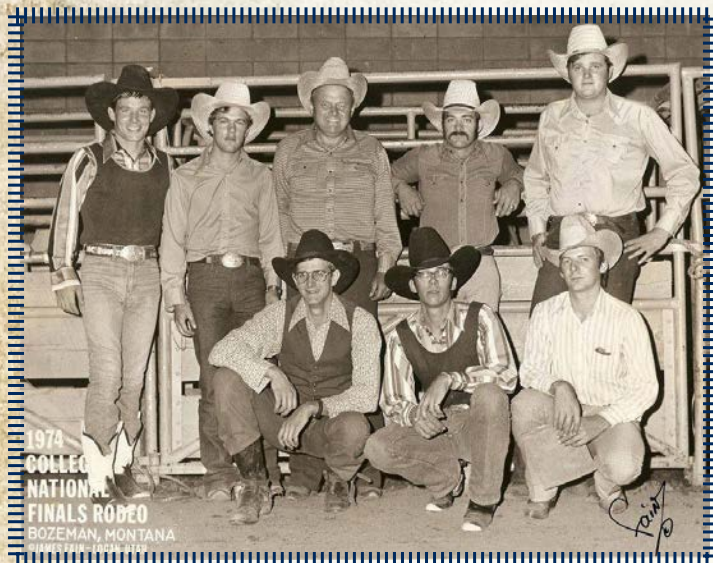
Bottom: UTM Men's team is honored for their 2014 National Team Title before the Saturday Night Performance of the 47th Annual UTM Rodeo. Photos courtesy of Christie's Photography



Coach Nelson Davis, Clark Adcock, Colt Kitaif, Tanner Phipps and Coach John Luthi honored as 2014 National Champion Men's Team. Photo courtesy of Nathan Morgan

"ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT"

We are rightfully proud of the current success of the UTM Rodeo Team and their National Men's Team Championship. But we would like to salute some of the cowboys and cowgirls that, along with legendary Doc Robinson, got the program started.



The 1974 Rodeo Team was the first to qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo. It was held in Bozeman, Montana.

Team members:

Back row: Jim Hill, Bill Newsome, Doc Robinson- advisor-sponsor, Bryon R Woodard, and Linville Freeman.

Front row: David M Vowell, Tony Coleman and Warren Caudle.

Right: Some of the original UTM Rodeo team members are pictured here at the 47th Annual UT Martin College Rodeo.

Left-Right: Larry Dale, Glen Bruce, Tommy Sanders, rodeo clown Brian White, Marvin Youngerman, and Rick Campbell.



Back row: Don Alexander, Bill Newsome, Tony Coleman, Rob Phillips, David M Vowell, Bryon R Woodard, Dr. LeRoy Kiesling sponsor, Vince Taylor, Linville Freeman, Riley Webb, Dr. N.W. Robinson, Tom McCutcheon - sponsor, Chancellor Larry T. McGehee.

Front row: Cal Porter, Cheyenne Pipkin, Warren Caudle, Jim Hill, Robert Ball.

